



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

NEWSLETTER

Cheshvan/Kislev 5772 November 2011

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
617-965-0330 | www.dorsheitzedek.org | info@dorsheitzedek.org



Rabbi Toba at the Occupy Boston sukkah

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99.5%

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer



ON THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK OF SUKKOT, I headed down to Dewey Square for my first visit to Occupy Boston. I was looking forward to having my lunch at the *sukkah* that had been constructed at the encampment. I arrived at about 11am, and the first person I saw was my friend Andy Vogel, the rabbi of Temple Sinai. We wandered together down to the sukkah, where we each “benched *lulav*,” saying the blessing over the *lulav* and *etrog* and shaking it in all six directions. It wasn’t something I’d done at a busy urban intersection, much less as part of a protest moment, and it felt like quite a *shehecheyanu* moment.

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CDT Mission Statement

As I sat and ate my lunch in the *sukkah*, people started arriving, both those who knew of the “Occupy Sukkot” site, and those who saw the *sukkah* as they were walking by and were drawn in by it. I soon felt that if I sat there long enough, every Jew I know in the greater Boston area would stop by (as it was, I had the pleasure of seeing our very own **Alex Sugerman-Brozan**; Marya Axner of the Jewish Labor Committee, plus a couple of women from the Hyatt 100 whom she had brought along; Rabbi Barbara Penzner’s husband, Brian Rosman, and a handful of other folks that I know from a variety of places in the Jewish community). Suddenly, Occupy Boston had the feeling of a wonderful *shtetl*!

As I write this, there are still a lot of questions floating around the whole “Occupy” movement, which has sprung up in over 100 cities across the U.S. Does the movement have any demands, and what are they? Is there any real point to it? Will it be effective, and what might “effective” even mean?

I share those questions, even as I am hugely heartened by the entire phenomenon. I think all of us who care about the state of our democracy, who are concerned about the incredible inequities in our economy and the devastation facing millions of Americans, recognize in this nascent enterprise a healthy and long overdue reaction. The “Occupy” movement is raising questions that need to be raised, and starting a discourse that is urgently needed. Instead of the pat slogans and venomous attacks that have come to characterize what passes for political debate in this country, the very fact that there is no 3-point platform yet emerging from this movement, that the process of open discussion is valued in and of itself, is significant. There is also an important re-framing happening, as the notion of “99%” of the population being ill-served by our political leaders and economic institutions becomes part of the larger American discourse.

Just acknowledging the vast wealth disparity in our country, and talking about it as a devastating problem rather than the premise for another reality show about the rich and famous, is incredibly important. By talking about it, we can begin to challenge the mystification around wealth and power that leads to a sense of helplessness, of things “just being this way” that affects so many citizens.

I read an article recently that suggests that we might do better to talk about the “99.5%,” because it is in fact the top half of a percent of wealthy Americans who exert the power that is warping our democracy and our economy. While those in the top 1% are certainly well-off (it takes a pre-tax income of \$300-\$400,000 to make it into this group), they are nowhere near the very richest in our society, whose net worth begins at \$25 million. The author, an investment manager, writes: “In my view, the American dream of striking it rich is merely a well-marketed fantasy that keeps the bottom 99.5% hoping for better and prevents social and political instability. The odds of getting into that top 0.5% are very slim and the door is kept firmly shut by those within it.” (http://sociology.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/investment_manager.html)

The inspiration I take from Occupy Boston is that a handful of hardy, committed souls have opened up a space—both physical and symbolic—to begin to discuss these hard realities. It is up to the rest of us to step into that space by expanding the discussion, challenging the assumptions that have made us complacent, cynical, or despondent, and beginning to imagine a world that works for all of us in the 99.5%.

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: Peter Katz
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Rabbi Toba Spitzer

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Tikkun Olam: Alex Sugerman-Brozan
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Newsletter: Tim Rosa
Rabbinic Liaison: Ora Gladstone
School Liaison: TBA
Space Liaison: Josh Lieberman
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 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, Rachel Ross, 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.

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Services and Potluck

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, 60 Highland Street

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.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday mornings, 8:45-9:40am

Fall dates: 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

Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, Mar. 10, Apr. 21, May 12

10:45am-12pm, 60 Highland Street, 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

Dec. 10, Jan 28, Feb. 11, Mar. 17, Apr. 14, May 12, June 9

10:45am-12pm, 60 Highland Street, 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.

Bat Mitzvah of Dalia Leah Paris-Saper

November 5, 9:45am

Please join the Paris-Saper family in celebrating as our daughter **Dalia Leah** is called to the torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 5, 2011. Born in Berkeley California, Dalia moved with her family to Newton when she was 18 months old and soon thereafter she and her family joined CDT. She is the youngest of three sisters—both **Shoshi** and **Maya** celebrated becoming a Bat Mitzvah at Dorshei. Dalia is currently a 7th grader at Oak Hill Middle School and has many interests. She studies ballet at the Boston Ballet School in Newton. She particularly loves spending summers at Camp Na'aleh, a Habonim Dror movement camp in upstate New York. Reading, listening to music, and hanging out with her friends are also big favorites. Services start at 9:45am and will be followed by a kiddush lunch. Everyone is warmly invited.

—Ruth Paris & Bob Saper

Bat Mitzvah of Mikayla Jin Pillsbury Marshall

November 26, 9:45am

Please join us as our daughter, **Mikayla**, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Mikayla is an 8th grader at Oak Hill Middle School in Newton. She enjoys singing Beatles songs, anime, learning Mandarin, hanging out with her friends, and spending time with animals, especially her cat. If she could bring her cat to the Bat Mitzvah she would. Mikayla is volunteering at Family Table to pack and deliver groceries to families in need. Please celebrate with us at a Kiddush luncheon following the service.

—Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury

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

5:00-9:00pm Dinner, 60 Highland Street: 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.

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

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Shabbat *continued from page 3*

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. Registra-

tion is on the CDT website – follow the link from the “FOR MEMBERS” block on the right side of the home page.

Adult Erev Shabbat Service

Friday, November 18, 8:00pm, 60 Highland Street

This musical adult-oriented erev Shabbat service is an opportunity to welcome Shabbat with song, reflection, and a little Torah study. Please join us!

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 lgoldman@alum.mit.edu. Stay tuned for instructions about signing up to sing, eat, and spread the joy of Shabbat together.

Contemplative Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, December 17, 9:45am

This special Shabbat morning service will combine song, silent and guided meditation, and Torah study for a contemplative Shabbat experience. No meditation experience necessary! If possible, please come no later than 10am, so as not to disrupt the quiet. Torah study will begin at approximately 11:15am.

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, 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*.

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 for other Film Club dates! All you need to provide is the house and TV, or white wall. Please let us know if you are

a potential host and contact **Stan Fleischman** (stanf@rcn.com) or **Emily Sper** (emily@emilysper.com) if you have any questions.

Rosh Chodesh

Tuesday, November 29 from 7:30-9:00pm

60 Highland Street, Living Room

Rosh Chodesh is an ancient ritual where women gather to greet the new moon and new month. Join us to welcome the month of Kislev with conversation, crafts around the themes of the month. Members new to Rosh Chodesh, of all stages and ages, are especially welcome. If you have a reading, or special talent to share, please let us know. You will find the experience most social and spiritual! Contact **Laurie Schloff**, speaksmart@aol.com, 617-571-0944, with any questions.

Member's Meeting

Sunday, November 20

*5:30pm Pizza (plus alternative!) dinner;
6:15-8:15pm Meeting*

60 Highland Street, Fellowship Hall for dinner, meeting in Sanctuary

Childcare provided after dinner in Room 112

Join the CDT Board and Rabbi Toba for the first Members' Meeting of 5772. This will be an opportunity to hear updates on CDT activities, meet members you haven't met before, and engage in conversation about an important topic TBD! Stay tuned for more details...

Chesed

Mazel Tov

To beloved CDT teacher **Ben Rothenberg**, on his marriage to Juliet Friedman!

Todah Rabah

Todah rabah to all of those who helped with Kiddush in September or October: **Barbara Beck** - in memory of my parents, Edith & Irving Beck, **Willa Kuh, Liz Reisberg, Joel Katz, Wendy Gedanken, Tessa Goldsmith, David Felson, Laura Katz.**

Refuah Sh'leyma

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

Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners

Monday, November 14, 7:00–8:30pm

Home of Janelle Winston, 12 Bencliff Circle, Auburndale, MA 02466

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). If you would like directions please contact **Janelle** at 617-244-5505 or jwinston@speech-coachcompany.com.

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.

Many, many thanks to everyone who helped create our beautiful High Holydays services:

- To the Ritual Committee for all of their planning and logistical support: **Laurie Goldman, Matilda Bruckner, Debbie Waber, Cindy Marshall, and Audra Karp, and Chayim Herzig-Marx**, for Torah rolling and shlepping.
- To **Mark Bronstein**, for the sound system.
- To our wonderful staff, **Wendy Buglio, Marla Lichtman, and Jon Sarner.**
- To our chazanim (cantors): **Bill Shorr, Doug Hersh, Karen Arnold, Dan Rome, Zoe Grodsky, Elise Hausman, Lily Gomberg, Joseph Katz, Zev Hattis, and Aryeh Leberman.**
- To all of our Torah & haftarah leyners: **Mark Bronstein, Debbie Waber, Mark Farber, Gabe Weinreb, Audra Karp, Chayim Herzig-Marx, Karen Arnold, Jacob Roll, Naomi Ingber, Amalia Leiberman, Louise Enoch, Steffi Karp, Cindy Shulak-Rome, and Susan Moser.**
- To **Aaron Wolff**, for playing cello on Kol Nidre.
- To **Laya Steinberg and Bruce Miller**, for creating the beautiful Yizkor scroll.
- To **Cindy Rivka Marshall and Laurie Goldman**, for their wonderful explorations of the Binding of Isaac and the Book of Jonah.

- To all those who brought "Isaiah to CDT": **Marcia Okun, Chagit Steiner, Paul Hattis, Laurie Goldman, Linette Liebling, Barbara Shatkin, Jacob Weinberg, Bonnie Tenneriello, Audra Karp, and Alan Epstein.**
- To the members of Avelut for their help with the Eleh Ezkereh service, especially **Hilary Marcus, Jamie Tesler, and Ellie Goldberg.**
- To our Children's Program coordinators, **Sharon Sevransky, Sivan Nasoff, and Jodie Siegel**, for their incredible efforts, and our children's service leaders for their wonderful contributions: **Susan Moser, Alison Lobron, Gina Fried, Rabbi Talya Weisbard Shalem, Josh Schreiber Shalem, and Ben Rotenberg.**
- And to everyone, too many to mention here, who helped with shlepping and shopping, childcare, greeting, setting up, and taking down. It was a communal effort, and the community's strength shone through!

Note: Rabbi Toba's High Holyday talks are now available online on the CDT website!

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

CDT and “Occupy Boston”

OVER THE PAST month, over twenty CDT members have connected to the growing Occupy Boston presence in Boston’s Dewey Square, including our own Rabbi Tobia. It has been a deeply felt, thoughtful, and often joyous experience. Following are some thoughts and reflections in the words of CDT members.



Linette Leibling at Occupy Boston

As I approached Dewey Square and joined the group of protestors I was surprised to find tears spring to my eyes. What a diverse collection of individuals: color, ethnicity, age, able bodi-ness. All streaming together in the hope of making our voices heard for justice and equality.

—Linette Liebbling

Sunday, 10/9, Mitch and I headed to see the scene. It reminded me of Seabrook—tents everywhere there was space, excitement and great feelings about trying to do good. We’ll head down again tomorrow, for singing, celebrating and lending support. Where will it all lead???? But how uplifting!!!!

—Ora Gladstone

I went to Occupy Boston on the Thursday before Yom Kippur and worked in the logistics tent receiving donations and organizing supplies. I worked side-by-side with

college students, homeless folks, and the underemployed. It was easy to take part and felt great to be so quickly incorporated into the frontlines of the movement to wrest power from the otherwise incorporated.

—Bill Shorr

Singing erev Shabbat songs in the rain at the Occupy Boston sukkah evoked the spirit of the holiday. It was a palpable contrast between vulnerability to forces larger than each of us and the potential strength of collective action. It felt like we were truly “spreading a canopy of peace” over the divisiveness in our polarized society.

—Laurie Goldman

Despite biased media coverage, the ongoing presence in Dewey Square has catalyzed the economic and political frustrations of the working class (if you can’t survive without working, you are part of the working class) and brought together a wide amalgamation of people to make statements that we are frustrated and won’t take it anymore. Although much focuses on the encampment to reflect the movement, people involved in the tent city have done an incredible job of governing themselves in exemplary ways. The level of inclusiveness, respect for diversity and insistence on lawful order reflects a new norm for our society.

—Alan Epstein



Alan Epstein at Occupy Boston



Bryn Austin at Occupy Boston

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. Our new food items are: **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** or **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).

Sindyanna Olive Oil project

DELICIOUS FAIR TRADE, ORGANIC, KOSHER Olive Oil from this collaborative Jewish-Arab project in Israel is still available from the most recent order. Contact: **Jonathan Rosenthal**

CDT's Ongoing Pledge to Support Housekeepers

by Amy Mazur

The wool workers and the dyers are authorized to say, “We will all be partners in any business that comes to the city.”

—Tosefta Bava Metzia 11:24

IN AUGUST 2009, 98 housekeepers at the three Boston Hyatt hotels were summarily fired. Many of these workers had served Hyatt for over 20 years doing this back-breaking work. In their place, Hyatt re-staffed the entire housekeeping department with outsourced workers who receive almost half the pay of the men and women they replaced. To add insult to injury, the fired workers were unaware they had been training these new workers, having been told that the temporary workers would be “vacation replacements.”

In **August 2010**, in recognition of the immoral behavior of the Hyatt management, and in support of the Hyatt workers, CDT pledged to:

- Discourage Jewish groups and individuals from conducting any business at all three Boston Hyatt hotels.
- Choose other Boston area hotels when seeking accommodations and hospitality for bar and bat mitzvahs, weddings, celebrations, conferences, personal accommodations, and to encourage others to do the same.
- Inform friends, family and colleagues of these actions and to educate others about Hyatt's inhumane treatment of their workers.

As of **August 2011**, no other hotels have taken the outrageous step that Hyatt took by subcontracting an entire department, and reducing the pay of the least powerful workers.

Please remember our pledge, and continue to support the Hyatt 100!

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

Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17, Dec 1, Dec 8, Dec 15, Dec 22

Thursday mornings, 8:15-9am, 60 Highland Street, Library

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

60 Highland Street

(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.

Frontiers of Gender and Judaism

with Dr. Lori Lefkovitz

Thursday evenings, 7:30-9pm, December 1, 8, & 15

60 Highland Street

(free for CDT members; \$12/session for non-members)

Back by popular demand, Dr. Lori Lefkovitz will engage us in scintillating study and discussion of Biblical texts that have come to shape Jewish self-understanding, bringing her unique integration of psychoanalytic, literary, and feminist theories to bear on well-known Bible stories:

- December 1: "The Book of Ruth as the Fundamental Jewish Story"
- December 8: "You Are Who You Aren't: Jewish Identity & Masquerade"
- December 15: "The Secrets of the 7th Candle (A Chanukah Story)"

Dr. Lefkovitz is the former Director of Kolot: The Center for Women's and Gender Studies at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. She currently holds the Ruderman Chair in Jewish Studies at Northeastern University, where she directs the Jewish Studies Program.

Announcements

Welcome to the CDT Newsletter Staff

The CDT Newsletter Staff is very happy to welcome **Rachel Ross** as the newest member of our team! She will be working with **Josette Akresh-Gonzales** and **Barbara Pittel** on the design and production side of the newsletter. Welcome Rachel!

New Art in the CDT Gallery!

The next time you're in the CDT Sanctuary, come see photographs by CDT's own **Vivienne Shein** and **Janice Cole**, whose beautiful photos are now on display. And a huge "todah rabah" to **Emily Sper** and **Lynda Goldberg**, for exhibiting their artwork and adorning our prayer space for many months.

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

Camp JRF Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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.

Building Fund

Support CDT Through Amazon

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

Greater Boston Jewish Community

LimmudBoston 2011

Sunday December 4, 9:00am – 9:00pm

*Congregation Mishkan Tefila,
Chestnut Hill, MA*

LimmudBoston is a volunteer-run celebration of Jewish culture for the entire community including nearly 100 workshops and presentation for all generations. Founded by CDT member, **Steffi Aronson Karp**, LimmudBoston promises tastes of the best in Jewish scholarship, arts, music, movement and community opportunities. Evening concert: Kol B'seder, Josh Nelson, Sue Horowitz and Arnie Davidson, with Aaron Freeman as emcee. Register now at: www.LimmudBoston.org

Join us for a JCDS Open House

*Wednesday, November 2, 7:30-9:30pm, or
Tuesday, December 13, 7:30-9:30pm*

*JCDS, 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown, MA
02472*

At the Open House, you will have the opportunity to meet key administrators, learn about Jewish Community Day School's educational philosophy and approach, experience a JCDS class, take a brief tour of the school, and ask questions.

Boston's Jewish Community Day School combines scholastic excellence and joyful learning in an intentionally pluralist K-8 school community of Jewish values, innovation, curiosity, and respect. Call 617.972.1733 or visit www.jcdsboston.org.

Puppet Program for Preschoolers at Rashi School

Friday, November 18, 1:30-2:30 pm

*The Rashi School, 8000 Great Meadow
Road, Dedham*

Preschoolers and their parents are invited to a performance of "Great Green Dragon". This presentation by the Pumpnickel Puppets is sponsored by Rashi's Curious Minds program. The afternoon will include a craft project and a healthy snack. Following the puppet show, attendees are invited to join The Rashi School's Kabbalat Shabbat program.

Rashi is the Boston area's Reform Jewish independent school for grades K-8. To learn more about Rashi, go to www.rashi.org.

Curious Minds programs are free, but preregistration is required. Contact Anne Puchkoff at 781-355-7317 or apuchkoff@rashi.org.

CDT Calendar

November 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.		1	2	3	4	5
			With All Your Possessions: Jewish Approaches to Economic Justice with Rabbi Toba and Jonathan Rosenthal 7:30p–9p, 60 Highland St., Library	Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck 6p, 60 Highland St., Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary	Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Dalia Paris-Saper 9:45a–12p Kiddush 12p–1p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary Fellowship Hall, Room 112 CDT Film Club 7p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary (See details pg 4)
	6	7	8	9	10	11
			With All Your Possessions: Jewish Approaches to Economic Justice with Rabbi Toba and Jonathan Rosenthal 7:30p–9p, 60 Highland St., Sanctuary	Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	Men's Shabbaton & Erev Shabbat Gathering 5p–9p, FUSN Alliance Room, Downstairs Kitchen	Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45a–9:40a, 60 Highland St., Library Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a–12p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary Fellowship Hall, Room 112 Men's Shabbaton 9:45a, 60 Highland St., Living Room Men's Shabbaton Dinner 5p–9p, 60 Highland St., Room 111
	13	14	15	16	17	18
			With All Your Possessions: Jewish Approaches to Economic Justice with Rabbi Toba and Jonathan Rosenthal 7:30p–9p, 60 Highland St., Library	Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	Adult Erev Shabbat Service 8p, 60 Highland St., Sanctuary	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a–12p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary Fellowship Hall, Room 112 Junior Congregation 10:45a–12p 60 Highland St., Room 111
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Members Meeting & Dinner Members-Only Event 5:30p–8:15p, 60 Highland St., Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall, Room 112						Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Mikayla Marshall 9:45a–12p Kiddush 12p–1p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary Fellowship Hall, Room 112
27	28	29	30	December 1	2	3
		Rosh Chodesh 7:30p–9p, 60 Highland St., Living Room		Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck 6p, 60 Highland St., Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a–12p 60 Highland St., Sanctuary

Kiddush Assignments

Erev Shabbat 11/4: Marc Steinberg / Arthur Lent / Kim Ockene / Erica Streit-Kaplan - in honor of James Kaplan's birthday

Shabbat 11/5: Setup: Danielle Klainberg & Mark Rosenberg / Linda Kramer / Ezra Hausman / Gail Harris & David Reider
Cleanup: Ora Grodsky & Jonathan Rosenthal / Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis / Pam & Steve Katz

Shabbat 11/12: Mark Paley / Amy Mazur / Doug Hersh / Janice Cole

Erev Shabbat 11/18: Carla Naumburg & Joshua Herzig-Marx / Lissy Medvedow

Shabbat 11/19: Rebecca Gutman / Chagit Steiner / Bruce Gore / Andrea Jacobs

Erev Shabbat 12/2: Ilana Mainelli / Doron Gan / Rebecca Herst / Barbara Shatkin

Shabbat 12/3: Eileen Morrison & Michael Jablon - in honor of David and Dorothy Jablon / Rachel Ross / Laya Steinberg

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, Education Director**

THE CONGREGATION'S CHILDREN have been back at school now for several weeks, filling our school with their energy, curiosity and fun. What is notable though, is the extent to which our parents have also been participating in Jewish learning and living here at our Religious School.

Our youngest students in Nitzanim (Pre-K) and Gan (K) meet once per month on Saturday morning and are joined by their parents for the beginning of the morning for a celebration of Shabbat through story and song. This year we have purchased siddurim (prayerbooks) designed for young children to use for our "mini-minyan" to introduce the prayers of the Shabbat morning service.

Elsewhere in the school building, other parents join their 1st-3rd graders for a celebration of Shabbat led by Adam Lavitt, our community educator. Those families are part of our pilot program, Project LO"X. One Friday evening each month, the Project LO"X families also attend an erev Shabbat family learning session, followed by the community dinner and services.

Project LO"X parents have also begun to do some adult study with Adam on Saturday mornings when their children are in class. Parents of 1st -3rd grade students will have an opportunity, over a series of sessions, to explore on an adult level some of the topics studied in their children's classes.

Later in the school year other family education programs will take place for our upper grade students and their parents, including pre-b'nei mitzvah workshops for our 6th and 7th grade students and their parents led by Rabbi Toba.

Looking forward to the spring, we will hold our annual Community Learning Day, and as in prior years, we will offer learning opportunities not just for the children and parents of the school, but for all interested members of the Dorshei Tzedek community.

Jewish learning at Dorshei Tzedek is not just for kids; it is truly a family affair!

CDT Chalkboard

by **Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director**

Happy November to all! Time to remind you that if applicable, your second dues payment of the year, 25% of your total dues pledge, is due this month. Please look for your CDT invoice to arrive in your snail-mailboxes mid-month and please do send in payment when you receive your bill. Thanks!

As always, if you have questions or concerns about your invoice, please do not hesitate to contact me at 617-965-0330 or admin-director@dorsheitzedek.org. And, if your financial situation has changed or you need to work out a personalized payment plan, please contact our Treasurer, **Sivan Nasoff**, and she will work with you to come up with a mutually agreeable plan.



Address correction requested



Over a dozen CDT members participated in a Coalition of Immokalee Workers rally on October 23 calling on Trader Joe's to agree to pay a penny more per pound for tomatoes. From left to right, back row: Sarah Arnold, Barbara Shatkin, Alan Epstein, Alex Sugarman-Brozan, Jonathan Magaziner, Hillary Marcus, Josette Akresh-Gonzalez. Fron row: Karen Arnold, Rabbi Toba Spitzer, Noah Magaziner, Mayaan Magaziner, Liz Reisberg.