



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

NEWSLETTER

Nisan/Iyar 5772 April 2012

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



IN THE CDT version of March Madness, an enthusiastic crowd of CDT members attended the Members' Meeting on March 11. The meeting started off with an absorbing talk and slide show by Rabbi Toba about her recent trip to Florida with other rabbis to meet with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. By collective action, these farmworkers are gradually succeeding in improving their working conditions in the face of great challenges.

The members then turned to a discussion of Rabbi Toba's upcoming sabbatical.

The rabbi's first sabbatical in 2004-2005 lasted about a year. This time she will take six months of sabbatical in two parts. Rabbi Toba will be out from October 12, 2012 to January 12, 2013, beginning after Simchat Torah and ending by the Martin Luther King Shabbat. She will then be out again for three months during the first quarter of 2014.

Rabbi Toba, it turns out, has her fingers in pretty much all the CDT "pies," and this fall break will offer the members a chance to learn pie-making. Consider a few examples. While Rabbi Toba is out, there will be 14 Shabbat services. The Ritual Committee is organizing a combination of lay leaders, guest rabbis, and special speakers for those Shabbat mornings. The all-ages erev Shabbat services will be led by our very own Bill Shorr. In addition, CDT members will lead any shivah minyanim. Adult programming will need additional member energy, as will tikkun olam activities. This is to say nothing of the many day-to-day tasks that Rabbi Toba takes care of, all of which will need temporary caretakers. As Allison Hausman said in her comments at the Members' Meeting (see page 4 of this newsletter), this is a challenge, but it is also a great opportunity. And as Laurie Goldman told the members, it is a community opportunity; if we as members all try to help, we will succeed at this large task.

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The Rabbi's Sabbatical

by **Peter Katz, President**

Photo: Rabbi Toba and CDT congregants at Double Chai Gala. Photo by Emily Sper.

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Some Sabbatical Q&A:

Q: Will there be a replacement rabbi?

A: No, but rabbis will be on call for pastoral care.

Q: Will any b'nei mitzvah be affected this fall?

A: No. Rabbi Toba has scheduled her break so as not to affect any b'nei mitzvah.

Q: What will happen with Tot Shabbats?

A: Tot Shabbats will be held on the usual schedule.

Q: Will there be any change in Chesed support?

A: The Chesed team will continue its wonderful work and will be able to reach out for rabbinical help as needed.

Q: What holidays fall during Toba's break?

A: Chanukah! Also Tu B'shvat planning. Good chances to help.

Q: What will happen at the school?

A: Rabbi Toba and Annette Lawson are carefully planning for the fall, including Project LO"X and other family education programs. This will offer another opportunity to pitch in.

Q: I'd like to try giving a d'var Torah (even though just the thought makes me nervous). Whom should I talk to?

A: The Ritual Committee will be organizing Shabbat services—in fact they are already at work. Contact Laurie Goldman.

Q: I want to sing at an all-ages erev Shabbat service! Whom do I call?

A: Maestro Bill Shorr.

Q: Whom can I talk to about helping out with shivah minyanim?

A: Please call Nancy Gertz or Amy Mazur.

Q: Who will send the weekly congregational reminders?

A: The author of this column aided and abetted by Marla Lichtman, our CDT Administrative Director.

Q: Where do I go if I have other questions?

A: We will develop a contact list and much more information will be available as planning goes on.



"There's no place like CDT" Amitai, Irena, and Hannah Fayngod celebrate Purim.

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: Peter Katz

Past President: Paul Hattis

VP Finance: Sivan Nasoff

VP Membership: Lisa Dee Port White

Secretary: Josh Lieberman

Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Board Chairs

Communications: Susan

Silberberg and Allison

Hausman

Membership: Amy Dain

Leadership Development:

Jonathan Rosenthal

Ritual: Laurie Goldman

Tikkun Olam: Alex Sugerman-Brozan

Members-at-large: Jen Kaplan, Linette Liebling

Off-Board Chairs

Chesed: Corinne Lofchie and Mei See Sandson

Nediv Lev: Jeff Sacks and

Sharon Sevransky

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, Barry Ingber, John Holohan, Barbara Pittel, Rachel Ross, Jo Ann Share, Emily Shumsky, Viv Shein, 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

Fridays: April 13, May 4, and 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 and Kiddush at 6:00pm, followed by a potluck vegetarian dinner (please bring a dairy/veggie main dish or salad, enough for 15–20 people).

At our April 13th service, we will be joined by guests from K'sharim, a program that provides opportunities for Jewish adults with disabilities to participate in synagogue life. We look forward to welcoming our K'sharim guests again this year!

Also, please note that this service falls during the Passover week, so all salads and main dishes should NOT include any grain products that are not labeled "Kosher for Passover," and please avoid beans as well. Egg salad, tuna salad, green salads, potato salad, quinoa, kasha, and kosher-for-Passover products are all good!

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday mornings, 8:45-9:40am

April 14, May 12, and June 9, 60 Highland Street, Library

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!

On April 14 the torah study will focus on the deeper meaning of the Passover holiday and the 7 week journey from Passover to Shavuot.

Junior Congregation

Saturdays, April 21, and 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

Saturdays, April 21, May 12, and June 9

10:45am-12pm, 60 Highland Street, Rooms 110 and 112

Please note the change of date for the April Tot Shabbat. It will be meeting on April 21, not April 14 as originally announced.

Tot Shabbat is a monthly Shabbat morning program, led by Susan Moser, CDT member, musician, and Jewish educator, for children who are in Kindergarten or younger 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.

Shabbat Morning Chanting Service with Joan Caplan

Saturday, April 21, 9:45 am

Join special guest Joan Caplan for a Shabbat morning chanting service. Experience Shabbat morning contemplation and song in a new way! Joan is a graduate of Kol Zimra, Rabbi Shefa Gold's Chant Leaders Training, and is Artistic Director of the Silver Newtons.

Yom Ha'atzma'ut Erev Shabbat Service

Israel at 64: An Exploration through Poetry

Friday, April 27, 8:00-9:30pm, with special guest Dr. Irit Aharony



We will be celebrating Yom Ha'atzma'ut, Israel Independence Day (which falls this year on April 26), with a special erev Shabbat service featuring Irit Aharony, a popular teacher at CDT. The service will include some of the powerful poetry of Israeli poets including Yehudah Amichai, and Dr. Aharony will lead a text study exploring the complexities of Israeli culture and history via its poetry. Don't miss it!

Kitah Vav Siyyum

Saturday, April 28, 9:45am

At this Shabbat morning service, Kitah Vav (6th grade) will be co-leading with Rabbi Toba. Come celebrate a great year of learning with Kitah Vav!

Shabbat Unplugged

Coming May 11 and 12

Stay tuned for more information on Shabbat Unplugged. If you are interested in hosting an erev Shabbat dinner please let **Linda Kramer** know at lindalex@earthlink.net.

March Board Meeting

By Allison Hausman

As a member of the board I've been thinking about Rabbi Toba's upcoming sabbatical for several months. While I am fully aware of how important it is for our rabbi to take this opportunity to refresh and regenerate, the impending break brought up a little anxiety for me because I found the last sabbatical to be difficult.

There are three issues here for me:

First: I deeply appreciate having Toba as our rabbi. And honestly, that's an understatement. Her talent, wisdom, discipline, and commitment are a huge source of my love of Dorshei Tzedek and I take enormous comfort in having her as our spiritual leader.

Second: I know how demanding her job is. I see how much she puts into it. I have

rabbis in my family and I see what it means for their lives. Without question I want to support Toba so that she can sustain her energy and grow as our leader. I know this time is crucial to her being able to do that.

Third, and this is the main reason I wanted to say something, is that I truly believe that these three months without her can be an opportunity for us, as a community, to grow.

Without a question, in my life I have gained the most when I've been forced to take on something that seems hard and/or is hard—and sometimes way outside my comfort zone. It's a lesson that I have to teach myself over and over again, that hard is good. It can be as simple as getting up and getting exercise. We all know it feels so much better if we do it. It's just getting

up and taking the first step. Or, it could be climbing a mountain.

So I would like to propose that our community takes Toba's sabbatical as a challenge that we embrace, and then reap the rewards. Obviously it will be different a challenge for each of us, but let's try to have something positive happen for every member of the congregation. If each of us commits to doing just a little bit, stretching ourselves in a new way for the short three months that Toba will be gone, I have no doubt the sabbatical will be a win-win event. We will miss Toba's presence but we will have each other to learn from and to support. And then, even better, we'll get Toba back, refreshed and renewed to continue being our awesome rabbi.

Religious School News

by Annette Lawson,
Education Director

Not all of what we do in the Religious School takes place in the classroom. Activities outside the classroom setting help build class community and allow students to learn through experiences.

This month was especially busy with community activities. As I write this:

Kitot Gimmel and Dalet (3rd and 4th grades) got in the mood for Purim with a "Purim and Pins" party at Lanes and Games in Cambridge. The students got to bowl, as well as nosh on pizza and that traditional bowling snack, hamantaschen.

The students from Kitot Hey and Vav (5th and 6th grades) celebrated Shabbat together. Each class had Shabbat dinner together in one of the student's homes. Then the students went to 2nd Church for a "shul-in" or a sleepover (at least I think they slept!). On Shabbat morning,

after breakfast, the students went to Junior Congregation together.

Todah Rabah, a big thanks, to Becca Richman, our informal Education Coordinator, who planned and supervised the bowling party and the shul-in.

By time you read this:

Students in Kitot Alef, Bet and Gimmel (Grades 1, 2 and 3) and their families will have celebrated Shabbat together in our third installment this year of Project LO"X@home. Held in three different homes, families gathered to welcome Shabbat with blessings, share a meal, and, led by staff, learn together. This installment focused on the blessings before and after the meal and expressing our gratitude for food.

Our 5th graders in Kitah Hay, who have been studying the story of the Exodus in class, will have learned to make their own matzah (including grinding the wheat) at the Matzah Bakery Program run by Chabad House of Greater Boston.

The 3rd and 4th graders (Kitot Gimmel and Dalet) are raising tzedakah funds for Heifer International. The students will travel to Rutland, Massachusetts to visit Overlook Farm, Heifer's demonstration farm. At their visit, students will learn about sustainable agriculture and get up close and hands on with the different animals raised on the farm.

It's been a busy month for our students, full of friends, fun and learning.

If parents have questions or want to share your thoughts, you can contact me at school@dorsheitzedek.org or 617-965-5443.

Is there another way you would like to be involved in the school? Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss your interest!

CDT Events

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.

Film Club

Saturday night, April 21

at the home of Andrew Littman and Barbara Shatkin, Newton Centre

Potluck dinner at 6:00pm, Movie at 7:00pm

The CDT Film Club's next film will be *The Human Resources Manager*. For the potluck, please bring a main dish, salad, or dessert to share. It's really helpful to know ahead of time if you're coming and what you'll bring, but feel free to come for any part of the evening. Movie starts at 7:00pm, to be followed by a group discussion. We hope you can join us! Please contact **Stan Fleischman** (stanf@rcn.com) or **Emily Sper** (emilysper.com) if you have any questions.

Note: 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.

The Human Resources Manager (Israel, 2010 NR): This beautifully shot

film combines comedy and tragedy in the tale of a workaholic human resources manager (Mark Ivanir) who neglects his family to further his career. But when an employee at his bakery is killed, he begins an odd journey toward self-realization. Offering to escort the woman's body from Israel back to her Eastern European homeland, the manager is puzzled by eccentric characters along the way but begins to understand the importance of family.-- Netflix

Rosh Chodesh

Sunday, April 22, 7:30-9:00pm
60 Highland Street, Living Room

Women of CDT are invited to welcome the new month of Iyyar with the Women's Rosh Chodesh Group. This is an opportunity to join other women for learning, readings, and most importantly, conversation and community. All CDT women are invited to this special gathering. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Kristen Petersen at

petersenka@hotmail.com. We look forward to welcoming a new month together!

Dorshei Tzedek's 2012 Men's Softball Team

The 2012 CDT Men's Softball Team season #6 kicks off Sunday April 15. Our opponent on opening day is Temple B'nai Torah of Sudbury. The game is an AWAY game and will take place in Sudbury. The team is excited about the upcoming season. Our schedule is more favorable this year, and the team expects to be competitive in all the games. Three of the teams on the schedule are against expansion teams, Temple Israel-1, Temple Israel-2, and Beth David of Westwood. The other teams had a combined record of 7 - 25 in 2011. The team has its sights set on making the playoffs this year. Come out and support the team when you can, as we strive for the 2012 Kid-dush Cup! And--if you can't make it to the game, follow the team in the weekly recaps on [CDT-SHARE].

Dorshei Tzedek Softball

2012 Men's Softball Team Schedule

(All games begin at 10:00 AM.)

Date and Time of Game	Away Team	Home Team	Location	Field Address
4/15/12	Dorshei Tzedek	B'nai Torah-Sudbury	Sudbury	Featherland Park-1 Morse Road
4/22/12	Dorshei Tzedek	Temple Sanai-Brookline	Newton	Angier School-1697 Beacon St
4/29/12	Dorshei Tzedek	Temple Israel-2-Boston	Boston	TBD
5/6/12	Dorshei Tzedek	Beth David-Westwood	Westwood	Thurston Middle School-850 High Street

Adult Learning & Reflection

Mindful Mornings

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Thursday mornings, 8:15am-9:00am, 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.)

Ikkarim: Parenting Through a Jewish Lens

Registration open for Fall 2012, Sunday evenings, 7:30-9:00 pm

(Register before May 31 to get an "Early Bird" discount)

Dorshei Tzedek will be a site for this popular 10-week program that brings together caring parents and expert facilitators. This program, for parents of children aged 0-10, explores core values (*ikkarim*) that can strengthen your family. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn with expert instructors who understand your concerns as a parent, and to enjoy rich conversations on topics that matter. To register for the class, please go to <http://www.hebrewcollege.edu/parenting.html>, and look for the Dorshei Tzedek site.

CDT Gala a Huge Success

By Susie Tanchel

APPROXIMATELY 180 DORSHEI Tzedek members and friends attended the Double Chai Gala Event on March 24, 2012 at the First Unitarian Society of Newton. The evening was a great success as we honored our visionary founders and the stellar leadership of Rabbi Toba. After Jen Kaplan's warm welcome, Cindy Shulak-Rome recounted the exciting early years of our community as 7 families came together to form a congregation and then a school. Thereafter, Rabbi Liebling, who had served as CDT's first Rabbi during its first 3 high holydays, offered our founders his heartfelt congratulations on creating a congregation that successfully transitioned from its founding phase into a sustainable community.

One indicator that Dorshei Tzedek has a strong legacy of being an inclusive and participatory community is that, as we learned at the Gala, our congregation was one of only three in 1997 that considered hiring a gay or lesbian Rabbi. Fortunately for us, our leaders selected Rabbi Toba, who, as Chayim Herzig-Marx expressed, is an incredible fit for our congregation. She teaches us, guides us and challenges us. On this particular night, Rabbi Toba humorously told the history of CDT's lay leadership by publicly recognizing the contributions of each President.

The night was a fitting and joyous tribute to Rabbi Toba and our founders Ellie and Efreim Goldberg (z"l), Steffi Aronson Karp, Rabbi Elaine Pollack, Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx, Sue Fischlowitz and David Roberts, Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome, Rabbi Herb Tobin and Jill Volk (z"l). We danced the night away to the band's great tunes, enjoyed delicious desserts and watched Clifford Goldsmith's wonderful slide show.



As President Peter Katz noted, this celebratory event would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the event committee including co-chairs Jen Kaplan and Paul Hattis, Alison Lobron, Abby Cohen, Linda Kramer, Linette Liebling and Cindy Shulak-Rome. They succeeded in creating a wonderful evening that simultaneously celebrated our past and further strengthened our existing community. We are blessed to be a part of this caring, nurturing, thoughtful, and justice-seeking group. May CDT continue to grow and to flourish for decades to come.

Photo: CDT Founders, photo by Emily Sper

Tikkun Olam

Crossing to Freedom: Ending Slavery in Florida's Tomato Fields

Thursday evening, April 12, 7:00-8:30pm, at Temple Beth Elohim (TBE), 10 Bethel Road in Wellesley, (co-sponsored by CDT, TBE and Temple Hillel B'nai Torah)

As we celebrate the seventh night of Passover, when tradition holds that the Israelites crossed through the Red Sea on their way to freedom, we will gather to hear from members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), as they recount their own struggle to end slavery right here in America. Along with other Boston area congregations, we will celebrate the CIW's victories and learn more about what we can do to bring better working conditions and fair wages to those who pick our tomatoes.

CDT Food Stamp Challenge—Rescheduled To April 22-28

Kick-off: Sunday, April 22, 7:00 pm at FUSN

by Alex Sugerman-Brozan

The average food stamp benefit is \$4.50 per person per day, or \$1.50 per meal. Could you live on a food stamp budget? Join us in the week of April 22 – 28 to find out. This is a good way to get a sense—albeit a self-imposed, and very temporary one—of what it's like to try to feed a family adequately and healthfully on such a small amount of money.

We'll begin the week with a showing of *Food Stamped*, a documentary film following a couple as they attempt to eat a healthy, well-balanced diet on a food stamp budget. This kickoff will take place at the Children's Chapel of the First Unitarian Society of Newton on Sunday April 22 at 7 PM. If you have questions about this program, to sign up for the Food Stamp Challenge, or if you want to help organize it, please email tikkunolam@dorsheitzedek.org. To learn more about the Challenge, visit <http://is.gd/cdtfoodstamp>

First Annual Boston Jewish Food Conference: Sowing the Seeds of Sustainability

Sunday, April 22, 1:00-8:00 pm, Hebrew College, Newton, Tickets: \$36 adults; \$18 for those under 18.

CDT is a co-sponsor of this new event, joining with the greater Boston Jewish community for an in-depth exploration of cuisine, agriculture, labor, business, health, access, history, and spirituality. The conference will include text study, hands-on activities, and workshops on topics including:

- Bringing Sustainable Food to Your Jewish Institution
- Workers Rights in the Food System
- Cultivating Radical Amazement: Farming and Gardening as a Spiritual Practice
- Healthy Jewish Eating

Spend time in our *shuk* (market-place) with educational resources, crafts, goodies, and do-it-yourself tables. Don't forget your CASH! End the evening with a kosher vegetarian dinner and the counting of the Omer. To register: <http://beantown-jewishgardenprojects.wordpress.com/jewish-food-conference/registration/>

CDT Members Participate in GBIO Efforts to Curb Health Care Costs

by Emily Shumsky

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) held a March 13 delegates assembly with Attorney General Martha Coakley as their guest. CDT's board member Paul Hattis, co-chair of GBIO's health care cost policy group, was one of the assembly's speakers. Representatives from the coalition of over 40 clergy and community organizations attended the meeting to present the group's call for legislative action to contain health care costs in Massachusetts and make our health care system more affordable, cost-effective, coordinated, equitable and focused on quality-of-care.

At the meeting, GBIO announced that part of its current policy proposal is for there to be a health care spending growth target for MA, set at no more than the growth of the overall economy less 2%. GBIO leaders believe that long-term, sustainable cost control will require comprehensive payment reform. GBIO hopes that the legislature will create and fund a public health trust to be used to support community prevention and wellness activities.

GBIO offers training to its members on how to fight for social justice in both private business and public arenas. They have had meetings with the Governor, the state Legislature and major health care delivery, health insurance and business groups. To learn more about the campaign or how you can get involved, contact **Paul Hattis** at paul.hattis@rcn.com.

Dorshei Tzedek Members Can Participate in CSA

With spring here early and in full force, it's time to sign up for your share of local, organic produce. CDT has partnered with Temple Shalom in Newton and Red Fire Farm in Granby to offer our members farm-fresh produce, delivered once a week to Newton. Red Fire Farm is a CSA (community supported agriculture) farm. One share is between 10-14 pounds of produce and is usually enough food for one vegetarian couple or one non-vegetarian household of four. Red Fire Farm also offers fruit shares, actual free-range chicken egg shares, and flower shares. Please visit their web site at <http://www.redfirefarm.com>. Please also email **Chagit Steiner**, chagit@maczipit.com, so that we know which CDT members have signed up this year. We are hoping to build food awareness-related programming around our partnership with Red Fire Farm, possible events are CSA Shabbat potlucks, Sukkot harvest events, and a pick-your-own CDT trip to the farm. If you are interested in participating or helping to plan any of these events, please also email Chagit.

CDT Calendar

April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library Free and open to the community		Shabbat Passover Morning Service 9:45a-12p
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Mindful Mornings 8:15a-9a, Library Ending Slavery in the Tomato Fields 7-8:0 Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Passover Service Potluck and candlelighting 6p, Service 6:45		Shabbat Morning Torah Study and Passover Service with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45 -9:40, library; 9:45-12p
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Men's Softball 10:00am; Sudbury: Featherland Park, 1 Morse Road			Mindful Mornings 8:15a-9a, Library Free and open to the community			Shabbat Morning Service with guest Joan Caplan 9:45a-12p (Rabbi Toba off) Junior Congregation & Tot Shabbat 10:45a-12p, Room 111 CDT Film Club "The Human Resource Manager" 6pm potluck, 7pm film
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Men's Softball Jewish Food Conference 1-8p, Food stamp challenge Rosh Chodesh			Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library Free and open to the community Board Meeting 7:30p, Living Room			Shabbat Morning Service & Kitah Vav Siyyum 9:45a-12p
29	30	May 1	2	3	4	5
Men's Softball 10:00am; Boston, TBD			Mindful Mornings 8:15a-9a, Library Free and open to the community	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service Potluck and candlelighting 6p, Service 6:4		Shabbat Morning Service & Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Gordon 9:45a-12p
6	7	8	9	10	Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.	
Men's Softball 10:00am; Westwood, Thurston Middle School, 850 High Street			Mindful Mornings 8:15a-9a, Library Free and open to the community			

Kiddush Assignments

Shabbat 4/7 Jeff Kichen, Helaine & John Carroll, Janet Boguslaw

Erve Shabbat 4/13: Ellen White—in honor of Paul M. White, Haralie Alpert—in honor of Sylvia Greenberg, Jacqui Bloomberg, Jonathan Magaziner

Shabbat 4/14: Diane Becker, Al Glazerman, Muriel Heiberger

Shabbat 4/21: Vivienne & Norman Shein—in honor of our 39th anniversary, Laurie Friedman, Dan Rome

Yom Ha'atzma'ut Erev Shabbat 4/27: Allyson Cherkasky, Chagit Steiner

Shabbat 4/28: Matilda & Ed Bruckner, Stuart Snyder, Vilunya Diskin

All-Ages Erev Shabbat 5/4: Jo Radner—in memory of Marjorie Newlon, Thea Breite, Idit Klein, Jacob Weinberg

Shabbat 5/5:

Ushers: Ruth Paris & Rob Saper

Sanctuary Cleanup: Susan Nitkin & Jeffrey Marcus

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 members and 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 Dorshei Tzedek events. While pleasant to some, these fragrances can cause illness to those who are chemically sensitive. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

Pesach/ Passover

Passover begins this year on Friday evening, April 6. 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.

We will be celebrating two Shabbatot during the Passover week. The first day of Passover falls on April 7. At this Shabbat morning service, we'll celebrate with the singing of Hallel and a special Torah reading for the holiday. We will also be marking the 3rd yahrzeit of Lesley Chapman. On April 14, we will celebrate the final day of Pesach with a service that includes Yizkor, an opportunity to remember loved ones who are no longer with us. For those remembering a loved one, yizkor candles are lit the previous evening (Friday, April 13, before lighting the Shabbat candles).

Passover Seders

If you have room at your seder table for a few guests, or if you are in need of a seder, please be in touch with our Seder Matchmaker, **Bill Shorr** (bill.shorr@gmail.com) as soon as you can (preferably by April 1).

Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Summer Fun at Camp JRF – Kids & Families!

Camp JRF is a wonderful overnight camp in the Pocono Mountains, for children in grades 3 through 10. The sense of community, immersion in a vibrant, progressive Judaism, and overall fun can't be beat. Many CDT kids have had great experiences at Camp JRF, and Rabbi Toba will be there for a week this summer! For more information, visit www.campjrf.org.

Shemesh is a one-week camp experience at Camp JRF for children aged 10-14 with developmental disabilities, including autism, cognitive delays, developmental challenges, and some forms of physical disabilities. The program is run by Sheira Director-Nowack, Associate Director of Camp JRF and all-around fabulous person. For more information, visit <http://www.campjrf.org/parents/shemesh>.

Family Camp—August 15-19, at Camp JRF: Adults and kids are invited to have a camp experience including swimming, sports, arts & crafts, experiential learning, singing and dancing, and much more, highlighted by a special Shabbat. Space is limited, so check this out soon! Visit www.campjrf.org/parents/family-camp for more information.

Scholarships are available for Camp JRF programs from the CDT Camp JRF Scholarship Fund. Please contact Marla Lichtman in the CDT office for more information.

Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact Rabbi Spitzer (617.965.0330) or Corinne Lofchie (clofchie@gmail.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

To **Allison Robbins** and **Tema Siegel** and their families, on becoming Bat Mitzvah!

To **Jessica Keimowitz** and Polly Crozier, on the birth of David Levi and Miriam Helene!

To **Phoebe Cushman** and **Joel Auslander**, on the birth of Samuel and Mia Nell!

Refuah Sh'leyma

We send blessings of healing to CDT member **Marvin Brotman** and to CDT member **Ruby Gan** and her parents, Valerie Graf & Doron Gan.

Condolences

To **Jeffrey Arnold**, on the death of his mother, Marti Arnold, may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Muriel Heiberger**, on the death of her sister, Maxine Krasnow, may her memory be for a blessing.

May the Source of comfort bring comfort to the all of the mourners in our community.

Yahrzeit

We will be remembering **Lesley Chapman**, a long-time teacher at CDT, at Shabbat morning services on April 7th, on the occasion of her 3rd yahrzeit, which falls this year on April 5. May her memory always be for a blessing.

Thank You

I am deeply touched by the outpouring of affection, compassion and caring shown to my family and me by the Dorshei Tzedek community following the recent passing of my mother Sylvia Gorberg. A huge thank you to all who sent cards,

emails, brought food and came to shivah services. To Rabbi Toba: you always manage to hit the right note on all that you say and do. We are deeply grateful. –Sharon Gorberg

Todah Rabah

Community Potluck Suppers in March at CDT members' homes were a great success! Todah Rabah to those inspired to host community Erev Shabbat dinners: **Ellen Hemley** and **Mark Bronstein**, **Becca Gutman**, **Ellie Goldberg**, **Alison** and **David Lobron**, **Sivan Nasoff**, and **Rachel Greenberg**.

A huge thank you and *yasher koach* to everyone who made our Purim celebration so wonderful: Master Megillah reader **Chayim "Come As You Are" Herzig-Marx**; and **Alison Lobron** for organizing the young children's program. To the entire Spiel crew: Spielmeisters **Sheree Galpert** and **Laurie "Paula" Gould**, and their band of Merry Spielers: **Doug "Haman" Hersch**; **Richard "King" Gomborg**; **Diana "Esther the Organizer" Fisher Gomborg**; **Andrew "Mordechai the Actuary" Sofer**; and **Lilly "Omniscient Narrator" Platt**, plus those radical Occupiers: **Stacey Chacker**, **Ariane Chacker-Bourrut**, **Gabby Cummins**, **Lily & Maya Gomborg**, **Noah Marcus**, **Henry Wasserman**, and **Leila Zisk**, and to Maestro **Nathan Aronow** and Video Specialist **Clifford Goldsmith**.

A big thanks to **Scott Gordon** for the wonderful kids' prizes, and to everyone who helped with food, set-up and clean-up: **Jacob Weinberg**, **Pamela Schoenberg Reider**, **Joel Reider**, **Jonah Reider**, **Tatjana Meschede**, **Daniel Krasa**, **Ellen Hemley**, **Jonathan Weisberg**, **Jodi Sugarman-Brozan**, **Jeff Goldman**, **Suki**

Tepperberg-Stolow, **David Stolow**, **Jeremy Price**, **Idit Klein**, **Carol Sklar**, **Sandy Goodman**, **Sue Weil** and **Thea Breite**.

In addition, a huge Todah Rabah to everyone who contributed to the *Yad Chessed Matanot L'evyonim* collection, to help support Jewish families in need with food to celebrate the Purim holiday. We collected \$325, which went towards a total \$77,000 collected from area synagogues. Yad Chessed writes, "Because of the generous discounts we receive from the Butcherie stores, we were able to distribute vouchers worth \$93,000 to nearly 500 families (1,100 individuals) on Purim."

Todah Rabah to all of those who helped with kiddush or B'nei Mitzvah for February and March: **Andrew Schiff**—*in honor of Jack Schiff* and **Susan Manheim**—*in honor of Charles Manheim*, **Kristen Petersen**, **Rick Glassman**, **Ellen White**—*in honor of John S. White*, **Allison Andrews**, **Andrea Jacobs**, **Mark Bronstein**, **Alissa & Gerry Leonard**, **Haralie Alpert**—*in honor of Francis Greenberg*, **Nina & Jeremy Price**, **Sheree Galpert**, **Peter Hess & Adlai Hess**, **David Roll**, **Meryl Epstein**, **Emily Shumsky**, **James Kaplan**, **Esther Kohn**—*in honor of Priva Kohn*, **Jan Gortler-Small**, **Amelia Zalcman** & **Teddy Lewis** and **Rachel Cohen**.

ask lisa dee

Dear Cherished Brother and Sister Congregants,

There have been a couple questions about whom to be in touch with regarding different issues. We always have the board positions and members listed on the website as well as in the CDT newsletter. Often it is fairly obvious whom to contact, but not always.

In general, you can ask anyone any question. We are a friendly group and most of us like to talk to other people and are generally glad to help folks find the answer to their concern, query, etc. Please let me know if I have not covered your question or concern and I will hook you up with the right person.

Cheers, lisa dee

Questions about finance, the big picture—anything around paying dues or needing to make special payment arrangements—go to Sivan Nasoff, the VP of Finance.

Questions about finance, the day-to-day—questions regarding monies owed for school, membership, rental hall fees (for b'nei mitzvah families) can be directed to Marla Lichtman, our CDT Administrative Director.

Questions about fundraising or making a significant financial

contribution—go to Jeff Sacks or Sharon Sevransky, our Nativ Lev Committee Co-Chairs.

Questions about ritual-related things—anything around what kind of food is allowed in to the sanctuary or social hall, when we can participate in services or prayers—go to Laurie Goldman, chair of the Ritual Committee.

Issues concerning the Rabbi—we have a Rabbinic Liaison, Ora Gladstone, who is available if there are things congregants feel like they must address regarding the rabbi that they are not comfortable speaking directly to Rabbi Toba about.

Questions regarding the school—for classroom issues, it's great to start with the student's teacher directly, otherwise Annette Lawson, the Education Director is the person to speak with. For issues regarding the Ed Director, until a School Liaison is in place, Peter Katz, the shul's president is the person to speak to.

Questions about life, death, services, Jewish practice, meditation, writing a d'var, etc—Until her Sabbatical starts next October (2012), Rabbi Toba is available 24/6. Although she does not have regular office hours, she is available to talk about any spiritual, religious, or personal issues you

might want to discuss. The best way to contact her is by phone, 617-965-0330 or email, rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org.

If you have a fabulous idea—think about joining a committee or the board.

Want to become more involved? Wouldn't you like to see your name in bold?

You can. You can be in the CDT newsletter! It's true. One of the ways we thank people for being involved is by including their names in bold. It is more gratifying than one might think. And so is being involved. Most of us find that by being involved on projects or committees, we feel more connected to the congregation as a whole, and oftentimes towards individuals, um, individually. If you are interested in becoming more involved, at whatever level that is comfortable for you, please be in touch with me, lisa dee, and we'll find a way to get your name in that newsletter.

Anything you want to know about CDT? Have a question for the Ask Lisa Dee column? I'll do my best to get you the answers. Contact me at ldpw@rcn.com.

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.)



**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

Laurie Goldman—*In appreciation for the work of the heart that CDT members devote to making this a vibrant and caring community and to the promise of an energizing experience with Rabbi Toba's sabbatical*

Muriel Heiberger—*In memory of my sister, Maxine Krasnow*

Kenneth Rosenfield—*In memory of my sister, Sylvia Gorberg*

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks—*In memory of Jack Friedlander, father of Elaine Pollack; in memory of Sara Fine, mother of Carolyn*

Fine; in memory of Sylvia Gorberg, mother of Sharon Gorberg

Camp JRF Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Harriet Budd—*In loving memory of Muriel Budd, on her first yahrzeit*

Sharon Gorberg—*In loving memory of my mother, Sylvia R. Gorberg*

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