A Place in Time

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer

WHEN I was 11 years old, I began attending Habonim Camp Moshava outside Annapolis, Maryland. For four weeks, I lived in a socialist Zionist fantasy land—working in the vegetable garden in the mornings, learning about the philosophy and values that inspired the kibbutz movement in the afternoons, singing Hebrew songs about pioneers in the land of Israel, and sitting through long meetings deciding when and how to distribute the food and money that we had all given into the shared communal fund. I was in heaven!

Despite Moshava’s generally secular nature—the emphasis was on Jewish peoplehood, not Jewish religion—it was at camp that I first experienced a meaningful Shabbat. On Friday afternoon, we would take extra time to shower and get dressed, and then would gather in the center of the camp while one of the age groups would present Israeli dances and songs they’d been working on all week. With a nod to tradition, we’d do the Shabbat blessings over the candles and wine,
Shabbat morning we would get to sleep in and have breakfast at our leisure. Somehow, even in rainy Maryland, on Shabbat the sun would seem to come out. This was the 1970s, and one of the choices for an afternoon activity was “Mischakai Meit—Playing Dead,” which involved sitting on old mattresses in the library, listening to bootleg concert tapes of the Grateful Dead for two or three hours. This enterprise was approached by our madrichim (counselors) as seriously as a High Holydays service—no talking or falling asleep allowed! Then we’d venture outside for the Game of the Week, usually a softball game pitting the staff against the older campers. The day would end with a havdallah service by the shore of the river, and a Saturday night campfire.

I know that many American Jews experience their first real Shabbat at summer camp, with many of the same elements that made up my experience—the preparation, the special Friday night dinner, the leisurely Saturday. These same things make our Shabbat experience at the biannual CDT retreat equally wonderful. What is common to all of these experiences is the ability to devote oneself for 25 hours to human connection, to singing and celebration, to contemplation and relaxation. Whether it’s attending a Shabbat service or listening to the Grateful Dead, the connecting thread is that we’re attending to our spiritual selves, in the context of community.

The great 20th century American Jewish thinker, Abraham Joshua Heschel, famously described Shabbat as a “palace in time.” I love this metaphor, because it gives a sense of Shabbat as a structure that one enters into and dwells in for a period of time. We usually think of time as constantly moving, a river flowing by us faster than we would like. But a palace is static. When we enter into a “palace of time,” we can be still, as if time is standing still around us. Shabbat is a time to “be,” not to get things done. Shabbat allows us to connect to a stillness in our center, to that soul-place where our essence dwells.

Heschel writes that the structure of Shabbat is made up largely of negations—of things we don’t do. Refraining from driving, from spending money, from working, from plugging in—to the Internet, to TV, to all those things which constantly distract us and speed us up—all of these traditional Shabbat “don’ts” exist not to punish us, but to clear out a space in which to experience the gift of Shabbat. And so I invite you, during our own “Shabbat Unplugged,” May 11-12, to give yourself a taste of this gift. The palace awaits each of us, but we can only enter into it if we help create that structure. When we’re at camp or on retreat, the structure largely exists for us, making it relatively easy to have a full Shabbat experience. In the midst of our normal busy lives, it takes a little more effort. Shabbat Unplugged is an opportunity for us to support one another in taking on a few “don’ts,” whether shutting off the email for 25 hours, refraining from going shopping, or not calling in to work.

It’s also an opportunity for some “do’s,” to taste the oneg, the “delight” of Shabbat—joining with other CDT households for an erev Shabbat dinner, coming to shul Saturday morning, taking a Shabbat afternoon nature walk or joining in a poetry reading. Or just staying home doing nothing, relaxing and reading and taking a nap! I hope each of us gets to experience the “palace in time” which awaits us every week. For more information about Shabbat Unplugged, see page 4.

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
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, Deb Albenberg, John Holohan, Barry Inger, Barbara Pittel, Rachel Ross, Jo Ann Share, Emily Shumsky, Dan Halbert (Emeritus)
Shabbat

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Services and Potluck
Fridays: May 4 and 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 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).

On May 4, join us as the students of Kitah Dalet (4th grade) lead the all-ages erev Shabbat service along with Rabbi Toba!

Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Saturday mornings, 8:45-9:40am May 12 and June 9, 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 May 12, join Rabbi Toba as we explore parshat Emor and teachings about the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot.

Junior Congregation
Saturday 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
Saturdays, May 12 and 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 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.

Bnei Mitzvah
May 4, Zachary Gordon
May 19, Siena Small
June 2, Gabby Cummins

Reconstructionist Movement

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College Annual Report
The annual report from RRC, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, is now available at their website, rrc.edu. It contains many articles including a lively interview with Rabbi David Teutsch, Ph.D., about his National Jewish Book Award winner, the Guide to Jewish Practice: Everyday Living.

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 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 campjrf.org.

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

Shemesh is an annual weeklong camp for children 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 an all-around fabulous person. For more information, visit campjrf.org.

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.

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.

Contact Susan Moser at mosersm@yahoo.com for more information.
Shabbat Unplugged

May 11 and 12
Shabbat has been described as a “palace in time”—a structure in time, not space, that is made up of special things that we do, and things we refrain from doing, in order to “be” rather than “do.” Shabbat is a space in which to leave behind the stress and strain of the work week, and to savor the simple pleasures of family and friends, a leisurely meal or a contemplative moment. So we invite you to “unplug” from any or all of those things that chain you to the world of “doing,” and enter into the palace of Shabbat this weekend. There’s lot’s happening this Shabbat!

Erev Shabbat Home Dinners, Friday, May 11
Welcome Shabbat at a CDT potluck dinner! You can organize your own, or join one that’s already organized. There are Shabbat dinner potlucks at a variety of CDT homes in different neighborhoods and for different demographics (including CDT “elders,” families with kids, and more!). To find a potluck, go to the Members section of the new CDT website.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study (8:45)
Join Rabbi Toba for Torah Study as we explore parshat Emor and teachings about the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot.

Shabbat Morning Services (9:45)
Shabbat morning services will be co-led by the students of Kitah Hay (5th grade), and during the Torah service, we will be honoring our graduating high school seniors.

Honoring Elders Shabbat: As part of Project LO"X (Learning Outside the box), Kitah Bet (2nd grade) students and their families would like to invite you to a special Shabbat honoring the elders in our families and our community. During services there will be special readings and an aliyah to show appreciation for and honor the generations who came before us. At lunch we will share stories and learn about the history of our families and elders in our community. Kiddush will feature special family recipes and decorations made by Kitah Bet. We hope to see you there and encourage you to invite elders in your own families to join us as well! Project LO"X is CDT’s Program Experimentation Project, which is supported by CJP. By engaging CDT families (currently in grades 1-3) in Jewish learning and living in their homes, the congregation, and the broader community, this innovative educational program aims to build community and empower adults and children as Jewish learners and practitioners.

Special Tot Shabbat & Junior Congregation (10:45)

Shabbat afternoon
Enjoy a lazy Shabbat afternoon by taking a walk, schmoozing with family and friends, taking a nap, making music, doing nothing at all!

Poetry Gathering
Join Andrew Sofer, after Kiddush Lunch at 12:45 pm, in the Parlor for an informal celebration of poetry. Bring a poem to share, by you or by someone else, or else just come to listen and enjoy. Poems celebrating spring are especially welcome.

Shabbat Afternoon Nature Walk
Join Doug Hersh, after Shabbat morning services, for a walk through the woods and meadows and over the streams of Cat Rock Park in Weston. The group will meet in the CDT parking lot at 1:00pm and carpool to the park, which is about a 20-minute drive. The walk will involve hiking up some hills (including a 334 foot summit with a view), so strollers are not an option for the group walk, but baby backpacks will do. The stroller-dependent can stick to the many level paths and still enjoy the pond and streams. The walk will take about 45 minutes to an hour. Dogs are welcome off-leash at this park. For those of you who just want to meet us at Cat Rock, go to http://g.co/maps/z5g6s, for directions from 60 Highland Street.

Havdallah on the Water
Sat., May 12, 5 pm, at the home the Fisher Gomberg home in Newton
Close Shabbat Unplugged in a canoe! CDT’ers are welcome to come by for a vegetarian potluck Havdalah dinner and some casual canoeing and kayaking on the Charles River. Then by 8pm we’ll all paddle into the river with our Havdallah candles and spices for a very special Havdallah service on the water. The reflection of the flickering Havdallah candles on the water will be beautiful, and there is bound to be laughter as we try to pass spices from boat to boat. If we have rain, the potluck will still happen but Havdallah will be indoors. Please RSVP by May 8 to Diana Fisher Gomberg at dfgomberg@gmail.com or 617.243.9424. RSVP’s are requested so that we can make sure we have enough boats and canoes. If you have a canoe or kayak, it would be great if you would bring it. Otherwise, please just bring a contribution to the vegetarian potluck dinner and if you have a Havdallah candles and/or spices please bring them too. The Gombergs will provide drinks and desserts (and boats, paddles, and life jackets!) All ages are welcome. If you don’t want to get in a boat and would rather just watch from the shore, you can be part of the official rescue crew!
CDT Events

Film Club
Saturday night, May 12 at the home of Trish Nuzzola and Meryl Epstein, Newton
Potluck dinner at 6:00pm, Movie at 7:00pm

The CDT Film Club’s next film will be *Nora’s Will* (Cinco Días Sin Nora 2010). 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 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 (emily@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.

*Nora’s Will* (Mexico, 2010 NR):
This award-winning black comedy follows the family of Nora (Silvia Mariscal), who carefully plans her suicide so that her assortment of estranged relatives, including ex-husband José (Fernando Luján), will have to celebrate Passover together and hopefully achieve a reconciliation. As José battles with unsympathetic cemeteries, a fractious rabbi and his devoted assistant, and his own son (Ari Brickman), he realizes how deeply he still loved Nora.—Netflix

Rosh Chodesh
Tuesday, May 22, 7:30-9:00pm
60 Highland Street, Living Room

We will welcome the month of Sivan with learning, readings, and importantly, conversation and community. All CDT women are invited to this special gathering. E-mail Kristen Petersen, petersenka@hotmail.com, with any questions. We look forward to welcoming a new month together!

Dorshei Tzedek Softball

2012 Men’s Softball Team Schedule for May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Time of Game</th>
<th>Away Team</th>
<th>Home Team</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Field Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/06/12 10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Dorshei Tzedek</td>
<td>Beth David-Westwood</td>
<td>Thurston Middle School</td>
<td>850 High Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/13/12 10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Beth-El Sudbury</td>
<td>Dorshei Tzedek</td>
<td>Newton Forte Park</td>
<td>233 California Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/20/12 10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Temple Israel-1 Boston</td>
<td>Dorshei Tzedek</td>
<td>Newton Forte Park</td>
<td>233 California Street</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2012 CDT Men’s Softball 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 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 Kiddush Cup!

If you can’t make it to the game, follow the team in the weekly recaps on [CDT-SHARE].
Adult Learning & Reflection

Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Thursday mornings, 8:15am-9:00am
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.)

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 hebrewcollege.edu/parenting.html, and look for the Dorshei Tzedek site.

Religious School News

by Annette Lawson, Education Director

This school year is almost at its end, and registration for next year will begin soon. This is a good time to reach out to friends who might be looking for a Jewish educational program for their families to invite them to consider whether CDT would be a good fit for them.

I welcome prospective parents to visit our school and observe classes while we are still in session (classes end on May 22) and I am always happy to talk to prospective parents to discuss our school program and answer questions.

For families considering our school, we offer a one-year “no-membership option” for those enrolling in Nitzanim- Kitah Gimmel (PreK-3rd grade). This option allows families to try us out and get to know our school and congregation before committing to membership.

If you know of any families who might be interested in our school, please encourage them to contact me at school@dorsheitzedek.org or 617-965-5443.

Also, we are proud and pleased that Combined Jewish Philanthropies has extended our Program Experimentation Project (PEP) grant for two more years. CDT was one of only three synagogues this year to receive a PEP grant to experiment with educational innovations.

We used our PEP grant to fund Project LO”X (Learning Outside the boX). Through Project LO”X, we experimented with family-based education for students and their families in Kitot Alef-Gimmel (Grades 1-3). Some of the features of Project LO”X included adult learning for parents to parallel their child’s class curriculum, integrated adult and child learning, and opportunities for families to take their learning outside the classroom and into the world. An important feature of Project LO”X was to experiment with learning in non-classroom settings. For example, LO”X@home sessions provided families an opportunity to learn about and celebrate erev Shabbat together in a home setting.

Rabbi Toba, Adam Lavitt, our community educator, and I are currently working on evaluating our work on Project LO”X to assess which elements were most effective in order to improve and expand the program. Project LO”X will continue for Kitah Alef-Gimmel in the coming school year as well as be expanded to include other cohorts within the CDT community. Details of the expanded program will follow in the coming months.
Tikkun Olam

CDT Walks for Hunger

May 6

In the current economic crisis, more families than ever are dependent on the support and generosity of others simply to put food on their tables.

This year’s Kitah Zayin (7th grade) class will be joining Project Bread’s Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May 6th to raise money for those in need.

Show your support for Kitah Zayin and the fight to end hunger by donating on the Team Kitah Zayin webpage at the link below. You can also sign up to walk with us! www.projectbread.org.

Todah Rabah,
Team Kitah Zayin

Family Table Update

by Pamela Schoenberg Reider

Family Table welcomes volunteers one Sunday per month to pack and deliver Kosher food to families need. Please contact them directly if you’d like to participate (TMoskowitz@jfcsboston.org).

This year, our food contributions are WHOLE GRAIN CEREAL and CANNED VEGETABLES. Please keep them coming. You can drop off the donations in the collection boxes near the sanctuary or at the religious school.

CDT needs drivers to deliver our donations to Family Table.

Please go here to sign up: http://doodle.com/mk9xnkfw2tu7ai3e

Questions? Contact Pamela (jomela@rcn.com or 617-244-3373).

We recently received this lovely note from Family Table:

Dear Congregants of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek,

On behalf of JF&CS Family Table, I want to thank you for your extremely generous donation bestowed upon the grateful families served by Family Table.

The matzah meal donations that you collected allowed Jewish families in the community to celebrate a traditional holiday this spring.

It is very important and comforting for our recipient families to know that the Jewish community cares about their well-being, their ability to observe the Jewish holidays and their ability to provide food for their families.

Your congregation has certainly allowed “all those who are hungry to come and eat” this Passover. We are all grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Tamar Moskowitz,
Volunteer & Food Coordinator,
JF&CS Family Table

“On behalf of JF&CS Family Table, I want to thank you for your extremely generous donation bestowed upon the grateful families served by Family Table.”

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, in which participants purchase a share before the beginning of the growing season and, in exchange, receive a set amount of produce once a week in the summer and fall. 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. If you are interested in signing up, please visit their web site at redfirefarm.com. Please also e-mail 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.
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.

Refuah Sh’leyma
We send blessings of healing to CDT member Ruby Gan and her parents, Valerie Graf & Doron Gan.

Condolences
To Lisa Schneier, on the death of her mother, Esther Schneier, may her memory be for a blessing.

Yahrzeit
The fifth yahrzeit of beloved CDT member and founder Jill Volk falls this year on May 3 (the 11th of Iyyar). We will be remembering Jill Volk at Shabbat morning services on May 5. May her memory always be for a blessing.

Thank You
My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the Dorshei Tzedek community for your support after my mother’s death in February. The prospect of performing the mitzvah of shivah alone was daunting, but you provided enough food to last me the entire week and filled up my home for two shivah minyanim, many of you coming a long way to attend. I cannot name everyone who helped me out, but I would like to single out Rabbi Toba, for offering advice and assistance, even with my arrangements in Florida, and to Amy Mazur, who called and visited regularly. —Barry Ingber

Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners
Monday, May 7, 7:30 p.m. in Newton
After Shiva, Now What? Avelut is CDT’s member-led group dedicated to supporting avelim (mourners). Any adult CDT member who is dealing with a personal loss (family, friend, partner, other) or observing the Yahrzeit of a loved one is welcome. A CDT member does not need to be in the official mourning period to attend. The Avelut group is a time to talk about the impact of loss, the journey of bereavement, and the legacies of loved ones we carry with us. For more details and info from the recent survey go to: http://tinyurl.com/AVELUT
Please RSVP for location: Ellie Goldberg, ellie.goldberg@gmail.com, 617-965-9637.

Todah Rabah
A huge Todah Rabah and “yasher koach” to all those who made the CDT Gala a huge success: indefatigable co-chairs, Jen Kaplan and Paul Hattis; committee members Alison Lobron, Abby Cohen, Linda Kramer, Linette Liebling, and Cindy Shulak-Rome; invite designer Josette Akresh-Gonzales; photographer Emily Sper; and CDT staff Marla Lichtman and Jon Sarner. In addition to being an inspiring and fun evening, the event raised over $27,000 for the congregation! Thank you to Bill Shorr, our seder matchmaker!

Todah Rabah to all of those who helped with kiddush or B’nei Mitzvah for March and April: Matilda & Ed Bruckner, Corinne Lofchie, Jacqui Fleischman, Cheryl & Jeff Sacks, Sherry Katz & Mark Farber, Jeff Kichen, Helaine & John Carroll, and Janet Boguslaw.

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.)
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.

Our Fabulous Double Chai celebration on March 24th gave us an opportunity to celebrate the many strengths of our CDT community: diversity, community education, our tik-kun olam and chesed activities, and the vision of our leadership. The event raised over $27,000 from members and friends of CDT and Rabbi Toba. Yet despite this great success, these funds are not part of this year’s operating budget; they will be used for special projects and to add to the financial reserves of the congregation. This means that our annual Nediv Lev campaign is as crucial as ever. A successful campaign is critical to the continued flourishing of our congregation. As a community that recognizes the importance of giving, we hope that every CDT household will participate. Members of the Board and past presidents have already pledged over $15,000 towards our overall goal of $72,000.

We are now entering the main phase of the campaign, when we reach out to the entire congregation. You will be receiving a letter soon (if you haven’t already) asking you to recognize the importance of CDT in your life and to acknowledge that role with a contribution. For each of us the existence and success of CDT has a personal meaning. Please give at whatever level is meaningful and possible for you. If you made a donation in connection to the Gala, we hope you will also consider a gift to the Nediv Lev campaign.

This campaign is an expression of the values that shape our three-part revenue-raising program:

(a) a “half shekel” per capita assessment of each member;

(b) a sliding scale membership portion based on each household’s ability to pay; and

(c) a Nediv Lev donation made “from the heart” as the ancient Israelis each contributed to the building of the Mishkan in the Sinai after leaving Egypt.

Thank you for your generosity.

L’shalom.

Jeff Sacks and Sharon Sevransky, Nediv Lev Co-Chairs

General Fund
Phoebe Cushman and Joel Auslander—In honor of the birth of our children, Mia and Sam
Theresa St. John-Siegel and Steve Siegel
Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg—In honor of Sharon Sevransky and Jeff Goldman, in honor of Nancy Gertz, in honor of Lily Fisher Gomberg
Hilary Marcus and Jonathan Magaziner—In honor of our CDT community
Amy Dain and Michael Dudnik
Jackie and Stan Fleischman
Jodi and Alex Sugerman-Brozan
Amy Mazur—In memory of Marvin Mazur
Gertrude Nemeth—In memory of Leonard Nemeth
Susan Silberberg—In memory of Ross Silberberg
Laya Steinberg and Bruce Miller—In honor of Rabbi Toba for her marvelous Mindful Mornings class
Marcia Okun and Josh Lieberman—In honor of the 80th birthday of Alan Lieberman
Matilda and Edward Bruckner
Deborah Hemley and Jonathan Weisberg

Madeline Steinberg and Mitchell Feuer
Jodie Siegel—In honor of Rabbi Elaine Pollack
Lisa Port White—In honor of all the friends I’ve worked with on the board and committees over the years
Jennifer Hochschild and Tony Broh
Meiera and Hadley Stern—In honor of our parents
Janice Cole

Camp JRF Fund
Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
Stacey Chacker, Becca Gutman, Paul Schimek, Irena Fayngold, Bonnie Tenneriello, Ruth Paris, Alison Hausman, Jodi Sugerman-Brozan & Hilary Marcus—From the recent Spiritual Autobiographers, in honor of Rabbi Toba and all members of our class

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library, Free and open to the community</td>
<td>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck 6p, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 6pm - Candle lighting and dinner; 6:45 pm - Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service &amp; Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Gordon 9:45a-12p, Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Room 112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library, Free and open to the community</td>
<td>Shabbat Unplugged 6p, in members’ homes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men’s Softball 10a, Westwood: Thurston Middle School, 850 High Street, playing Beth David, Westwood</td>
<td>Men’s Softball 10a, Newton: Forte Park-233 California St (our home field), playing Beth-El, Sudbury</td>
<td>Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library, Free and open to the community</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45a-9:40a, Library</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a-12p</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service &amp; Bat Mitzvah of Siena Small 9:45a-12p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library, Free and open to the community</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service &amp; Bat Mitzvah of Gabby Cummins 9:45a-12p</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rosh Chodesh 7:30p-9p, Living Room</td>
<td>Mindful Mornings with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a-9a, Library, Free and open to the community</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a-12p</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men’s Softball 10a, Newton: Forte Park-233 California St (our home field), playing Temple Israel-1 Boston</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CDT Board Meeting 7:30p, Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

Shabbat & Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Gordon 5/5:
*Ushers: Russ Paris & Rob Saper*
*Sanctuary Cleanup: Susan Nitkin & Jeffrey Marcus*

Shabbat 5/12: Bryn Austin, Karen Wasserman, Abby Cohen & Stuart Snyder

Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Siena Small 5/19:
*Ushers: Ami & Jonathan Gordon*
*Sanctuary Cleanup: Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen Setup: Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb, Danielle Kleinberg & Mark Rosenberg, Gail Harris & David Reider*
Cleanup: Elizabeth & David Roll, Meira & Hadley Stern, Jamie Tessler, Rachel Greenberg

Shabbat 5/26: Laura & Joel Katz, Alan Epstein, Jeff Arnold

Erev Shabbat 6/1: Marc Steinberg, Jennifer Greenberg, Shoshanna Korn-Meyer, Leah Diskin

Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Gabby Cummins 6/2:
*Ushers: Janelle Winston, Lisa Goodwin-Robbins*
*Sanctuary Cleanup: Stacey Chacker, Bonnie Tenneriello Setup: Susan Bernstein, Pam & Steve Katz, Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis, Jonathan Rosenthal*
Cleanup: Meg Wilcox & Bob Warren, Stacey Chacker, Bonnie Tenneriello

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 Chalkboard
by Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director

School Enrollment & Kiddush Sign-ups
May is a busy month for us admin folk here at CDT. We are actively preparing for next year already, planning the school and temple calendars, preparing for High Holydays 2012, working on next year’s kiddush sign-ups, Hebrew school enrollment and membership renewals. YIKES! A lot is going on.

During the early part of May, if you already have kids in our religious school, look for your 2012-13 Enrollment packets to arrive in the mail. Early discounts apply to everyone who returns these, with their tuition deposits, by May 31. If you have kids entering school for the first time or are a non-member thinking of enrolling your child(ren), our Education Director, Annette Lawson, can answer all of your school-related questions. Reach her at school@dorsheitzedek.org or 617-965-5443.

Mid-May is also the time we plan for next year’s kiddush coverage. Look for a CDT ANNOUNCE message from me letting you know that kiddush sign-ups are open online. As always, there will be two separate parts for kiddush sign-up—one for families with kids entering 5th-8th grades (“B’nei Mitzvah” families) and one for everyone else. Detailed sign-up instructions will accompany the email and also be available on the sign-up pages themselves but if you have questions, please feel free to ask. I can be reached at admindirector@dorsheitzedek.org or at 617-965-0330.

To review what it means to provide kiddush at CDT, you may find the various guidelines on our brand new and very beautiful website by going to http://dorsheitzedek.org/members/providing-kiddush. If you have not done so already, you will need to log in and create a password for yourself, as described below, in an excerpt from an email sent by Dan Halbert to the membership:

You should have received an automated message giving you a one-time login link to the new site. Click the link and set a password for your account. The password must be at least 6 characters long. For most of you, you have an account identified by your name and email address. You can login with either your name or your email. Your name is “Firstname Lastname”, e.g., “Dan Halbert”. To login if you are not logged in, click the “Members” link at the right side of the green horizontal menu. If you are using the website in a public place, make sure you log out when you’re done by clicking the “Logout” link in the upper right. For issues with logging in to our new website, or if you didn’t get a one-time-login email, contact Dan directly at halbert@halwitz.org.
Shavuot

Saturday evening, May 26
Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot, Coolidge Corner

Seven weeks after the liberation of Passover, we celebrate Shavuot, the festival of the harvest of “first fruits.” According to rabbinic tradition, Shavuot is the day on which the Israelites received Torah at Sinai. In celebration of the ongoing receiving of Torah—insight and learning—it is traditional to celebrate Shavuot with an all-night study extravaganza called a “tikkun leil Shavuot.”

This year we are joining a number of other congregations and Jewish organizations at the Brookline Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot for an all-night educational and cultural experience. This is a wonderful opportunity to sample teachers from around the community and join with hundreds of others for a wide variety of learning sessions. The evening will begin at 8:45 pm and go until 4:00 am, and will be held at Congregation Kehillat Israel in Coolidge Corner. Stay tuned for an event website and Facebook page.