



# Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

## NEWSLETTER

Heshvan 5773 October 2012

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465  
617-965-0330 | [www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org) | [info@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:info@dorsheitzedek.org)



## Todah Rabah

by Peter Katz, President

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**AS YOU READ THIS COLUMN**, Rabbi Toba will be packing up to go on sabbatical. A hearty *todah rabah* and *yasher koach* to her for all she does for our community and for so many of us individually, and for the unique energy and spirit she brings to her work and her play. Best wishes to you, Toba, for a restful and revivifying sabbatical, and here's hoping, if you end up moving to Waltham while you are "relaxing," that the move goes easily (or as easily as they ever do). Perhaps you might even sleep in on a few shabbats.

Many CDTers have been hard at work preparing to make the sabbatical an exciting time for the members to enjoy steering the ship and supporting each other. There will be plenty of opportunities to try new activities and to take on new tasks. Toba will be on sabbatical, but CDT won't, so I encourage everyone to come to services and keep an eye out for opportunities to be involved that suit your interests and your schedule.

Sabbatical or no sabbatical, CDT is a vibrant community not only because of Toba and our great staff, Annette, Marla, Adam and Jon (all of whom, by the way,

*continued on next page*

have been working hard at preparing for the sabbatical) and our teachers, but also because of our volunteers. There are many folks who do many things for CDT, sometimes publicly, sometimes quietly and behind the scenes. Here are just a few examples of this generous work [spoiler alert: this list is non-exhaustive!]:

The newsletter team, whose names are listed elsewhere in this newsletter (keep looking, the list is there): as you read this, think about what it takes to put out a twelve-page journal every month (and imagine the suspense of waiting to see what comes in by the deadline).

By the way, **Barbara Beck** and **Lynda Goldberg** send out CDT acknowledgements to our donors and their honorees—so, Barbara and Lynda, thanks for giving thanks.

The Ritual Committee—**Matilda** and **Ed Bruckner**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Debbie Waber**, **Audra Karp**, **Linda Kramer**, **Cindy Marshall**, **Carol Sklar**, **Marion Ross**, **Barbara Huggins**, and the chair, **Laurie Goldman**—have taken the leading oar in the sabbatical boat. Be sure to get a copy of the sabbatical Shabbatot/Adult Learning brochure.

As long as we are talking about ritual, let's appreciate the many *leyners* and *d'var'ers* who enrich our services every week—I haven't seen the official stats, but I would bet that CDT is off the charts in per capita lay service leaders. And of course, we owe much to **Elaine Pollack** and **Chayim Herzig-Marx**, who between them have taught so many leyners.

The fact that we have teenagers to take care of our kids on Shabbat mornings is due to the teenager wrangling skills of **David Lobron** and **Becca Gutman**—raising their own teenagers should be a snap after this. (There will be a section of thank-you's for High Holydays for this later).

In the category of hidden gems are **Laurie Gould** and **Ora Grodsky**, who facilitated this year's Leadership Retreat to the acclaim of the attendees.

And since he and I exchanged emails while I was writing this, I will give a shout out to **Dan Halbert**, who seems to be available more or less 24/7 to help with technical matters, which would be his polite way of referring to my and others' sometimes clueless questions.

Everyone reading this can easily think of a dozen more people who do great things for the CDT community. This is a participatory community in spirit as well as in intent. *Todah rabah* to all the volunteers—it's the work we do with and for each other that makes CDT thrive.

## 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.

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## CDT Board

### Rabbi Toba Spitzer

#### Staff

Education Director: Annette Lawson

Administrative Director: Marla Lichtman

Administrative Assistant: Jon Sarner

Community Educator: Rabbi Adam Lavitt

#### Executive Committee

President: Peter Katz

First Vice President: Allison Hausman

VP Finance: Sivan Nasoff

VP Membership: Marla Cummins  
Secretary: Lisa Dee Port White

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Communications: Danielle Klainberg

Membership: Amy Dain

Leadership Development: Laurie Gould

Ritual: Laurie Goldman

Tikkun Olam: Jonathan Rosenthal

Members-at-large: Louise Enoch, Jake Weinberg

#### Off-Board Chairs

Chesed: Ellen Pashall and Dianne Lior

Nediv Lev: Sharon Sevransky

Newsletter: Josette Akresh-Gonzales

Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome

Space Liaison: Noam Shore

Website: Stan Fleischman

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## CDT Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a combined summer issue. Email articles, events, and photos to [dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org) by the 15th of the month for the following month's issue.

#### Volunteer Staff

Josette Akresh-Gonzales (Chair), Deb Albenberg, John Holohan, Barry Ingber, Barbara Pittel, Rachel Ross, Vivienne Shein, Emily Shumsky, Michael Singer, Tim Rosa (Chair Emeritus)

# Shabbat

**Shabbat Chol HaMo'ed Sukkot  
Bar Mitzvah – Eli Adler-Cohen**  
*October 6*

**Shabbat Bereshit  
Celebrate Our New Leyners!**  
*October 13,*

Along with their teacher, our very own **Rabbi Elaine Pollack**, our new class of intrepid Torah chanters will be featured at this Shabbat morning service, exhibiting their new leyning skills and leading the Torah discussion as we turn back to the first stories of the Book of Genesis/Bereshit.

**Shabbat Noah, with Hal Miller-Jacobs**  
*October 20*

Hal will lead us in an interactive biblio-drama during the Torah discussion, exploring the famous story of Noah and the flood.

Hal Miller-Jacobs is a storyteller who brings Torah to life through interactive biblio-drama. He says that his life work is making technology user-friendly, and he delights in doing the same for Torah and Tefillah. Presently Hal lectures in Industrial and Organizational Psychology at Tufts University and holds a Ph.D in Experimental Psychology.

**Shabbat Lech L'cha  
with Rabbi Audrey Marcus-Berkman**  
*October 27*

We are delighted to be welcoming Rabbi Audrey for three Shabbatot over the course of Rabbi Toba's sabbatical. Rabbi Audrey has spent the past few years as the rabbi of Shir Hadash, our sister Reconstructionist congregation in Newton, and will engage us with her beautiful voice and insightful Torah teachings!

**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. For the comfort and health of our members and guests, we ask everyone attending our services to avoid wearing fragrances (perfume, cologne, hair and body sprays).

**Shabbat VaYera, with Carl Woolf**  
*November 3*

Carl will infuse our usual Shabbat morning service with music, movement, and meditation.

Carl Woolf has studied Jewish Devotional Chanting with Rabbi Shefa Gold. His spiritual studies and practices include music-making, davening, meditation and movement. He holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy and a M.Sc. in Computer Science. His "day-jobs" have included teaching philosophy, developing software, and busking in Harvard Square.

**Shabbat Chayah Sarah, with Cindy Rivka Marshall and Laurie Goldman**  
*November 10*

CDT's own Cindy Rivka Marshall and Laurie Goldman are pairing up for a dramatic reading of the Torah portion in both Hebrew and English translation. During the Torah discussion, Cindy will engage congregants in a *midrashic* dialogue to explore the story of Rebecca agreeing to go marry Isaac.

Cindy Rivka Marshall appears at synagogues, schools and conferences, offering folktales, midrashic stories and story-telling workshops for all ages. She was an invited presenter at Limmud UK in 2012. She works as a consultant to synagogues with Combined Jewish Philanthropies. Her work was recently published in the book, *Mitzvah Stories*.

**Shabbat Morning Torah Study**  
*Saturdays, 8:45am*

*Oct 13, Nov 17, Dec 15, Jan 12*

Once a month, before the Shabbat morning service, we will explore the *parshat hashavua*, the weekly Torah portion, through the lens of commentaries both traditional and contemporary. No prior experience in Torah study is necessary. Bring your own caffeinated beverage! October 13 will be Rabbi Toba's last session before her sabbatical, and she will return in February!

*Rabbi Adam Lavitt will be leading the Torah Study while Rabbi Toba is on sabbatical.*

## **CDT Community Erev Shabbat Dinner**

*Friday, November 2*

Imagine this. It's November 2nd, the Friday evening before the election. You're apprehensive about the outcome. Or you're ready for an early celebration. Or you just want to focus on the joys of being with your community in the "palace of time" of Shabbat.

You can welcome Shabbat with CDT members at a potluck dinner! If you'd like to host a potluck dinner in your home on Friday, November 2nd, please let **Barbara Huggins** of the Ritual Committee know. To choose one to attend, stay tuned for the sign-up on the Members section of the CDT website.

# Chesed

Rabbi Toba will be on sabbatical from October 15 through January 15. Rabbi Michael Luckens will be "on call" during this time. To reach Rabbi Luckens or for other Chesed needs, please contact the Chesed coordinators, Ellen Pashall and Dianne Lior ([chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org)), or CDT President Peter Katz. If there is a death in your family and you need to organize shivah, please be in touch with Nancy Gertz or Amy Mazur (they can also put you in touch with a rabbi if needed). Rabbi Adam Lavitt, our Community Educator, is also available for pastoral support, and can be reached at [communityed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:communityed@dorsheitzedek.org).

## Mazel Tov

To Karen and Reinhard Engels, and to Lucy and Clara, on the birth and brit milah of Isaac Henry!

To Theo Tessler Shapiro and his family, on becoming bar mitzvah!

To CDT teacher Vered Schreiber Brooks, on her marriage to Stephen Brooks!

To Rebecca Holohan for delivering a talk at Rosh Hashanah services, at the Temple in Atlanta, on her spiritual journey. Mazel Tov & L'hitra'ot

## Todah Rabah

A big todah rabah and yasher koach to Sharon Gorberg, for her beautiful contribution to our Selichot program, and to Amy Mazur, for organizing our special Labor Day Shabbat program.

Todah rabah to all those who helped with Kiddush or B'nei Mitzvah in September:

Irena Fayngold, Idit Klein, Benita Danzing—in memory of Myra Danzing, Kristin Butcher, Hope Kellman, Ami & Jonathan Gordon, Jan Gortler-Small, Elizabeth & David Roll, Susan Bernstein, Amelia Zalzman, Susan Silberberg, Bonnie Tenneriello, Andrew Sofer, Vilunya Diskin

## Refuah Sh'leyma

We send blessings of healing to CDT members Ruby Gan and Marla Cummins

## Condolences

To Bill Weinreb, on the death of his brother, Dan Weinreb, may his memory be for a blessing.

To Tim Rosa, on the death of his grandmother, Catherine King, may her memory be for a blessing.

To Eileen Morrison, on the death of her father, Allan Morrison, may his memory be for a blessing.

To Ricky Greenly, on the death of her mother, Charlotte Hopfer, may her memory be for a blessing.

May the Source of comfort bring comfort to the entire family, along with all those who mourn.

## Yahrzeit

We remember Shari Zimble, whose 4th yahrzeit falls this year on October 10. We will be remembering Shari at Shabbat morning services on October 13. May her memory be for a blessing. We will also be remembering Zachary Carson on October 13, on the occasion of his 5th yahrzeit.

## Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners

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. Avelut meets on the second Monday of every month. 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](mailto:ellie.goldberg@gmail.com)). If you would like to volunteer to host a meeting or for scheduling details, contact Andrew Sofer ([sofer@bc.edu](mailto:sofer@bc.edu)).

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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.)

# 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.

## Sukkot Morning Services

*Sukkot Morning Services*  
Monday, October 1 / 9:30–11:30am

No childcare provided; kids welcome at the service!

Bring your lulav and etrog as we sing Hallel and celebrate the holiday!

## Simchat Torah

Monday, October 8 / 7:00–9:00pm



We close the “time of our rejoicing” with a celebration of Torah, as we complete one cycle of reading and turn the scroll back to the

beginning. Come join us for “Torah Quiz” (with prizes!), klezmer music, and dancing with the Torah scrolls! For adults and kids of all ages.

## Tradition and Transformation: Reconstructionist Judaism Today

Sunday, October 14 / 10:30am–noon

What does it mean to “reconstruct” Jewish tradition for a contemporary world? How can ancient texts and rituals be meaningful for us today? Join Rabbi Toba Spitzer and members of CDT to learn more about our approach to Jewish living and our community. This is a program for prospective as well as new and current CDT members—tell your friends!

## New Member Orientation

Sunday, October 14 / 12:00–12:30pm.

We hope you will come to Rabbi Toba’s talk, “Tradition and Transformation: Reconstructionist Judaism Today” (see above). If you are new to CDT since this past spring, please join us after for a New Member Orientation. We will give a short overview of the “ins and outs” of CDT, as well as answer any questions you may have.

## CDT Film Club

October 6  
*Home of Stan and Jackie Fleischman*  
28 Bowdoin St., Newton Highlands  
Potluck at 6:00pm, movie starts at 7:00pm

CDT Film Club’s first film of the year will be *Lies My Father Told Me* (1975, 102 min., English, French, Hebrew). Set in 1920s Montreal, this nostalgic tale centers on the binding relationship between a wide-eyed seven-year-old boy and his Orthodox Jewish grandfather. Czech director Kadar creates a genuinely absorbing look into a touching moment of childhood.

Potluck dinner starts at 6 pm. Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share, and let us know ahead of time if you’re coming and what you’ll bring. Movie starts at 7 pm, to be followed by a group discussion. Feel free to come for any part of the evening. We hope you can join us! Please contact **Stan Fleischman** ([stanfma@gmail.com](mailto:stanfma@gmail.com)) or **Emily Sper** ([emily@emilysper.com](mailto:emily@emilysper.com)) if you have any questions.

## Would You Like to Host a Film?

We are looking for hosts! All you need to provide is the house and TV or white wall. Please let **Judy Hersh** ([judyhersh@comcast.net](mailto:judyhersh@comcast.net)) know if you are a potential host.

Upcoming schedule:  
November 10: *Inside Hana’s Suitcase*  
December 15: *Footnote*  
January 5: *The Shop on Main Street*  
February 9: *The Secrets*  
March 9: *The Strangers*  
April 6: *Holy Land Hardball*  
May 4: *Noodle*

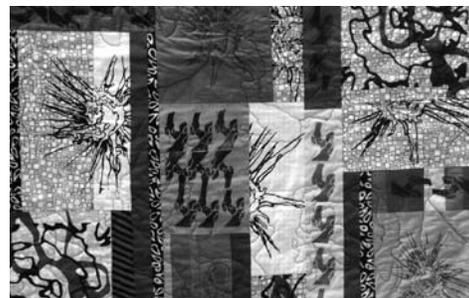
## Rosh Chodesh

Tuesday, October 16 / 7:30–9pm

After a summer hiatus, the CDT Rosh Chodesh group will meet at 60 Highland Street to celebrate the new moon of Cheshvan. For those who are new to Rosh Chodesh, the celebration of the new moon is a day historically associated with women’s renewal and celebration. In recent decades, Rosh Chodesh has become an occasion for Jewish women to gather for learning, ritual, and spiritual exploration, and to mark life passages.

For more information or to RSVP please contact **Erica Streit-Kaplan** at [EricaStreitkaplan@yahoo.com](mailto:EricaStreitkaplan@yahoo.com). Newcomers welcome!

Please save the date for the Rosh Chodesh Kislev on Wednesday, November 14.



## Oncoglyphs: An Exhibit Quilts by Susannah Zisk

In the final year of her life, **Susannah Zisk** created a stunning series of quilts incorporating images of cancer cells, as a contemplation and exploration of the disease that was threatening her own life. The quilts are being displayed for the first time in the CDT sanctuary, with accompanying text by Susannah. They will be up for a few months, so please take the time to view them the next time you are in the sanctuary. They are a beautiful celebration of life in the face of mortality. With thanks to **Stephen Zisk** and **Emily Sper** for organizing this exhibit.

# 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.

## **Ikkarim: Parenting Through a Jewish Lens**

Registration is open for Fall 2012;  
Sunday evenings beginning October 14  
7:30-9:00pm

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 zero-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.

## **Home Matters**

with Rabbi Adam Lavitt,  
CDT Community Educator  
Thursday evenings, November 1, 8, 15 & 29  
7:30-9:00pm

What is "home"? What does your home reflect about you and your family's values? Judaism is a religion fundamentally rooted in our homes—so what does our tradition

say about our communal obligation to provide shelter to those without homes? How might Jewish teachings help us understand and address the housing and foreclosure crisis?

Over the course of four sessions, we'll reflect on our own values in light of Jewish ideas about home and homelessness, and explore how this might help us think about how to take action in the world as a community.

## **Mindful Mornings**

Thursday mornings  
8:15am-9:00am, beginning October 11th

This weekly meditation group, for both new and experienced meditators, will continue with lay leadership during Rabbi Toba's sabbatical. Sessions will include guided meditations followed by a brief discussion time. No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! (Please arrive no later than 8:15am, in order not to disrupt the session once we've started.)

For more information, contact CDT member **Carole Slipowitz** at [carole@slipowitz.org](mailto:carole@slipowitz.org).

## **Exploring the Bible**

with Dr. Sanford Goldfless  
Mondays at 3:30pm, \$15 per session (fee can be reduced to whatever you feel comfortable with)

In this class we get familiar with the Jewish Bible (the "Tanakh" or "Torah, Prophets, and Writings") by reading in English and discussing large parts of it together. We often look at the biblical text from a historical perspective; we always pay attention to the literary features of the text that are essential for conveying its meaning. We also enjoy conversation about the course of Jewish history and culture through the ages.

The class is open to all Dorshei Tzedek members and their friends. Join us as we start the class anew in the new year!

This class will meet weekly through May, at participants' homes. Contact **Stan Fleischman** at: [stanfma@gmail.com](mailto:stanfma@gmail.com) or **617-332-5433** for more information.

## *Save the Date!*

**From Text to Talk: A Skills Workshop**  
Sunday November 4, 4:00-6:00 pm

with Orit Kent and Allison Cook  
of the Mandel Center at Brandeis

Do you marvel as **Rabbi Toba** skillfully leads the congregation in text study? Have you ever thought "I'd like to do that," but you weren't sure how? Learn the skills to lead Jewish text study and discussions from Orit Kent and Allison Cook, researchers/educators at the Man-

del Center for Studies in Jewish Education of Brandeis University. Orit and Allison are incredible educators, and we are thrilled to be hosting them as part of our Project LO"X (Learning Outside the box) educational initiative. Open to all interested CDT adults—no prior experience is necessary! Project LO"X is funded by a generous grant from the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.



# Tikkun Olam

by Jonathan Rosenthal,  
Tikkun Olam Chair



**AFTER SEVERAL YEARS** of steady growth of our Tikkun Olam work under the able leadership of Alex Sugerman-Brozan, our congregation has developed an impressive array of activities. Our current projects include:

**Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO):** GBIO is a broad-based coalition of area churches, synagogues, mosques, unions, and community development corporations that have built a loving and action-oriented community. GBIO is working on issues of affordable health care, access to higher education, and job training. Newton Congregations is a subgroup of GBIO that is focused on issues of Supporting Seniors and Their Care, Reducing Teen Stress, and Expanding Affordable Housing.

**Family Table:** CDT is an ongoing participant in Family Table, the kosher food pantry for greater Boston run by Jewish Family and Children's Service. We regularly collect donations of kosher food.

**Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW):** Since 2010 we have been supporting the organizing campaign of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a farmworkers' rights organization in Florida fighting for decent working conditions in the Florida tomato fields. We are exploring sending a delegation in April to Immokalee, Florida, to learn firsthand about their work.

**Red Fire Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA):** We have also forged a partnership with Red Fire Farm to serve as a drop off site during the Farm's growing season. CSA members or subscribers pay at the onset of the growing season for a share of the anticipated harvest; once harvesting begins, they receive weekly shares of vegetables and fruit.

**Compost and Home Gardening:** We have offered the expertise of CDT members to help improve the gardening skills of interested members.

**Sindyanna Olive Oil:** Sindyanna of Galilee is a women-led non-profit that strives to strengthen the economy of the Arab-Palestinian population in Israel and to enhance the empowerment of Arab women.

This summer I met with Rabbi Toba and we developed a plan to continue supporting our existing projects while joining the Religious School and Congregation in exploring the theme of Home. This could include looking at the earth as our home, immigrant rights as connected to welcoming guests, homelessness, and deepening our discussion about Israel as home. Rabbi Adam Lavitt, CDT Community Educator, will lead a four part adult education class, Home Matters, in November, to explore these themes. More information is available on the Adult Education portion of the CDT website.

As you read this, you will have already been invited to a meeting to discuss this proposed direction. I hope we will see some new faces along with many seasoned Tikkun Olam activists, so we can create a new plan for the coming year.

For more information on our Tikkun Olam work or to get involved, please see the CDT website or email us at: [tikkunolam@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:tikkunolam@dorsheitzedek.org)

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## Join in Major GBIO Event Leading-up to Senate Election

**ON THE EVENING** of Monday, October 15, the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, of which CDT is a member, will hold an "Action" with Scott Brown and Elizabeth Warren. 1,000 members, representing the multitude of congregations that comprise GBIO, will gather to present an agenda of action items (determined at GBIO's 9/20 Delegates Assembly) to both candidates so as to have them sign-on to this list of GBIO expectations to which we can then hold whoever wins accountable. Given that the winner of the upcoming senate race will be in a powerful position, this strategy allows GBIO to position itself as a voice that will help lead Massachusetts and the country forward in ways that are important to us.

GBIO large-scale actions are amazing. The diversity and sheer number of "congregants," and the level of energy and commitment, is awe inspiring. We need at least a *minyan* of CDTERS for this gathering! Please contact **Ora Gladstone** ([gladstone@brandeis.edu](mailto:gladstone@brandeis.edu)) to let her know you can make it October 15th.

**GBIO large-scale actions  
are amazing.**

# Family Table: Whole Grains and Kosher Soup!



CDT has now been assigned to collect **25 cans of kosher or vegetarian soup and 25 boxes of whole grain cereal** per month. We need your help to fill this need. **Please bring your donations with you when you come to services or to drop off/pick up your child from the CDT school.**

One volunteer is needed **one Sunday per month** to transport the food. This takes approximately one hour. The driver picks up the monthly

donations of food from Dorshei Tzedek and delivers to Family Table at 1430 Main Street, Waltham between 9:00-11:00am on the designated day. Please see the calendar to sign up for an hour of driving: <http://www.doodle.com/z75uie72aic5zf4m>

Supporting Family Table provides meaningful ways for people of all ages to spend a little time making a big difference in our community. We need your help to fulfill our commitment to Family Table. Please sign up to be a driver. Please remember your cans of soup or boxes of cereal. Thanks.

# CDT Chalkboard

by Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director

## A Little Housekeeping

As we move into a new season, I look forward to the crispness and vivid colors of fall. Leaving behind some of the hubbub and busyness of our new fiscal year and holidays, it's a good time to start to review what was missed in all that busyness and what still needs doing. This is the time of year, a quieter time, when I do my CDT housekeeping, to make sure things are in order for moving into the winter season, the secular year end and subsequent new year.

But I need your help! To be sure that everyone's data is listed correctly in our database, please take a moment to go to our website member list (<http://dorsheitzedek.org/members/membership-lists>), to check on your stats. Is your name spelled correctly? Address ok? Phone numbers and email information accurate? Are your child(ren)'s ages right? If you find anything that needs changing, please let me know by emailing the corrections to me at : [admindirector@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:admindirector@dorsheitzedek.org). Thanks!

In case you still haven't signed on to our beautiful, new website, you'll need to create a password to do so. Use your actual name to sign in, under the "MEMBERS" tab, (e.g. "Jane Schwartz" [no quotes though!]), then click on "Don't have your password? Click here to reset it," and you will be prompted to create your password.

If you're a CDT member and are having trouble logging in, setting your password, or navigating the website, please email: [web-help@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:web-help@dorsheitzedek.org) and someone will help you out.

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# Greater Boston Jewish Community

## Attend the Synagogue Council's Unity Mission to New York City

The Synagogue Council of Massachusetts' nationally acclaimed Unity Mission, now in its 26th year, will be held on Sunday and Monday, November 11th & 12th in New York. This program brings together leaders of congregations from throughout Massachusetts for a one-of-a-kind experience that will move you, uplift you, and alter the way you perceive yourself and your fellow Jews for all time! Along with a diverse group of committed synagogue leaders, students from area schools, and

delegates from Haifa, you will meet, face to face, with prominent national and international Jewish luminaries. Highlights include visits to seminary galleries, libraries and chapels, enabling you to view-up close-the sacred spaces, treasured archives and artifacts preserved and housed at each of the Unity Mission's itinerary sites. For further information, go to [www.synagoguecouncil.org](http://www.synagoguecouncil.org), or call 617-244-6506.

## Rashi School Curious Minds Program For Preschoolers and their Caregivers

*Animals of the Rainforest*  
Tuesday, October 30th  
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Come take a trip to the Rainforest and meet some of the animals who live there. As we read the lyrical children's book, "If I ran the Rainforest," we'll meet the animals as they are presented in the story. Featuring Creature Teachers and live animals. For more information, go to [www.rashi.org](http://www.rashi.org).

# Nediv Lev

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek: through contributions to the General Fund, or to targeted funds such as the School, Holy Book or Jill Volk Teacher Development 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. All contributions should also be made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, but marked as intended for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or other funds.

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.

**If you haven't made your contribution to the 5772 Nediv Lev Campaign, we'd love to hear from you! Checks should be made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek or you can pledge on-line.**

## We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions.

### General Fund

**Laura Arbeitman**—*In memory of David Levi Keimowitz Crozier*

**Beth Brooks**—*In memory of Esther "Stacey" Brooks; in memory of Leon Richard Brooks*

**Nancy Gertz**—*In loving memory of Efrem Goldberg; in loving memory of Susannah Zisk*

**Carol Hemley**—*In memory of David Hemley*

**Lilly Platt**—*In memory of Tim Rosa's grandmother, Catherine King*

**Elizabeth and David Roll**

**Michael Singer**—*a High Holydays contribution*

**Nessa Spitzer**—*In memory of Bill Spitzer, Rabbi Toba's dad*

**Robert Warren**—*In memory of my mother, Bette Warren*

**Jamie Tessler**—*In honor of the many hands of our community (staff, teachers, & volunteers) who supported Theo to become a Bar Mitzvah*

### Camp JRF Fund

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Lorna Shapiro**—*In loving memory of my daughter, Debbie Sher; thank you to Rabbi Toba*

**Barbara Huggins**

**Ellie Baron and Kate deBethune**—*With thanks to Rabbi Toba*

**Jamie Tessler**—*In honor of Rabbi Toba, for her wise guidance and support to Theo as he became a Bar Mitzvah*

**Sandra and James Rosenberg**—*In honor of Isaac's brit milah*

### 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

# CDT Calendar

# October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Sukkot Service</b> 9:30a–11:30a  <b>Exploring the Bible</b> with Dr. Sandy Goldfless 3:30p,	2	3	4	5 <b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck</b> 6:00pm	6 <b>Shabbat Morning Service &amp; Bar Mitzvah of Eli Adler-Cohen</b> 9:45a to 12:00p, Sanctuary Fellowship Hall, Room 112 <b>CDT Film Club:</b> <i>Lies My Father Told Me</i> 6:00 pm
7	8 <b>Simchat Torah Celebration</b> 7:00p–9:00p	9	10	11 <b>Mindful Mornings</b> with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	12	13 <b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b> with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45a–9:40a, 60 Highland St., Library <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b> 9:45a–12p, Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Room 112
14 <b>Tradition &amp; Transformation</b> 10:30a–12p <b>New Member Orientation</b> 12p–12:30p <b>Sukkah takedown</b> 12p <b>Ikkarim</b> 7p–9p <b>CDT Board Meeting</b> 7:30p	15	16 <b>Rosh Chodesh</b> 7:30pm - 9 pm	17	18 <b>Mindful Mornings</b> 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	19	20 <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b> with Hal Miller-Jacobs 9:45a–12p, Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Room 112 <b>Junior Congregation</b> 10:45a–12p,  <b>Tot Shabbat</b> 10:45am to 12:00pm
21 <b>Ikkarim: Parenting Through a Jewish Lense</b> 7p–9p	22	23	24	25 <b>Mindful Mornings</b> 8:15a–9a, 60 Highland St., Library	26	27 <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b> 9:45a–12p, Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Room 112
28 <b>Ikkarim: Parenting Through a Jewish Lense</b> 7p–9p	29	30	31	<b>Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.</b>		

# Kiddush Assignments

**Sukkot Service 10/1:** Setup/Cleanup: Stephanie & Nem Hackett - in memory of Benjamin Lipka and Eleanor Hackett / Diane Becker

**Erev Shabbat Service 10/5:** Setup/Cleanup: Allison Andrews / Jennifer Greenberg - in memory of Max Kuperman / Vilunya Diskin / Andrew Milsten

**Shabbat 10/6:** Ushers: Rachel & Richard Cohen  
Sanctuary Cleanup: Peter Hess / Ilana Mainelli

**Simcha Torah Celebration 10/8:** Setup/Cleanup: Debbie Waber / Pamela Schoenberg Reider & Joel Reider - in memory of Mickey Schoenberg

**Shabbat 10/13:** Setup/Cleanup: Elaine Pollack - in honor of our newest leyners / Dianne Lior / Sherry Katz & Mark Farber

**Shabbat 10/20:** Setup/Cleanup: Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn / Eileen Morrison & Michael Jablon

**Shabbat 10/27:** Setup/Cleanup: Stacey Gore / Laura & Joel Katz / Sherwood Ives

**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.

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# Religious School News

by **Annette Lawson, Education Director**

**A** S WE BEGIN another school year, I am delighted to welcome back returning teachers **Alison Lobron** (Nitzanim-Pre-K), **Dale Norman** (Kitah Alef-1st grade), **Adina Mailick** (Kitah Gimmel-3rd grade) and **Vered Schreiber** (Kitot Bet and Dalet-2nd and 4th grades) and **Becca Richman** (informal education). **Rabbi Adam Lavitt**, our community educator, is now also teaching Kitah Hey (5th grade) and Kitah Zayin (7th grade). We are very fortunate that these dedicated educators continue to share their talents with our students.

In addition to our veteran teachers, we have an exceptional group of new faculty members.

Joining us to teach Kitah Gan (Kindergarten) **Sarah Rund** is an experienced religious school teacher and a science and nature educator. Sarah also has a background in special needs, and is experienced working with students with communications disorders.

**Risa Wallach**, who will be teaching Kitah Vav (6th grade), is a cantorial student at Hebrew College, where she is also pursuing a master's degree in Jewish education.

Teaching our BaDerech (9th grade) class this year is Rebbetzin **Gina Fried**. Gina has been a Hebrew school educator for almost twenty years and has served as the Family Educator at Temple Shir Tikvah. She also teaches English at Weston High School

**Anna Yankelev** will be running our new Merkaz Ivrit (Hebrew Center), supporting classroom Hebrew learning. Anna, a senior at Brandeis is an experienced counselor/educator for Habonim Dror.

Leading our Junior Congregation program is **Leora Abelson**. Leora is a rabbinic student at Hebrew College, has a background in social justice work and has led services for the havurah at Wesleyan University, where she received her undergraduate degree.

Our madrichim (teaching assistants) **Benyamin Meschede-Krasa**, **Clara Ives**, **Nathan Reider**, **Isabel Snyder**, **Celia Gittleman** and **Abby Leonard** are invaluable staff members and wonderful role models for our younger students.

Our school is enriched by the love of Jewish learning and warmth and caring for our students of our wonderful teaching staff. Todah Rabah (many thanks) to each of them.



Address correction requested



# Contacts:

**During Rabbi Toba's Sabbatical:** While Rabbi Toba is on sabbatical (October 15 – January 15), here are people to reach out to if you have questions or concerns:

Services and ritual	➔	Laurie Goldman
All-ages erev shabbat services	➔	Bill Shorr
Tot Shabbat	➔	Susan Moser
Chesed	➔	Coordinators are listed on <a href="http://dorsheitzedek.org">dorsheitzedek.org</a> and in the newsletter (see page 4)
Shivah minyanim	➔	Nancy Gertz or Amy Mazur
School	➔	Annette Lawson
Adult education	➔	Adam Lavitt
Facilities	➔	Marla Lichtman
Financial matters	➔	Sivan Nasoff
Anything else	➔	Peter Katz, Marla Lichtman, or any member of the board