



# Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

## Tishrei/Cheshvan 5774 October 2013

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617-965-0330 | [www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org) | [info@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:info@dorsheitzedek.org)

# Another Mountain...Oh Good!

by Alison Hausman



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**RABBI TOBA WILL** be completing her sabbatical during the first three months of 2014. When we started to plan for the first half of her sabbatical last year, I talked about my experience climbing the Grand Teton. We all knew that a successful sabbatical required gearing up and hard work. Like climbing a mountain, it takes great initiative and a certain measure of faith in the promised reward to stay motivated and succeed.

The challenge presented by the upcoming sabbatical comes at an opportune time for our community, as one of the primary goals being undertaken by the CDT leadership is a year-long discussion on what it means to be a “member” of our CDT community. In our mission statement we say:

“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 she is both a teacher and participant in our community.”

This concept of being a “participatory” congregation is one of the things I love most about our congregation, and is also one of the most challenging aspects given the many demands we all face. Our rabbi, our leadership, and our administrative staff shoulder many of the

Photo: CDT Hanukah Party, 2012  
Photo by Vivienne Shein.

*continued on next page*

burdens to keep the congregation functioning. But as most of us have experienced, there are multiple rewards that come from individual participation—whether it’s an unexpected meaningful conversation, a deep feeling of belonging to something bigger, or just the knowledge that we are cared for. We may gripe about finding the time to organize a kid-dush, but once we end up at services we remember why we are members in the first place.

With the High Holydays behind us for this year, it’s time to gear up for our next peak ascent. It may not feel as daunting this time—our experience from last year has helped us build confidence, and many people are already planning to step in. The last three-month sabbatical went very well. While we missed our wonderful rabbi, our ritual committee, then-president Peter Katz, and countless volunteers did an amazing job keeping our congregational life vibrant, inspirational, and responsive to the needs of the community. Perhaps most importantly, each of you, as a community, remained engaged and participated with enthusiasm.

Now, once again, we need the entire community to pitch in and keep the spirit alive in Rabbi Toba’s absence. Here are ways that happened last time. Members stepped up to:

- Lead parts of vibrant services
- Participate in Shabbat services and support our fellow members or guests stepping up to lead
- Host or attend an erev-Shabbat potluck dinner
- Send ideas for guest speakers or service leaders to our ritual leaders, Laurie Goldman and Marion Ross

Our discussion about membership in our community will take place partially during this time, while we are being asked to “pitch in” a little bit more than normal. I hope and expect these additional demands to inform and enrich our discussion. We will be experiencing the rewards of participation, reinforcing the mission our founders so wisely prescribed when they set forth to create CDT 22 years ago.

## CDT

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.

## Board

### **Rabbi Toba Spitzer**

#### **Staff**

Education Director: Annette Lawson

Administrative Director: Marla Lichtman

Administrative Assistant: Jon Sarner

Assistant Rabbi: Rabbi Adam Lavitt

#### **Executive Committee**

President: Allison Hausman

Immediate Past President: Peter Katz

VP Finance: Sivan Nasoff

VP Membership: Melanie Adler

VP Education: Lisa Schneier

VP Leadership: Laurie Gould

Secretary: Jen Kaplan

#### **Board Members-at-Large:**

Louise Enoch, Jake Weinberg, Jonathan Rosenthal, Laurie Goldman, Vilunya Diskin, Linda Hsu and David Lobron.

#### **Off-Board Chairs**

Ritual: Marin Ross and Laurie Goldman

Nediv Lev: Sharon Sevransky

Children’s Education: Bill Shorr

Website: Dan Halbert

Space: Noam Shore

Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome

Chesed: Ellen Pashall and Wendy Gedanken

## Rabbinic Liaison

**Rabbinic Liaison Committee:** The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists to insure the maintenance of a good working relationship between our rabbi and the congregation. While congregants are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns directly with Rabbi Toba, they may at times feel more comfortable talking to the Rabbinic Liaison committee. Issues raised by congregants are discussed confidentially and, when appropriate, are shared with the Rabbi in a constructive manner. Contact **Cindy Shulak-Rome, Rabbinic Liaison Chair at [cbsrome@comcast.net](mailto:cbsrome@comcast.net).**

## Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August 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), John Holohan, Barry Ingber, Barbara

Pittel, Rachel Ross, Vivienne Shein

(photographer), Emily Shumsky, Michael Singer

# Shabbat & Holidays

## SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI TOBA

Saturdays, 8:45 am

With Rabbi Toba Spitzer: October 19, November 23, December 14, April 12, May 3, June 14

With Rabbi Adam Lavitt (while Rabbi Toba is on sabbatical): January 25, February 22, March 22

Each 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. This year, we will be using Hasidic texts from Speaking Torah: Spiritual Teachings from around the Maggid's Table, by Rabbi Arthur Green. No prior experience in Torah study is necessary. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

## ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE AND POTLUCK

Fridays, October 4, November 1, December 6

6:00 pm, candle lighting and dinner;  
6:45 pm, service

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

## TOT SHABBAT

Saturdays, October 26, November 23, December 7

10:45 am-noon

Tot Shabbat is a monthly Shabbat morning program for children age five and younger and their parents, led by **Susan Moser**—CDT member, musician, and Jewish educator—and by **Alison Lobron**—CDT member and Jewish educator. Join us in celebrating

## **\*\*SAVE THE DATE!\*\***

### THIRD ANNUAL CDT MEN'S SHABBATON WITH RABBI ADAM LAVITT

Friday, December 20

6:00-8:00 pm, in a member's home

Saturday, December 21

9:00 am-noon and 1:00-6:00 pm, at CDT

The men of CDT are invited to join Rabbi Adam Lavitt, our Assistant Rabbi, for a spirited Men's Shabbaton. Building on the success of the first two Shabbatonim, we'll start with a Friday night dinner at a member's home. The next day will start with a meditative Shabbat morning service, followed by kiddush lunch with the congregation in Fellowship Hall. The afternoon will be filled with song, Torah exploration, movement, story sharing, and learning, and the day will conclude with Havdalah.

Whether you can make some or all of the Shabbaton, this is a wonderful opportunity for men in our community to connect with one another and do some learning and celebrating together. Stay tuned for more details and registration information! For information or to help with organizing, please contact **Rabbi Adam** ([asst.rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:asst.rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org)).

Shabbat with prayers and songs, stories, crafts, and other fun activities.

## BAT MITZVAH OF ARIANE CHACKER-BOURRUT

Saturday, October 5, 9:45 am

**Ariane** is in the 8th grade at the Lincoln School in Brookline. She loves music, animals, reading, hanging out with her friends and family, and she is bi-lingual in French. Ariane is fearless both on the ski slopes and riding the ocean waves. In the summer, she works at the Natick Community Organic Farm. For her Tikkun Olam project, Ariane assisted with Shabbat services for people with Alzheimer's at the Goddard House and served homeless elders at Haley House. Please join us as she is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah, and for kiddush lunch afterward.

—*Stacey Chacker*

## SIMCHAT SHABBAT

Saturdays, November 2, December 7

10:30 am-noon

For our 4th through 6th graders, this NEW program is an experiential exploration of the joy of Shabbat. Through music, meditation, art, movement, drumming and more, kids will enter into the possibilities of prayer outside the box. Come join the exploration!

**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).**

# Events

## CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, October 5

Potluck: 6:00 pm; Film: 7:00 pm, followed by a group discussion.

Home of Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan

The CDT Film Club will start off 5774 with a film on the light side: *Yoo Hoo Mrs. Goldberg* (2009; English).

*The history of “The Goldbergs”—and the massive appeal and influence of its Jewish-American main character—is explored in this fascinating documentary from filmmaker Aviva Kempner. Though she is not a household name today, Molly Goldberg—the indelible creation of writer and performer Gertrude Berg—was one of the most popular characters on radio and television from the 1930s to the ‘50s. (Netflix)*

Feel free to attend any part of the evening. If you’re coming to the potluck, please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share (in consideration of members with dietary constraints, if you are making a dish with dairy or wheat that can be added later, e.g. salad with cheese or croutons, please keep separate). Email or call John and Sharon at 617-244-4773 to RSVP and let them know what you’ll bring or if you need directions.

We hope you can join us! Please contact **Stan Fleischman** or **Emily Sper** ([filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org)) if you have any questions.

## CDT FILM CLUB 5774 COMPLETE SCHEDULE

Please note that dates and films are subject to change. Contact the co-chairs, **Stan Fleischman** and **Emily Sper** ([filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org)), for more information or if you’d like to host a film.

October 5: *Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg*

November 2: *The Attack*

December 7: *Yossi*

January 11: *Turn Left at the End of the World*

February 1: *Fill the Void*

March 1: *The Other Son*

April 5: *The Ritchie Boys*

May 3: *Five Hours From Paris*

## CDT OPEN HOUSE: TRADITION AND TRANSFORMATION- RECONSTRUCTIONIST JUDAISM TODAY

Sunday, October 6

10:30 am-noon

60 Highland Street, CDT Sanctuary

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 6

12:00-12:30 pm

60 Highland Street, CDT Sanctuary

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.

## ROSH CHODESH WOMEN’S CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 6

7:30-9:00 pm

The Women of CDT are invited to the next meeting of the Rosh Chodesh group at 60 Highland Street. Celebrate Cheshvan, a month in which we welcome fall, sow seeds, and slow down. It’s also traditionally associated with remembering biblical matriarchs; we’ll explore that theme as well as remember important women in our lives. For more information please contact **Erica Streit-Kaplan** ([ericastreitkaplan@yahoo.com](mailto:ericastreitkaplan@yahoo.com)).

**\*\*Save the date for our next meeting on Thursday, December 5th\*\***

## **\*\*SAVE THE DATE!\*\***

## **COSTA RICAN SABBATICAL: PHOTOS, THEMES, AND DISCUSSION**

with CDT Member, Hilary Marcus  
Saturday evening, November 16,  
CDT Sanctuary  
Time: TBD



## CDT RITUAL COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU TO OUR OPEN MEETINGS!

*Thursday, October 24*

*7:30 pm*

We on the Ritual Committee want CDT members to know who we are and what we do! We meet (approximately) every month at a member's home. Working from an agenda we discuss issues related to the ritual life of CDT, as well as plan for member led services, leyning, and for Rabbi Toba's sabbatical. Some topics for deliberation have been the role of members who are not Jewish, and guidance for those in mourning. Both discussions led to brochures which are available on the CDT information table as well as on our website.

This year our chairs are **Laurie Goldman** and **Marion Ross**. **Rabbi Toba** sits on this committee along with **Debbie Waber**, **Cindy Rivka-Marshall**, **Matilda** and **Ed Bruckner**, **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Linda Kramer**, **Marc Steinberg**, **Barbara Huggins**, and **Carol Sklar**.

Our next meeting is Thursday, October 24 at 7:30 pm. We will meet at the home of **Matilda** and **Ed Bruckner** (516 Ward St., Newton Center). You are most welcome to join us! Please note that the date for the next month's meeting is set at the current meeting.

For questions, or to give us feedback about CDT prayer services or ritual matters, you may contact **Marion Ross** ([marikal50@hotmail.com](mailto:marikal50@hotmail.com)) or **Laurie Goldman** ([laurie.goldman@tufts.edu](mailto:laurie.goldman@tufts.edu)).

## GREATER BOSTON JEWISH COMMUNITY

### POST-MEAH SHABBATON AT HEBREW COLLEGE

*November 15, 16*

*Hebrew College, Newton*

Come study with Hebrew College faculty on the topic: "What About God?" Panelists include esteemed Meah faculty Dr. Marc Brettler, Dr. Rabbi Shaye Cohen, Deanna Klepper, Jacob Meskin and a special Torah discussion with Rabbi Daniel Lehmann, President of Hebrew College and Reverend Nick Carter, President of Andover-Newton Theological School.

Continue the celebration at the Saturday Evening Coffee House featuring Shuli Nathan, the voice of Yerushalayim Shel Zahav.

For further details and registration, visit the website, [www.synagoguecouncil.org](http://www.synagoguecouncil.org).

### LIMMUDBOSTON

*Sunday, December 8*

The volunteer-driven Jewish learning fest of culture and identity, seeks presenters and volunteers for this year's conference, which will take place on Sunday, December 8, at Congregation Mishkan Tefila in Chestnut Hill. At LimmudBoston everyone is a learner, and anyone can offer to be a creative, dynamic, inspirational session presenter. To get involved as a team member or presenter, visit [www.limmudboston.org](http://www.limmudboston.org). Hold the date—"volunticipate!"

## RECONSTRUCTIONIST MOVEMENT

### ISRAEL IS CALLING YOU!

*May 14-21, 2014*

Join us for the first Reconstructionist Movement trip to Israel, May 14–21, 2014. Deepen your connection to Judaism as you experience life in Israel today. Learn from leading academics, Israeli thinkers, and political activists in a unique series of stimulating and provocative programs. Take your part in a progressive Jewish conversation—an intellectual, spiritual and political dialogue that will build your knowledge, challenge your perspectives, and broaden your understanding of Israel. Learn more at [www.rrc.edu/Israeltrip](http://www.rrc.edu/Israeltrip).

# Learning

## MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursdays, 8:15-9:00 am

Beginning October 3

This weekly gathering combines guided and silent meditation to develop our capacity for mindful awareness and to cultivate qualities of patience, gratitude, and compassion. All are welcome, whether experienced in meditation or not. The group is facilitated by CDT members with occasional participation by Rabbi Toba. No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! (Please arrive no later than 8:15 am, in order not to disrupt the session once we've started.) For more information contact **Laya Steinberg** ([lasword@rcn.com](mailto:lasword@rcn.com)) or **Carole Slipowitz** ([carole@slipowitz.org](mailto:carole@slipowitz.org)).

## EXPLORING THE BIBLE WITH DR. SANFORD GOLDFLESS

Mondays

3:30 pm, in participants' homes

\$15 per session (fee can be reduced to whatever you feel comfortable with)

In this class we get familiar with the Jewish Bible (the Tanach or Torah, Prophets, and Writings) by reading it in English and discussing large parts of it together. We often look at the biblical text from a historical perspective, and 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. This class will meet weekly through May, at participants' homes. Contact **Stan Fleischman** at [stan-fma@gmail.com](mailto:stan-fma@gmail.com) or 617-332-5433 for more information.

## ISRAEL & US: CREATING A NEW NARRATIVE

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Wednesdays, 7:15-9:00 pm

October 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20; December 4, 11

Once a distant dream of Jews longing for a homeland, the modern state of Israel has become a difficult and contentious topic

...to develop our capacity for mindful awareness and to cultivate qualities of patience, gratitude, and compassion.

in American Jewish life. There are many narratives that surround the Jewish state, both positive and negative, yet most fail to capture the fullness and complexity of one of the most significant developments in Jewish life of the past few hundred years. In this class, we will audaciously attempt to craft a new narrative, one that can move us beyond both confusion and hardened stances, to a place of inquiry and deeper understanding, one that can encompass all of us, in our variety of views.

Whether you have lived in Israel or never visited, whatever your opinions (or lack thereof), you are invited to join us in an exploration of historical documents, traditional Jewish texts, contemporary Israeli and Palestinian narratives, personal reflections, and more. Nothing required but an open mind!

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

by Annette Lawson, Education Director

As we begin our 5774 school year, I am happy to welcome back our returning teachers. Continuing on with the same grades as last year are **Alison Lobron** (Nitzanim-Pre-K), **Dale Norman** (Kitah Alef-1st grade) and **Adina Mailick** (Kitah Gimmel-3rd grade). **Vered Schreiber Brooks** and **Gina Fried** have returned to co-teach Kitah Dalet/Hey-4th/5th. Both are also working with our post B'nei Mitzvah students, as Vered co-teaches BaDerech (8th grade) with **Rabbi Toba**, and Gina leads our new 10th grade program, Darshanim. **Rabbi Adam Lavitt**, our assistant rabbi, continues to lead our Project LO"X programming as well as teaching Kitah Zayin (7th grade). **Leora Abelson** is again leading our Shabbat prayer experience for our 4th-6th graders, Simchat Shabbat.

We are very fortunate that these dedicated educators continue to share their knowledge and talents with our students.

In addition to our veteran teachers, I am delighted to introduce our new faculty members.

Joining us to teach Kitah Bet (2nd grade) is **Jessica Engel**, a teacher at Newton South High School and an experienced religious school teacher. Jess is also a Dorshei Tzedek member as well as a Religious School parent.

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

**Dani Nurick** is running our Merkaz Ivrit (Hebrew Center), supporting classroom Hebrew learning as well as teaching our Gan (K) class. Dani, a sophomore at Brandeis, is an experienced Jewish camp counselor and Hebrew school teacher.

Our school is enhanced by the presence of our teen madrichim (teaching assistants): **Clara Ives**, **Nathan Reider**, **Isabel Snyder**, **Celia Gittleman**, **Jake Roll**, **Juliet Roll**, **Gabby Cummins**, and **Grace Fennell**. Our teens are both great helpers in the classrooms and wonderful role models for our younger students.

Our educational staff enriches our school with their love of Jewish learning and warmth and caring for our students. Todah Rabbah to each of them.

# Chesed

## REFUAH SH'LEYMA

We send blessings of healing to CDT members **Ruby Gan, Nancy Gertz, Lissy Medvedow, Susan Nitkin, and Jeff Sacks.**

## CONDOLENCES

To **Peter Hess**, on the death of his mother, **Helen Jean Hess**; may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Mark Paley**, on the death of his mother, **Muriel Paley**, may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Ilana Mainelli**, on the death of her mother, **Rosalind Mainelli**, may her memory be for a blessing.

## AVELUT

Avelut (<http://tinyurl.com/AvelutCDT>) is CDT's member-led group for adults that meets for reflection, discussion, and support during the grieving process, especially following a recent loss or marking a yahrzeit. Participants have the opportunity to talk about the impact of loss, the journey of bereavement, and/or the legacies of loved

ones we carry with us. All CDT members are invited to join Avelut at upcoming meetings (to be announced).

As a reference, CDT members have created the brochure "Finding Comfort, Giving Support: A Guide to Mourning at Congregation Dorshei Tzedek," available on the resource table in our sanctuary and online: <http://dorsheitzedek.org/sites/default/files/managed/mourning-2010.pdf>. CDT also has a "Shivah Team" that coordinates shivah logistics and we developed a pool of shivah leaders. In addition, the CDT Chesed Committee organizes meals or other needs when there is a loss in a member's family.

If you have suggestions for future meeting topics or questions about the Avelut group please contact **Ellie Goldberg**, at [ellie.goldberg@gmail.com](mailto:ellie.goldberg@gmail.com).

If you or someone in your household is ill or needs support, please contact Rabbi Toba Spitzer ([rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org), 617-965-0330), or the Chesed coordinators, **Ellen Pashall and Wendy Gedanken** ([chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org)).

Our congregation values chesed, acts of loving-kindness. The Chesed Committee coordinates our community's response for members who are in need of support, such as at the time of a birth or adoption, illness, death, or other significant life change. Some of the types of things we coordinate include meals, grocery shopping, and transportation for a medical appointment.

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.

# Community

## CDT CHALKBOARD

by **Marla Lichtman**,  
Administrative Director

### A Change of Seasons

Fall is upon us once again, with its promise of crisp days and bright colors. As we move into the new season, I am grateful for the slower, post holydays, post new fiscal year, post start-of-school pace. Even though the change of seasons leaves me a bit melancholy (who wants to leave the warmth of the summer sun behind?), I look forward to that awake feeling of fresh air and cooler temperatures. And to the chance to not only clean-up my overgrown yard, but my over-used desk as well. This is also the

time of year when I review my to-do list for whatever was missed in the flurry of holyday and new year preparations and activity, and catch up on anything left there.

As is usual for the new year, it is also a good time to make sure our collective house is in order. With your help, we can ensure that we have all of your membership renewal forms and dues pledges, and your correct information on file. For those of you who have yet to return your membership renewal and dues pledge forms for the current year (I know that isn't you...), now is the time! If you've misplaced the packet we mailed to you, forms can still be downloaded from our website. Just go to <http://dorsheitzedek.org/members/membership-renewal-packet>.

Also, please take a moment to go to our website member list at <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) and I'll take care of correcting or adding the information.

Wishing each of you a happy and colorful fall season, and since I missed getting to say it in last month's newsletter, shanah tovah. All the best for you in the new year.

# Tikkun Olam

## TIKKUN OLAM IN THE NEW YEAR

By Bonnie Tenneriello

One of my favorite things about CDT is that *tikkun olam*—repairing the world, creating social justice—is held as a central aspect of Jewish practice. And we really do it. Recently, we've supported underpaid workers in Florida tomato fields and in Hyatt Hotels; we've taken our kids to protests at Trader Joe's and on a march for peace in Dorchester; we've biked to *shul* to promote carbon friendliness, we've joined the Red Fire Farm CSA, and much more. Jonathan Rosenthal has very ably shepherded the Tikkun Olam Committee for the past year, and as he moves onto the CDT Board of Directors, I am pleased to be chairing the Committee.



CDT joined Bikes Not Bombs for their annual Bike-A-Thon in June 2013.

*We'll meet at CDT on Thursday, October 3 at 7 pm to discuss work for the next year.*

I hope you'll join us, whether you've been active in a CDT *tikkun olam* project, have an idea for something new, or you're just curious to hear what people are thinking about. You may, like me, work full time, have a kid, and/or otherwise have a busy life. There are ways both small and large to connect to *tikkun olam* at CDT, and playing even a small part in something worthwhile can be very rewarding.

As we enter the season of teshuva, a turning toward our best selves, you may be thinking about service to others, about justice. Join us and see what you can do about it!

## FAMILY TABLE

by Ilana Mainelli

Thank you very much to everyone who responded so generously during our Yom Kippur collection drive for Family Table

As most of you already know, Family Table is a program of Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS), and it is the Boston metro area's only food pantry offering kosher food. It is supported by volunteers from the community and from 70 synagogues and day schools that donate, collect, sort, pack, and deliver groceries monthly to more than 800 people. CDT has committed to collect 25 cans of kosher or vegetarian soup, and 25 boxes of whole grain cereal every month. This year, we have taken on the additional mitzvah of collecting money to help Family Table purchase fresh produce and dairy products to distribute to their client families.

Please make checks payable to "JF&CS" and write "Family Table" in the memo line. Please do not leave cash in our collection box. We also need a driver to bring our contributions to Family Table at JF&CS in Waltham one Sunday morning each month.

**We still need a volunteer for this task on December 1, January 5, March 2, May 18, and July 20.** We have also promised to provide at least 8 volunteers (individuals or families) to help pack and deliver groceries on January 5, 2014.

I would like to see us increase our participation in this worthy program this year. Please continue to help us fulfill our commitments and improve the lives of hungry families in our local area.

To make a donation: We have collection boxes at the upper door to our sanctuary on

Highland Street (soup, cereal, or a check), and outside the Hebrew School office at the FUSN building (soup or cereal).

To sign up to bring our donations to Family Table: <http://doodle.com/by72xr9h6bn2hq8m>

To sign up to pack and deliver groceries on January 5: <http://doodle.com/gxybbxnrysacidew>

If you have any questions, please email me at [familytable@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:familytable@dorsheitzedek.org). Thank you!





# Nediv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge  
the following contributions.

## GENERAL FUND

Matilda and Ed Bruckner

Phyllis and Al Glazerman

Carol and Robert Hausman—*In honor of  
our daughter-in-law becoming President  
of CDT*

Martha Hausman and Rabbi Andy  
Vogel—*In honor of the wedding of Pamela  
Katz, daughter of Peter and Linda Katz.  
Mazel tov!*

Steffi and Eric Karp—*In honor of the gen-  
erosity of Clifford Goldsmith*

Pam and Steve Katz

Annette and Alan Lieberman

Karen Morse

Susan Nitkin—*In memory of Pearl Cahn*

Jeffrey Marcus—*In memory of Helen  
Schwartz,*

Mark Paley, Davin and Risa Paley-Zim-  
ble—*In memory of Shari Zimble*

Elizabeth and David Roll—*In honor of  
daughter Abby's Bat Mitzvah*

Sandra Sedacca and Sherwood Ives—*In  
honor of Rabbi Toba*

William Small—*In honor of Willa and  
Tom Kuh*

Theresa St. John-Siegel and Steve Sie-  
gel—*In honor of Judy Hersh*

## CAMP JRF FUND

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ronda and Jonathan Canter

Steffi and Eric Karp—*With thanks to  
Rabbi Toba*

## SCHOOL FUND

## HOLY BOOKS FUND

## JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

## BUILDING FUND

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek: through contributions to the General Fund or to targeted funds. The Rabbi's Discretionary 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 important, to help out congregants in need. The Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund provides 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 allows her love of Jewish learning to continue to enrich our community.

# CDT Calendar

# October 2013

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|---------|--|--|---|---|
|  |  | 1       | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5   |
|  |  |         |  | <b>Mindful Mornings</b><br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:15am to 9am<br><br><b>Tikkun Olam Meeting</b><br>60 Highland St: Living Room<br>7:00pm           | <b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck</b><br>6:00 pm | <b>Shabbat Morning Service &amp; Bat Mitzvah of Ariane Chacker-Bourrut</b><br>9:45 am<br><br><b>CDT Film Club</b><br>6pm                                      |
| 6  | 7  | 8       | 9  | 10   | 11  | 12  |
| <b>CDT Open House</b><br>10:30am to 12:00pm<br><br><b>New Member Orientation</b><br>12:00pm to 12:30pm<br><br><b>Rosh Chodesh</b><br>60 Highland St: Living Room<br>7:30pm to 9:00pm | <b>Sha'arim: Gateways to Jewish Life and Thought</b><br>with Rabbi Adam Lavitt<br>First Unitarian Church in Newton: New classroom downstairs<br>7:30pm to 9:00pm |         |  | <b>Mindful Mornings</b><br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:15am to 9:00am   |   | <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b><br>9:45 am   |
| 13   | 14   | 15      | 16   | 17   | 18  | 19  |
|  |  |         |  | <b>Mindful Mornings</b><br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:30am to 9:15am   |   | <b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b><br>with Rabbi Toba Spitzer<br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:45am to 9:40am<br><br><b>Shabbat Morning Service</b><br>9:45 am |
| 20   | 21   | 22      | 23   | 24   | 25  | 26  |
|  | <b>Sha'arim: Gateways to Jewish Life and Thought</b><br>with Rabbi Adam Lavitt<br>First Unitarian Church in Newton: New classroom downstairs<br>7:30pm to 9:00pm |         | <b>Israel &amp; Us: Creating a New Narrative</b> with Rabbi Toba Spitzer<br>60 Highland St: Room 111<br>7:15pm to 9:00pm | <b>Mindful Mornings</b><br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:15am to 9:00am<br><br><b>Ritual Committee Meeting</b><br>Home of Matilda & Ed Bruckner<br>7:30pm |   | <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b> 9:45<br><br><b>Tot Shabbat</b> , 10:45am to 12:00pm<br>60 Highland St: Rooms 110,111   |
| 27   | 28   | 29      | 30   | 31   | November 1  | November 2  |
| <b>CDT Board Meeting</b><br>60 Highland St: Living Room<br>7:00pm to 9:00pm  | <b>Sha'arim: Gateways to Jewish Life and Thought</b><br>with Rabbi Adam Lavitt<br>First Unitarian Church in Newton: New classroom downstairs<br>7:30pm to 9:00pm |         | <b>Israel &amp; Us: Creating a New Narrative</b> with Rabbi Toba Spitzer<br>60 Highland St: Room 111<br>7:15pm to 9:00pm | <b>Mindful Mornings</b><br>60 Highland St: Library<br>8:30am to 9:15am   | <b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck</b><br>6:00 pm | <b>Shabbat Morning Service</b> 9:45<br><br><b>Simchat Shabbat</b> , 10:30am to 12:00pm<br>60 Highland St: Room 111<br><br><b>CDT Film Club</b><br>6pm         |

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.

# Community (continued)

## KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

**Erev-shabbat, Oct 4:** Ami Gordon / Arthur Lent / Doron Gan / Janelle Winston

**Shabbat, Oct 5:** Sanctuary Cleanup: Diana & Richard Fisher Gomberg; Ushers: Danielle Klainberg & Mark Rosenberg

**Shabbat, Oct 12:** Jamie Tessler - in memory of Ted and Eleanor Tessler / Andrew Stefano / Bruce Gore / Diane Yates

**Shabbat, Oct 19:** Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn - in memory of Ellen Brodesky / Elaine Pollack / Barbara Beck - in memory of Edith & Irving Beck; and Stephen Beck

**Shabbat, Oct 26:** Phoebe Cushman / Kate deBethune / Alan Epstein / Liz Reisberg

**Erev-shabbat, Nov 1:** Noam Shore / Carol Sklar / Rebecca Pomerantz / Irena Fayngold

**Shabbat, Nov 2:** Sue Lanser & Jo Radner / Janice Cole / Lauren Gibbs

**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.

## NEW MEMBERS

We give a hearty welcome to:

Caitlin Golden and Danny Shain  
Alexis and Gabriel Landes

## MAZEL TOV

To Elaine Landes and David Felson, and to Gabriel Landes and Alexis Canter, on Gabe and Alexis' wedding.

To Debbie Waber, on the marriage of her daughter Abigail to Peter Hennessy.

## TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with kiddush and B'nei Mitzvah in August and September:

Linda Katz, Karen and Reinhard Engels, Carla Naumburg and Josh Herzig-Marx, Rachel Ross, Dianne Lior

*Hamon Todot* (many, many thanks!) to everyone who helped create our beautiful High Holydays services:

To the Ritual Committee for all of their planning and logistical support: Laurie Goldman, Marion Ross, Matilda Bruckner, Elaine Pollack, Cindy Shulak-Rome, Debbie Waber, and Cindy Marshall.

To Mark Bronstein, for the sound system.

To our wonderful staff: Wendy Buglio, Gabriella Burgman, Marla Lichtman, and Jon Sarnier.

To our chazzanim (cantors): Elaine Pollack, Bill Shorr, Doug Hersh, Karen Arnold, Dan Rome, Marc Steinberg, David Katz, Eli Adler-Cohen, Susannah Weinreb, Joanna Marcus, Maya Fisher-Gomberg, and Ruby Cohen.

To all of our Torah & haftarah leyners: Mark Bronstein, Debbie Waber, Mark Farber, Gabe Weinreb, Audra Karp, Chayim Herzig-Marx, Karen Arnold, Jacob Roll, Naomi Ingber, Amalia Leiberman, Louise Enoch, Steffi Karp, Cindy Shulak-Rome, and Susan Moser.

To Kate DeBethune, for playing cello during Kol Nidre.

To Laya Steinberg, for creating the beautiful Yizkor scroll.

To Laurie Goldman, Carole Slipowitz, Cindy Rivka Marshall and Marion Ross for leading the discussion of vulnerability and the Book of Jonah.

To Deb Albenberg, for leading our first-ever Yom Kippur afternoon Nature Walk.

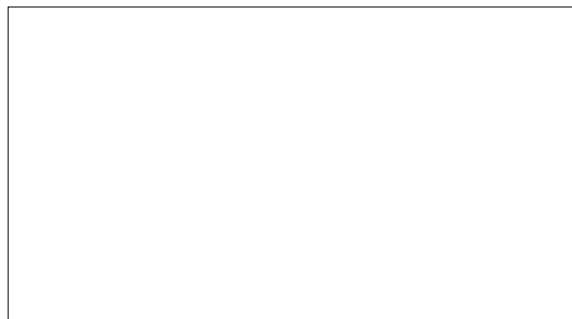
To the High Holydays Children's Programming committee: Sharon Sevransky, Sivan Nasoff, Jodie Siegel, Michael Fein, and David Shumsky; and our wonderful service leaders: Susan Moser, Alison Lobron, Gina Fried, Rebecca Weinsten, and Dori Stern.

To Noam Shore, our "sukkah-meister," for overseeing the purchase of our new sukkah and its assembly, and to all those who helped with set up (and take down) of the sukkah: Sue Weil, Sandy Goodman, Marla Cummins, Audra Karp, Deb Albenberg, Danielle Klainberg, Simon Rosenberg, Emily Sper, David Shumsky, Rachel Pytel, Chad Pytel, and Bruce Miller.

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.)



Address correction requested



## WHAT CDT TEENS CAN DO

By Gina Fried

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, I had the great pleasure of “leading” an activity for our teens.

I say “leading” because, after introductions and a short meditation, I let them in on a secret. “I haven’t actually prepared an activity for you today,” I told them. They looked puzzled, excited.

Perhaps they were hoping that we’d all just sneak back downstairs to the designated teen area and have a huge ping-pong tournament. (There were about 35 of us, after all.)

I shared a poem by Mary Oliver, and had them close their eyes and listen to “The Summer Day.” There are three particular lines in the poem that I hoped would serve as opportunities for deeper exploration:

“Who made the world?”

“I don’t know exactly what a prayer is.”

“What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”

We talked a bit about each of these lines and what kinds of ideas and questions they hold. Then I told everyone to choose the line that attracted them the most, and I ex-

plained that each group was going to create an activity for the rest of us, something that would bring us closer to the ideas and richness held by their chosen line.

That was it. Basically, I could have left at that point and rejoined the adults, because I had successfully taught myself out of a job. Here’s what they came up with:

1. *“Who made the world?”*

This group compiled a series of statements for which their peers had to place themselves somewhere on an “agree/disagree continuum” represented by where they stood in the room. The statements included:

*“I believe in the Jewish creation story.”*

*“I believe in the Big Bang theory.”*

*“Perception of the truth is more important than the truth itself.”*

After each statement, we listened to a few personal opinions coming from various parts of the continuum.

2. *“I don’t know exactly what a prayer is.”*

This group created a prayer Mad-Lib. They asked each participant to supply words such as, “a verb for building;” “a group of people who need help;” “a positive adverb.” Then they read the Mad-Lib, pausing for the group to silently fill in their own words and read their own prayers to themselves.

A few brave souls shared their prayers with the entire group, and we had a chance to see how personal and varied a prayer can be.

3. *“Your one wild and precious life.”*

Our final group led a meditation. They invited us to think about our goals for ourselves—large or small, far or near. Then they told us to think of a single word that expressed the essence of that goal, and when we were ready we could simply say the word aloud. The calm silence of this meditation was the most beautiful part of my Rosh Hashanah. Then came a stream of simple words that held great wisdom:

*“Help...Enjoy...Play...Achieve...*

*Time...Friendly...Learn...Design...*

*Forever young...Able...No regrets...”*

The silence lasted long after the final word was spoken.

So that’s what CDT teens can do. I am extremely humbled by the fact that I get to reap so much of the bounty that comes from the work of everyone who plays a role in their ongoing journeys to Jewish adulthood—their families, their CDT teachers and community members, their Rabbi, and of course the eternal mystery of their own beautiful souls.