



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Cheshvan 5775 October 2014

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
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CDT Speaks, Now What?

by Allison Daskal Hausman



LAST YEAR THE CDT community began a two-year journey to explore the meaning of membership for our congregation. As part of this process, our community engaged in 82 in-person, one-to-one member conversations this past summer, seeking answers to questions about the meaningful and challenging parts of membership as well as exploring our hopes for the future.

Thanks to all who participated—your willingness to take the time to engage in this process was inspiring and affirming, particularly given how busy we all are and how quickly we decided as a community to take on this challenge. Thanks also to **Laurie Goldman, Linda Hsu, and Paul Hattis**, who reviewed the collected results and summarized our collective contributions.

So what exactly did we learn?

The results of the one-to-ones confirmed that there are many different ways that members feel fulfilled and experience meaning in our community. They also revealed some of the challenges we face as a community around issues such as diversity or fitting participation into our busy lives. Interestingly, but not surprising to me, the report stressed that “people’s sense of what is fulfilling and challenging about membership, and their hopes for the future, are largely complementary; they suggest the same underlying values, priorities, and constraints.” In other words we share a culture that is very powerful.

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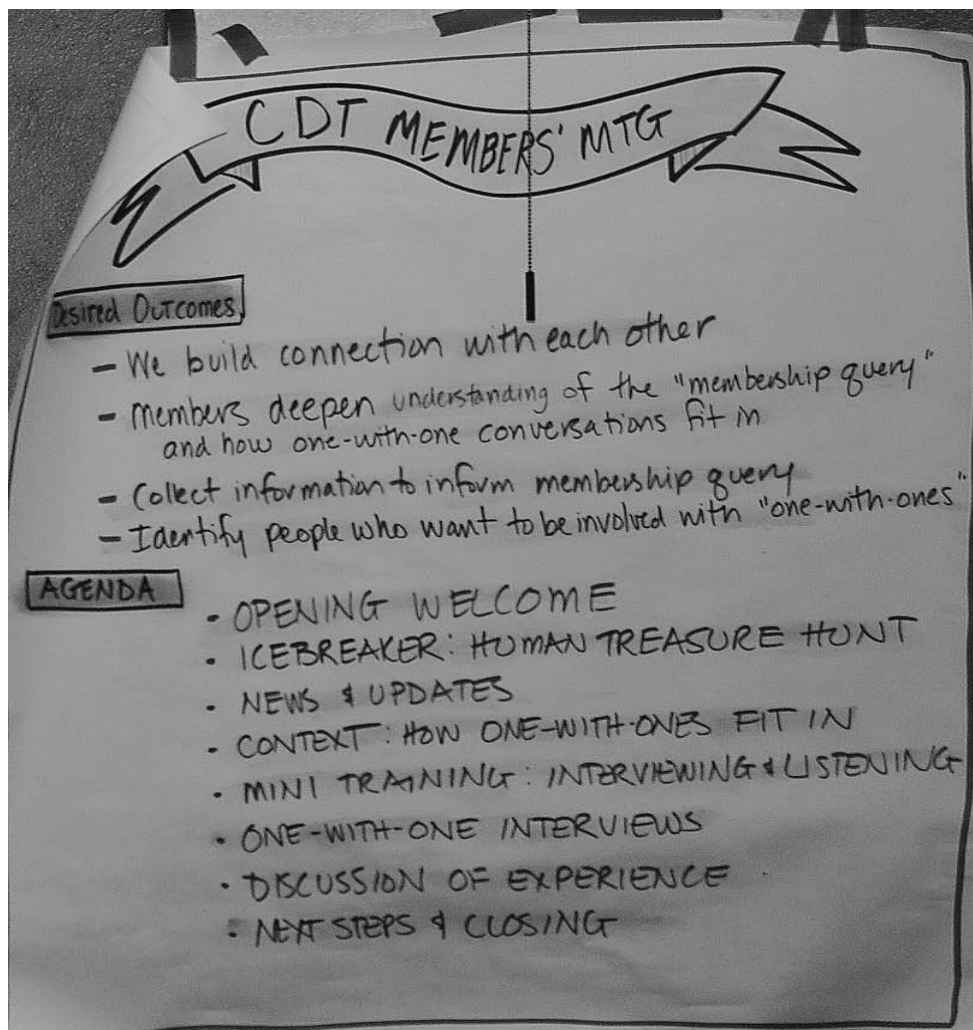


Photo by Vivienne Shein.

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Members expressed feelings of meaning and value from participating in congregational life: through religious practice, learning, giving, leadership, and participating in activities that bring us together. People valued their feeling of belonging to a community that shares values, such as caring for one another, Reconstructionism, progressive, feminist, earnestness about doing good in the world, Jewish culture, and Jewish identity.

Members also expressed challenges around their experience as members at CDT. People felt they didn't always have enough time to participate as much as they'd like to, and/or didn't always feel included or appreciated. Some people also expressed a loss of connection after periods of being less involved.

All of this is valuable input into our efforts to build Kehilla—our community—and again, we truly appreciate the time and thought people put into this community learning process.

The CDT Leadership Retreat

At the CDT Leadership Retreat earlier this month, we began to plan our work for the year. We will use the results from our conversations to help us refine our concept of Kehillah and explore strategies for facilitating and strengthening connections across members. Building on our work from last year, we will focus in particular on identifying ways to:

Nurture and facilitate a culture of participation and volunteering that makes it easier for members to contribute, and to make sure that these efforts are recognized.

Build a “culture of welcoming” that includes not only prospective members and visitors, but also one another.

Continue connections over our life spans, recognizing the importance of support and celebration across a range of life experiences.

We will know more about what our new Kehillah will look like as we continue to explore these questions. We're excited about the journey, and about building on and improving our current experience in ways that will help our community thrive. My request to every member is to be open-minded, positive, and when there are small ways to contribute, don't hold back!

As we did last year, the Board will continue to post summaries of our meetings and use member meetings to share our work. I look forward to hearing your ideas and invite your feedback as our plans develop.

Shanah tova

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**

Executive Committee

President: **Allison Hausman**

First Vice President: **Jen Kaplan**

VP Finance: **Cliff Cohen**

VP Membership: **Melanie Adler**

VP Education: **Lisa Schneier**

VP Leadership: **Ora Grodsky**

Secretary: **David Lobron**

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Vilunya Diskin, Roy Edelstein, Mark Farber, Linda Hsu, Jessica Keimowitz, Lissy Medvedow and Madeline Steinberg.

Off-Board Chairs

Children's Education: **Erica Streit-Kaplan**

Chesed: **Chagit Steiner and Diane Lior**

Nediv Lev: **Peter Katz**

Newsletter: **Danny Shain**

Ritual: **Marin Ross and Laurie Goldman**

Rabbinic Liaison: **Cindy Shulak-Rome**

Space: **Noam Shore**

Tikkun Olam: **Bonnie Tenneriello**

Website: **Dan Halbert**

Rabbinic Liaison Committee

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. To discuss a question or concern, contact **Cindy Shulak-Rome, Rabbinic Liaison Chair** at **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** by the 15th of the month for the following month's issue.

Volunteer Staff: Danny Shain (chair), Josette Akresh-Gonzales, John Holohan, Barry Ingber, Barbara Pittel, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Emily Shumsky, Michael Singer

Shabbat

UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE, ALL SHABBAT PROGRAMS ARE HELD AT THE DORSHEI TZEDEK PRAYER SPACE: 60 HIGHLAND STREET IN THE SECOND CHURCH OF NEWTON, WEST NEWTON. SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES ARE HELD WEEKLY, STARTING AT 9:45 AM. FREE CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE DURING SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN ROOM 112. 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).

Got Shabbat?

Saturday morning, October 25, 9:45am-noon

Future dates: January 17, February 28, March 28, April 25

Join us for this new program, for all ages and all types of interest, on five different Shabbat mornings. **"Got Shabbat?"** is an opportunity for the whole community to gather and have fun, learn together, and explore new ways to celebrate Shabbat. Beginning together with songs and blessings, adults and kids are then invited to choose from a panoply of activities until we gather again to read a little Torah and close the morning together. The October **"Got Shabbat"** features **Tai Chi, Art Midrash, Drama Explorations, adult Bible study, and Tot Shabbat!** Have you Got Shabbat?

SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI TOBA SPITZER

Saturdays, 8:45am, October 18, November 15, December 20, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 16, June 13

Each month before the Shabbat morning service, we will explore parashat 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!

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE AND POTLUCK

Fridays, October 10 (Sukkot-themed), November 7, December 12

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.

BAT MITZVAH OF HANNAH STEINBERG

Saturday, November 1, 9:45 am - noon

Please join us as our daughter Hannah is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Hannah is a seventh grader at JCDS, Boston's Jewish Community Day School and enjoys dance and soccer. For her Tikkun Olam project, she performed with the Creative Steps Dance Studio's dance team at Evans Park at Newton Corner Senior Living Community and at the dance team's annual benefit performances in 2013 and 2014, helping to raise more than \$5,000 for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Jimmy Fund and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Please join us downstairs for Kiddush lunch following the service.

- Marc Steinberg and Linda Hsu

TOT SHABBAT AS PART OF GOT SHABBAT - SEE ABOVE!

November 22, December 20, May 9, June 13 - 10:45am-noon

Tot Shabbat is a monthly Shabbat morning program for children age 5 and younger and their parents, led by CDT members and Jewish educators **Susan Moser** and **Alison Lobron**. Join us in celebrating Shabbat and Purim with prayers and songs, stories, crafts, and other fun activities.

Events

ROSH CHODESH WITH THE WOMEN OF CDT

7:30-9:00pm, October 23, January 22,
March 23, May 20, July 20

Join the women of CDT for bi-monthly celebrations of the new moon. This 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. Newcomers welcome!

Contact **Margo Michaels**,
margoimichaels@gmail.com for more information.

CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, October 18th

at the home of Jackie and Stan Fleischman

Hava Nagila: The Movie (2012, 73 min.): Morphing from Hasidic prayer to party staple,

"Hava Nagila" carries with it more than a century of Jewish culture -- all of it captured here. Everyone from Harry Belafonte to Leonard Nimoy weighs in on the song as the filmmakers chart its evolution. —Netflix

Potluck at 6:00 pm, movie starts at 7:00 pm to be followed by a group discussion. Feel free to come for 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, ie. salad with cheese or croutons, please keep separate). Due to space constraints, this event is for members and their families.

We hope you can join us! Contact the co-chairs, **Stan Fleischman** and **Emily Sper**, film-club@dorsheitzedek.org, for more information or if you'd like to host a film.

Upcoming schedule:

Nov. 15: The Matchmaker

Dec. 13: The Jewish Cardinal

Jan. 10: Blessed is the Match: The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh

Feb. 14: Life According to Agfa

Mar. 14: Omar

Apr. 18: The Flat

May 16: Obvious Child

SAVE THE DATE—2015 CDT RETREAT!

May 29-31, 2015 (the weekend following Memorial Day)

Camp Yavneh in New Hampshire

The date is fixed

The die is cast

Other plans should be nixed

Our retreat is a blast

So block out that weekend
the last one in May

'cuz 2015 is not that far away!

Nediv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions.

GENERAL FUND

Elliot Pittel--*In memory of Dorothy Pittel*

Pamela Schoenberg and Joel Reider
-- *In memory of Debbie Waber's father*

Jessica Engel and Scott Helman -- *In memory of Isador Waber*

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

Carol Hemley--*In memory of David Hemley*

Sue Weil--*In memory of Birdie Sachs*

CAMP JRF FUND

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Lorna Shapiro--*In memory of Debbie Sher*

SCHOOL FUND

HOLY BOOKS FUND

JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Caren & Nathan Bosk--*In memory of Jill Volk*

BUILDING FUND

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, including 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.

Sukkot & Simchat Torah 5775

Sukkot is the “Festival of the Ingathering,” the Biblical harvest holiday where we celebrate the abundance in our lives while remembering the precariousness of our ancestors’ journey through the wilderness. It is also a holiday of redemption, looking forward to an era when all nations live together in peace. On Sukkot, we build and eat our meals in the sukkah, wave the lulav and etrog at services, and are commanded to be joyous. Be happy, seek peace, enjoy the sukkah - here are some opportunities to do all of these!



**EREV SUKKOT:
CREATING
A SUKKAT
SHALOM
WITH ALI ABU
AWWAD**

*Wednesday evening, October 8, 7:30-9pm
60 Highland Street, West Newton*

*Co-sponsored with Temple Hillel Bnai Torah
and Encounter*

As we welcome the Sukkot holiday and celebrate its promise of redemption, join special guest Ali Abu Awwad, a Palestinian peace activist featured in the film “Encounter Point,” as he shares his story and his current work for nonviolent reconciliation in response to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Currently finishing his book, *Painful Hope*, Ali is today a leading Palestinian activist teaching his countrymen non-violent resistance and reaching out to Jewish Israelis at the heart of the conflict. Ali is a transformative speaker, don’t miss seeing him!

SUKKOT MORNING SERVICE

*Thursday, October 9, 9:30-11:30am
60 Highland Street, West Newton*

Bring your lulav and etrog as we sing Hallel and celebrate the holiday! There is no childcare provided but kids are welcome at the service.



SUKKOT DAY OF LEARNING & ACTION

Sunday, October 12, 4:00-7:00pm

HOUSING & HARVEST: ALL-AGES SUKKOT LEARNING PROGRAM & DINNER

*First Unitarian Society in Newton, 1326
Washington Street, West Newton*

4:00pm: Gather in the sukkah, schmooze, make sukkah decorations!

4:30pm: Sukkot Welcome with Rabbi Toba

4:45-5:45pm - Sukkot Workshops:

Sukkot Explorations – for toddlers and their parents, visit this “do-it-yourself” activity center to experience a harvest, shake the lulav, read a Sukkot story, and more!

Sukkot Fun (for kids age 4-7, parents welcome!): Join CDT members Carla Naumburg and Tal Shalom Kobi for Sukkot stories, arts & crafts, and music!

Re-purposing our Harvest - A Creative Exploration (for kids 7+ and adults): Join CDT member and quilter Steffi Karp and learn how to transform your beloved old T-shirt into something handy! On Sukkot we appreciate the temporary nature of things and the fragility of our earth - a good opportunity to figure out what to do with those old T-shirts you love but can no longer wear. No sewing experience needed, just bring a T-shirt or two that you’re ready to transform.

Preserving our harvest (for kids 8+ and adults): Without any refrigerators, how did our ancestors eat between the fall harvest of Sukkot and the Passover harvest in the spring? Join Kimi Ceridon of Boston Ferments and Leora Mallach of Ganei Beantown for a hands-on workshop about fermentation in Jewish culture and preserving veggies for the winter months, with goodies to take home! Come prepared to chop, smash, stuff and discover invisible (friendly!) bacteria.

Sukkot and Shelter: The Struggle for Fair Housing (for teens and adults): During Sukkot, we dwell in the “temporary structure” of the sukkah - and for many people, having a permanent home is nothing to be taken for granted. Tenant organizers, both youth and adults, from City Life/Vida Urbana will share their experiences fighting evictions due to bank foreclosure and how CL/VU organizes communities for fairer housing policies.

5:45pm Sukkah Celebration – We will gather in our sukkah to celebrate the Sukkot holiday, with songs and a story and special blessings.

6:00pm Sukkot Potluck – We’ll share our bounty together at this holiday meal. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring a salad of any sort; M-Z, a veggie or fish main dish. Please avoid nuts, and make enough for 20 people! Drinks and dessert will be provided.

FROM TEMPORARY SHELTER TO PERMANENT HOUSING: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD

*Sunday morning and afternoon, October 12
91-93 Stonebridge Road, Wayland*

Adults and teens aged 16+ are invited to help construct duplexes during two work sessions: 8:00am-noon and noon-4:00pm (choose one!). Volunteers do everything from framing and raising walls to hanging drywall and painting; no prior construction experience is necessary. Carpooling to the site will be planned just before the Build Day. Participants must register - please go to dorsheitzedek.org/members/signups; for questions, contact **Barbara Shatkin** at bfshatkin@aol.com.

SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

*Wednesday, October 15, 7:00-9:00pm
60 Highland Street, West Newton*

We close the Sukkot week, the “season 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!), festive klezmer music, and dancing with the Torah scrolls! For adults and kids of all ages.

Learning

ADULT EDUCATION

NEW CLASS!

FIRE, STONE, CLOUD: GOD IN METAPHOR WITH RABBI TOBA SPITZER

Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, December 3

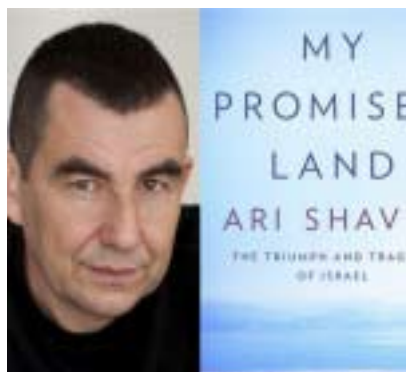
This class is a continuing exploration, begun two years ago, of different ways that we can conceptualize and experience the sacred. Do traditional God concepts turn you off? Confuse you? Make you want to learn more? Grounded in new thinking about how fundamental metaphor is to human thought, the class will explore ancient metaphors for the Divine in order to “reconstruct” them for our lives today. Whether you took the first class in 2013 or are new to the topic, all are welcome! No particular belief (or lack thereof) required.

NEW!

CDT BOOK GROUP - ARI SHAVIT'S MY PROMISED LAND

Shabbat afternoons, November 1 & 15,
12:45pm-2:15pm

60 Highland Street



With facilitation by participants in Rabbi Toba's “Israel and Us” class, CDT members and friends are invited to discuss Israeli author Ari Shavit's *My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel*. Named one of the best books of the year by the New York Times and The Economist, it is a deeply personal narrative history of the State of Israel by one of the most influential journalists writing about the Middle East today. Shavit offers a unique and personal history of Israel, which articulates an unusual honesty about both its foundation and its accomplish-

ments. Please be sure to have read Chapters 1 through 8 by the November 1st meeting!

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, 9:15am-10am

Library, 60 Highland Street

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 Rabbi Toba Spitzer. On the first Thursday of each month, **Karen Arnold** will be leading a meditation based on that week's Torah portion (Karen is currently participating in the Jewish Mindfulness Teacher Training program with Rabbi Sheila Weinberg). No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! (Please arrive no later than 9:15am, in order not to disrupt the session once we've started.)

Please be in touch with **Laya Steinberg** (lasword@rcn.com) or **Carole Slipowitz** (carole@slipowitz.org) for more information.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE WITH DR. SANFORD GOLDFLESS

The class is open to all Dorshei Tzedek members and their friends. Last year we met Monday afternoons at 3:30 through May, at participants' homes, but the group is flexible. \$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 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. This class will meet weekly through May, at participants' homes. Contact **Stan Fleischman** at stanfma@gmail.com for more information.

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

A MESSAGE FROM OUR VP FOR EDUCATION

by Lisa Schneier

A lot has been going on in the CDT education realm! Here is a brief update on what's happening as we move into a new year.

This year, the CDT children's education program has begun with a new schedule, new space, and some new programming! We had a wonderful first session this past Sunday in our great new space at the Jewish Community Day School in Watertown. Our new Sunday schedule means that for the first time Grades Pre-K through 7 will be meeting at the same time, there will be opportunities for parents to schmooze and learn, and Rabbi Toba will be able to be a bigger part of our school program. For information please contact **Annette Lawson** at school@dorsheitzedek.org. We can still accommodate kids in our classes, especially the youngest, Nitzanim (Pre-K) and Gan (kindergarten), which meet once a month. We are thrilled to have **Alison Lobron** continuing as our fabulous Nitzanim teacher, and to welcome back for the year **Miranda “Morah Chava” Phillips**, as our Gan teacher. Tell your friends, or sign up your child if s/he is not yet registered!

We have also formed two committees to support the work of the CDT children's education programs. The Children's Education Committee, chaired by **Erica Streit-Kaplan**, will serve as a support to school programs and staff as well as to parents, and it will serve as a communication vehicle between parents and the school staff. For more information, please contact **Erica Streit-Kaplan** at ericastreitkaplan@yahoo.com.

We have also formed a Special Needs Advisory Committee, chaired by **Alison Lobron**. The focus of this group is to promote more access for children with special needs and their families. The Advisory Committee is working with school staff to create support around children's special learning needs. The group is also working at the congregational level to promote access to services and programming during the High Holydays and other community

Learning (continued)

events throughout the year. For more information, please contact **Alison Lobron** at auderial@yahoo.com.

In addition, we are continuing to discuss the data gathered from the CDT school evaluation completed last spring as well as the results of our parent “visioning” meetings. These are serving as resources for our ongoing efforts to design a vital and inclusive education program for children and families. As one part of this process, we are introducing a new program this year, called “Havurot,” where families will choose topics in different areas of Jewish practice for study and experiential learning. The Havurot program is being headed up by our very own **Sue Ann Wasserman**. Stay tuned for more info!

With many thanks to **Annette Lawson**, our education director, to our teaching staff, and to all the CDT members engaged in our children’s education – this promises to be a wonderful year of learning and growing.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

by **Annette Lawson**, Education Director

Sunday, September 14 was a notable day in the history of our religious school program. After much discussion and planning, we began our new school year with a new schedule and at our new (Sunday) location. It was so exciting to have all the students from Pre-K through 7th begin the morning by gathering for morning prayers and songs led by **Rabbi Toba** and **Alison Lobron**. Another first was that we used the magnificent new siddurim (prayer books) that were created by last year’s Kitah Dalet/Hey (4th/5th grade).

Everyone then shared snacks at the “Café”. While students went to class, parents stayed for a meeting and “schmoozing” to get to know each other and learn about new school programs and how parents can be involved. Many thanks to the members of the Children’s Education Committee for their help in organizing the morning, leading parts of the parent meeting and setting up snack.

The new location at Jewish Community Day School in Watertown is terrific. There are big, sunny classrooms for the students and teachers, lots of room for parent learning, meeting and just hanging out, and a wonderful Jewish ambience (and plenty of parking!).

I would like to welcome back our returning teachers. **Alison Lobron** will be teaching Nit-zanim (Pre-K) for the 6th year! **Vered Brooks** is returning to teach Kitah Dalet (4th grade) again, **Dani Nurick** will again be running our Merkaz Ivrit (Hebrew support center) and **Gina Fried** is back, teaching Kitah Zayin (7th grade) this year. **Rabbi Toba** will also be leading BaDerech again, our post-B’nai Mitzvah program. We are so fortunate that they continue to share their considerable talents with our school.

We have quite a few new teachers to welcome to our school as well. **Miranda Phillips**, who taught at CDT a number of years ago, is back in the area for her husband’s sabbatical year, and we are delighted that she will be teaching Kitah Gan (Kindergarten) while she is here. Brandeis students, **Brittany Ritell** and **Liran Messinger** will be teaching Kitah Alef (1st grade) and Kitah Bet (2nd grade), respectively. **Deborah Barer**, who is working on her PhD in Religious Studies is leading Kitah Gimmel (3rd grade), and **Itai Gal**, a Hebrew College student pursuing a master’s in Jewish education, is teaching Kitah Hey/Vav (5th/6th grade).

Assisting our teachers in the classroom are our teen madrichim (aides), **Jake Roll**, **Nathan Reider**, **Dalia Paris-Saper**, **Ava Feuer**, **Lily Gomberg**, and **Maya Gomberg**. Our madrichim are not only able assistants, but wonderful role models of Jewishly involved teens for our younger students.

With so many dedicated, caring and talented folks involved, I’m looking forward to an exciting year of learning at our school.

JEWISH LEARNING FOR LITTLE ONES

by **Jen Kaplan**

Is your child three, four, or five years old? Do you think you have a few more years before you should start worrying or thinking about religious school? CDT offers a wonderful “taste of Torah” for your Pre-K or Kindergarten-aged child. This is not your parents’ or even your dreaded Hebrew school experience. The learning is joyous, fun, and easygoing. The class meets just once a month on Sunday mornings. It provides an opportunity for the children to learn about the holidays, their Jewish world, and Jewish blessings (b’rachot) while they also meet and bond with other kids from Dorshei.

Our daughter loved going to “Hebrew school.” She loved wearing a dress (her choice), the Mini-Minyan, the challah, the grape juice, doing an art project associated with the topic, and meeting other kids her age from the shul. I can’t imagine a better way to give our children a warm introduction to Judaism—indeed it is like putting honey on their lips.

There is information on the CDT website under the tabs “Learning” or “Kids and Families,” and then scroll to “Religious School” where you can click on the links to register now!

Jewish Community Events

LIMMUSBOSTON 2014

Sunday, December 7, 2014, 9am-6pm

Learn, laugh, meet, greet, sing and share at the annual LimmudBoston conference, the re-charge your batteries celebration of Jewish culture.

There is something for everyone: beginner to scholar, young to young-at-heart. Camp Limmud for ages 3-13. Register now! www.LimmudBoston.org.

Tikkun Olam

TIKKUN OLAM IN THE NEW YEAR

Next meeting: Thursday November 13, 2014, 7:30pm

Living Room of the Second Church

by Bonnie Tenneriello

This past year has been rich in social justice work at CDT. We have developed seasonal routines. For example, we've had a healthy CDT contingent each May for the Mothers' Day Walk For Peace, benefiting the Louis D. Brown Institute and its work to prevent violence and support victims of violence. This Sukkot we will have our second annual Habitat for Humanity work day, constructing low-income housing in Wayland. And we're continuing our year-round involvement with Family Table, helping provide food to Boston-area families in need, and Sindyanna of Galilee, selling Israeli Palestinian fair trade products produced in cooperation between Israeli Arabs and Jews.

Thanks to the energy of our members, we've also been able to seize new opportunities and work in coalition with progressive organizations. We helped get a raise in the minimum wage onto the Massachusetts ballot, in an effort organized by Raise Up Massachusetts and supported by the Jewish Labor Committee among many other groups, which prompted legislators to finally take this step on their own. (See Amy Mazur's article below for follow-up work to pass an earned sick time initiative.) The Jobs Not Jails Committee has been supporting efforts to shift priorities from needless incarceration toward economic opportunity. We hosted a terrific program with the film "The House I Live In" and ex-prisoner speakers from EPOCA, mobilized a sizeable contingent on a very rainy day for a Jobs not Jails rally, and have supported legislative initiatives to end mass incarceration. And by the time this goes out, a CDT contingent will have gone to New York for the big Peoples' Climate March organized by 350.org!

Perhaps most importantly, Tikkun Olam continues to be an important part of Jewish practice at CDT. The Prophet Isaiah has started to appear every Yom Kippur, channeled by CDT members, to share a vision of a more just society. Martin Luther King Shabbat and Sukkot

continue to include opportunities to connect Jewish tradition with living civil rights, housing and economic justice struggles. And Tikkun Olam is recognized always as a central aspect of Jewish identity.

This all has happened because, frankly, the Tikkun Olam Committee rocks! Come share the energy and, if you're moved, join in on existing work or start something new.

THE EARNED SICK TIME BALLOT INITIATIVE

by Amy Mazur

No worker in our Commonwealth should have to choose between the family they love and the job they need. One million workers in Massachusetts do not have any sick days. They can get fired if they stay home with a sick child or if they are sick. We believe that every Massachusetts worker should have access to earned sick time. As part of the Raise-Up Massachusetts Coalition, the New England Jewish Labor Committee is supporting the campaign to pass Ballot Measure #4, Earned Sick Time, on the Tuesday, November 4th.

Do you want to help pass the Earned Sick Time Ballot Initiative? Please join me for an evening of phone calling with other like-minded folks at the phone bank in Brookline at Temple Beth Zion on Sunday, November 2 from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. 1566 Beacon Street, 02446. To learn more, visit: <http://yeson4ma.org>. To help out on November 2, e-mail Amy Mazur at acmazur@comcast.net.

NEW FILM SERIES

Several of us are going to plan a series of educational evenings around incarceration and economic justice. Our idea is to pair a good film with a knowledgeable speaker. If you've got ideas, and if you want to help get this going, please contact **Bonnie Tenneriello** at bonniet4@gmail.com. You don't have to come to Tikkun Olam meetings to be involved with this.

FAMILY TABLE

Ilana Mainelli

As part of our Tikkun Olam activities, the Dorshei Tzedek community has made a commitment to be part of Family Table again this year. Family Table is a member of the Greater Boston Food Bank whose mission is to "End Hunger Here" by providing at least ONE MEAL A DAY to every person in need in eastern Massachusetts. Family Table/JFCS is a vital link in GBFB's network of programs that assist local families facing food insecurity monthly. It is one of only a few food pantries that deliver food to those clients that have difficulty transporting it themselves, and is the only food pantry in the metro Boston area that provides kosher food for clients that need it. Family Table is the only direct service Tzedakah program that CDT participates in, as a community, on an ongoing basis, and as such is an important component of our larger efforts for social justice. I can tell you from personal experience, that participating in Family Table's Sunday distributions is a very fulfilling experience, and it is a wonderful way to involve your children in Tikkun Olam activities.

CDT has committed to collect 25 cans of kosher or vegetarian soup, 25 boxes of whole grain cereal, and financial donations to help Family Table purchase fresh produce and dairy products to distribute to their client families, every month. Please help us fulfill our commitment to Family Table by bringing a donation with you whenever you come to Services, Hebrew School, or a CDT event. We have collection boxes (one for food, and one for checks-no cash) at the upper door to our sanctuary on Highland Street and outside the Hebrew School office at the FUSN building (food only, no money at FUSN). We will also be collecting for Family Table once a month at our Sunday school program (stay tuned for details). During all of our High Holy-day Services, we will also have two boxes at the entry of Gann Academy. We especially encourage you to bring donations (food and/or checks) to help people who are continually worrying about how to put food on their tables, as we celebrate the abundance of our harvest during our Sukkot celebration on Sunday, 10/12.

continued on page 9

Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact Rabbi Toba Spitzer (rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org, 617-965-0330), or the Chesed coordinators. The Chesed coordinators for October are: **Chagit Steiner** and **Dianne Lior**. Please use chesed@dorsheitzedek.org to contact them. Our congregation values gemilut chasadim, 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.

Contacting Rabbi Toba: Rabbi Toba Spitzer is available to talk about any spiritual, religious, or personal issues that you might want to discuss. To schedule an appointment, please contact her (confidentially) at rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org or 617-965-0330 #2. She does not check email or voicemail on Shabbat (Friday evening through Saturday evening) or on Mondays (her day off), but in case of emergency you are welcome to call her at home on those days (the number is listed in the CDT member directory on-line).

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.

The Chesed Committee would like to thank everyone who provided acts of chesed last month

REFUAH SH'LEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to **Stephanie Hackett, Fran Malino** and **Susan Nitkin**.

CONDOLENCES

To CDT teacher **Vered Schreiber Brooks**, on the death of her mother, Ruth Schreiber; may her memory be for a blessing.

Yahrzeit

We will be remembering CDT founding member **Efrem Goldberg** at **Sukkot morning services, October 9**, on the occasion of his 12th yearzeit. May his memory be for a blessing.

We will be remembering CDT member **Shari Zimble** at Shabbat morning services on October 18, on the occasion of her 6th yearzeit. May her memory be for a blessing.

AVELUT

Avelut is CDT's member-led group for adults following a loss or marking a yearzeit. We talk about the impact of loss, the journey of bereavement, and/or the legacies of loved ones we carry with us. You do not need to be in the official Jewish mourning period to attend.

The next meeting will be announced by email. For more information about Avelut see After Shiva, Now What? at tinyurl.com/AvelutCDT. If you have suggestions for future meeting topics or questions about the AVELUT group contact **Ellie Goldberg, 617-965-9637, ellie.goldberg@gmail.com**

MOURNING AT CDT

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 on our website under: <http://dorsheitzedek.org/sites/default/files/managed/mourning-2010.pdf>.

FAMILY TABLE (continued from page 8)

We also need a driver to bring our contributions to Family Table/JFCS in Waltham on one Sunday morning each month. You can sign up for this quick, easy, but necessary, task at tinyurl.com/delivertoFT.

I'm hoping that we will increase our participation in this important program this year. Please help us reach our goals every month, and improve the lives of hungry families in our local area! If you have any questions, please email them to me at familytable@dorsheitzedek.org.

Did you know you can access the newsletter at any time online? Learn more at <http://dorsheitzedek.org/newsletters>

SUPPORT CDT THROUGH AMAZON.COM

Buy your books, electronics, and whatever else, and support CDT at the same time! CDT is an Amazon Associate. When you click on the Amazon link on the bottom of the CDT homepage (www.dorsheitzedek.org), a portion of any purchase you make will be contributed to Dorshei Tzedek. It's an easy way to support the congregation while doing the on-line shopping you were planning to do anyway!

CDT Calendar

October 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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.			1	2	3	4
				Mindful Mornings 8:15am to 9:00am	Yom Kippur at Gan Academy	
					Kol Nidre Gann Academy 6:30pm to 8:30pm	Yom Kippur Gann Academy Adult Services: 9:30am to 2:15pm Family & Youth Services: 10:00am to 11:00am Afternoon Program: 3:30pm to 6:30pm Ne'ilah: 6:30pm Havdallah, Break fast: 7:15pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sukkah building FUSN 11:30am		Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	Erev Sukkot: Creating a Sukkat Shalom with Ali Abu Awwad 7:30pm to 9:00pm	Sukkot Service 9:30am to 11:30am	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck Candle lighting and dinner 6:00pm Service 6:45pm	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sukkot Day of Learning and Action (All Day - see page 5 for a complete schedule)		Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	Simchat Torah Celebration 7:00pm to 9:00pm	Mindful Mornings 8:15am to 9:00am		Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45am to 9:40am Shabbat Morning Service & Bar Mitzvah of Henry Wasserman 9:45am to 12:00pm CDT Film Club: "Hava Nagila: The Movie" 6:00pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Religious School Classes for Nit-zanim and Gan, Alef-Zayin JCDS, 57 Stanley Ave., Watertown 9:30am to 12:00pm Sukkah take-down 12:00pm		Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm		Mindful Mornings 8:15am to 9:00am Rosh Chodesh 7:30pm to 9:00pm		Got Shabbat? (Including Tot Shabbat) 9:45am to 12:00pm
26	27	28	29	30	31	November 1
CDT Board Meeting 7:00pm to 9:00pm		Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	Fire, Stone, Cloud: God in Metaphor, with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 7:30pm to 9:00pm	Mindful Mornings 8:15am to 9:00am		Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Steinberg 9:45am to 12:00pm

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.

KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

Sukkah building, October 5: Marla Cummins / Sue Weil & Sandy Goodman / Pamela Schoenberg Reider / Rachel Pytel / Mark Rosenberg

Sukkot Service, October 9:
Ritual Committee provides kiddush

Erev Shabbat, October 10: Setup/Cleanup: Noam Shore / Sarah Birkeland / David Shumsky / Ami Gordon

Shabbat, October 11: Lauren Stefano / Barbara Beck - *in memory of my parents, Edith and Irving Beck, and my brother, Stephen Beck* / Steffi Aronson Karp / Benjamin Newman

Housing & Harvest: All-Ages Sukkot Program & Dinner, October 12:
Setup: Sara Dash / Audra Karp & Deb Albenberg / Barbara Huggins / Jennifer & David Greenberg
Cleanup: Terry Traub / Chad Pytel / Nathan Aronow / Stacie Garnett-Cook / Jarred Haas / Rachel Greenberg

Simchat Torah Celebration, October 15:
Judy Hersch / Debbie Waber / Marion Ross

Shabbat, October 18: Sanctuary Cleanup: Alyssa Cohen / Linda Hsu
Ushers: Pamela & Steven Katz

Sukkah Take-down, October 19:
Ben Dash / Debbie Isenberg / Chagit Steiner / Joel Reider / Liz Carver / Rob Greenly

Shabbat, October 25: Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn - *in memory of Ellen Brodesky* / Tom Brown / Willa Kuh / Carole Slipowitz - *in memory of Fanny Gold* / Marcia Okun

Shabbat, November 1: Sanctuary Cleanup: Jan Gortler-Small / Sara Dash
Ushers: Jan Gortler-Small / Sharon Sevransky

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.

Community

WELCOME

We give a hearty welcome to several new members:

Marsha and Phillip Klein and their children **Noah** (14) and **Simone** (12)

Erica Fretwell and **Todd Carmody**

MAZEL TOV

To **Jared Small** and his family, on becoming bar mitzvah!

To **Corinne Lofchie, Noam Shore, and Eytan**, on the brit bat of **Carmela Jordan**!

To **Erica Fretwell** and **Todd Carmody**, on their marriage!

TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with Events, Kiddush, and B'nei Mitzvah in September:

Susan Silberberg, Ilana Mainelli, Madeline Steinberg, Tania Mireles & Bill Shorr - In memory of **Bernie Shorr, Alyssa Cohen, Ari Goldman and Noah Goldman, Ben Dash, Stephen Zisk, Elizabeth & David Roll, Jennifer Greenberg, Jodie Siegel, Stephanie Hackett, Hilary Marcus & Jonathan Magaziner** - In memory of **Roslyn and Norman Marcus, Ellie Goldberg, Erica Streit-Kaplan, Barry Ingber, and Frances Malino**

Todah rabbah! Thank you, thank you, thank you! To **James, Anna and Eleanor Kaplan, Sue Ann Wasserman, and Lisa Goodwin-Robbins**, for responding to our last-minute call for help with schlepping, unpacking,

adding book-racks and setting up our new sanctuary chairs. Our moving company ended up sending only one guy (we scheduled three) who was overwhelmed with the task. Your help made all the difference.

Todah rabbah to **Ellie Goldberg, Judy Hersch, Sue Lanser, Karen Wasserman and Sue Ann Wasserman**, for their help in preparing the High Holydays mailing and then taking it to local mailboxes. Thank you so much!

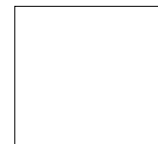
MOCA MATTERS, AN UPDATE

The MOCA (Members of a Certain Age) committee is planning an exciting program for the coming months. This will include:

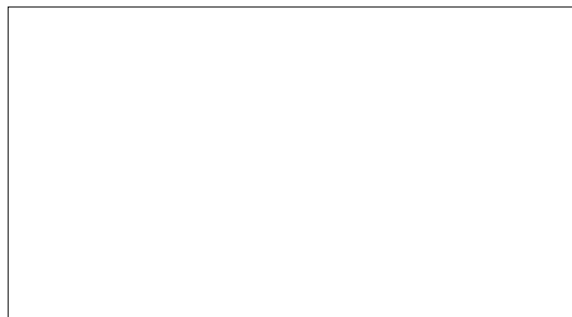
- A group tour of the Vilna Shul in Boston
- A Motzei Shabbat/Havdalah social evening at the home of **Sharon Gorberg** and **John Holohan**
- A trip to the Boston Jewish Film Festival and dinner following
- A MOCA "TED" talk by CDT's own Fran Malino on her fascinating and innovative Diarna Project
- A Wise Aging group, a series of sessions following the curriculum developed by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality
- MOCA Shabbat dinners
- A MOCA "TED" talk on genealogy
- Developing a MOCA listserv for MOCA announcements and communications

Dates and details will follow. They will be announced through the listserv, be listed in the congregational calendar, and described in upcoming newsletters. We hope you will find something of interest to you. And remember: these events are sponsored by MOCA, but open to all. Any suggestions or questions about MOCA can be addressed to **Louise Enoch** at lpnoech@rcn.com

Please notify the Newsletter of life cycle events, significant accomplishments, or other moments you would like to share with the community. (See page 2 for details.)



Address correction requested



Lots of activities this month:

October 8th: Erev Sukkot -- Join special guest Ali Abu Awwad, a Palestinian peace activist featured in the film “Encounter Point”, as he shares his story and his current work for nonviolent reconciliation (See page 5)

October 9th: Sukkot Day of Learning and Action -- All-ages Sukkot learning program and dinner. (See page 5)

October 15th: Simchat Torah -- Come join us for “Torah Quiz” (with prizes!), festive klezmer music, and dancing with the Torah scrolls! (See page 5)

October 25th: Got Shabbat? -- Explore the Tower of Babel! Programming for the whole family.

Got Shabbat?

Saturday morning, October 25, 9:45am-noon

Future dates: January 17, February 28, March 28, April 25

Join us for this new program, *for all ages and all types of interest*, on five different Shabbat mornings. “*Got Shabbat?*” is an opportunity for the whole community to gather and have fun, learn together, and

explore new ways to celebrate Shabbat. Beginning together with songs and blessings, adults and kids are then invited to choose from a panoply of activities until we gather again to read a little Torah and

close the morning together. The October “Got Shabbat” features *Tai Chi, Art Midrash, Drama Explorations, adult Bible study, and Tot Shabbat!* Have *you* Got Shabbat?