



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Cheshvan/Kislev 5775

November 2014

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
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Celebrating Our Interfaith Families

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer



INTERFAITHFAMILY, AN ORGANIZATION that “supports interfaith families exploring Jewish life,” has called on congregations across the U.S. to dedicate this month of November to celebrating and supporting our interfaith member families. I am thrilled that CDT is a part of this effort this year (and thanks to Stacie Garnett-Cook, CDT member and staff person at InterfaithFamily, for alerting me to this initiative!).

There are many people who make Dorshei Tzedek what it is, an incredible number of folks who dedicate their time, their energy, their creativity and their material resources to support all that we do here. One subset of those people for whom I have special appreciation are our members who are not themselves Jewish but who are nonetheless a part of our community. From driving kids to Hebrew school every week to playing on the softball team to serving on committees to attending Shabbat morning services to stepping

Photo by Vivienne Shein

into leadership roles on our board, we have many members who, while not Jewish themselves, have dedicated themselves both to the Jewish life of their family and to the life of our community. Sometimes, participation in Jewish family and congregational life leads to a decision to formally join the Jewish people and go through a conversion process. For others, participation is its own path.

The whole idea of a Jewish congregation embracing members neither born into or choosing Judaism is a relatively new phenomenon. Even the phrase “intermarriage” points to an earlier period of time, when someone choosing to marry outside of his/her ethnic or religious group was perceived as boundary-crossing between two distinct communities. For the Jewish community specifically, there have rarely been historical periods before this one when “outsiders” were actively looking to join a marginalized group, and in response, Jewish communities were not particularly welcoming of “the stranger.” Yet in 21st century America, all

that has changed. As a Jewish community, we embrace people from a wide variety of backgrounds, some with one Jewish parent, some with two, some with none. Most of our member households in which one partner is not Jewish are not “interfaith” in the sense of the non-Jewish partner actively practicing another religion; rather, both adults are navigating together what it means to create a Jewish household and a Jewish family by drawing on their different experiences and traditions.

I know that it is not uncomplicated to be a non-Jewish member of a Jewish community, and that there can be a constant negotiation of a sense of belonging/not-belonging (although I am also aware that many of our Jewish members experience that negotiation as well!).

After a period of discussion a few years ago, we re-examined our various policies regarding non-Jewish members and created a booklet that explores both policies and possibilities for engagement (you can see it at <http://dorsheitzedek.org/non-jewish-members-dorshei-tzedek>). Some questions that continue to resonate for me as a result of that process include:

How do I as a rabbi, and how do we as a community, support the spiritual journeys of our members who are not Jewish?

How do we honor those of our members who choose not to convert to Judaism, while at the same time honoring the decision of those who have gone through a formal process of conversion?

How do we honor the special gifts and commitments of our members who are not Jewish in our work of building community?

On November 1, as we celebrate the bat mitzvah of Hannah Steinberg, daughter of former CDT President Marc Steinberg and current CDT Board member Linda Hsu, we will also be acknowledging the special role played by our interfaith families and our members who are not Jewish. I hope that this special celebration can be just a first step in acknowledging and affirming this important part of our communal life, and that we may go from strength to strength in the months and years to come.

Rabbinic Liaison

The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists to ensure 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.



For the following month's issue, the newsletter is currently seeking a new designer — if interested, please contact Danny Shain at dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org!

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

Education Director: Annette Lawson

Administrative Director: Marla Lichtman

Administrative Assistant: Jon Sarner

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Ritual: Marion Ross and Laurie Goldman

Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome

Space: Noam Shore

Tikkun Olam: Bonnie Tenneriello

Website: Dan Halbert

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:

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 MORNING TORAH STUDY

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturdays, 8:45 am, November 15, December 20, January 10, February 14

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, November 7, December 12, January 9

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.



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).

TOT SHABBAT

Saturday morning, November 22, December 20

10:45 am–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.

BAT MITZVAH OF NADIA MARTINA DISKIN-GAUDETTE

Saturday, November 8

9:45 am–noon

Please join us as our grand/daughter **Nadia Martina** is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Nadia is a seventh grader at the Boston Latin School. She loves learning languages (Spanish, Hebrew, Latin). She likes traveling in the U.S. and abroad. She is especially interested in the natural world and would like to be a marine biologist. Following the service we invite you to join us downstairs for a festive Kiddush lunch, music, and dancing.

—Vilunya and Leah Diskin

BAT MITZVAH OF HEATHER GOLDMAN

Saturday, November 22

9:45 am–noon

Please join us as our daughter **Heather** is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Heather is a seventh grader at Brown Middle School. For her Tikkun Olam project, she has been volunteering at Second Chance Cat Shelter in Jamaica Plain. Please join us downstairs for a Kiddush lunch after the service.

—Sharon Sevransky and Jeff Goldman

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE WITH RABBI MAURICE HARRIS



December 6

9:45 am–noon

Join us as we welcome special guest Rabbi Maurice Harris, who will lead us in Torah study during the service. Rabbi Harris is a graduate of the Re-

constructionist Rabbinical College and the author of two books on the Torah: *Moses: A Stranger Among Us* and *Leviticus: You Have No Idea*. He currently serves as Rabbi/Senior Educator with InterfaithFamily.

CHANTING AND MEDITATION SERVICE

Saturday, December 13

9:45 am–noon

During this contemplative Shabbat morning service, we will utilize song, silence, and mindful Torah study to taste the peace that is possible on Shabbat.

Photo: Kids enjoying the CDT sukkah party, October 2014

Events

CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, November 15

6:00 pm, potluck; 7:00 pm, movie starts

Home of Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan

The Matchmaker (2012, 112 min., Hebrew with English subtitles): In an Israel still recovering from World War II yet also grappling with the tumultuous “Swinging Sixties,” teenager Arik works for matchmaker Yankele Bride as a “spy-guy” who investigates potential clients, and gets a master class in the art of love.

—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, e.g. salad with cheese or croutons, please keep separate). Due to space constraints, this event is for members and their families only.

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:

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!

MOCA MATTERS

by Louise Enoch

Listed below are a couple of events planned by MOCA [Members Of a Certain Age] and open to all. Hope you can join us!

A MOCA HAVDALAH AND SOCIAL

Saturday, November 1

7:30 pm, Home of Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan

Join us for an evening of schmoozing and socializing. Please bring a dessert to share. To R.S.V.P. and for directions, please email **Sharon** at sharon.gorberg@gmail.com or call 617-244-4773.

FIRST MOCA “TED” TALK: “UNCOVERING AND PRESERVING HIDDEN JEWISH TREASURES ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST”

Thursday, December 11

Time: in the evening

CDT (exact location TBD)

CDT’s own **Fran Malino**, **Sophia Moses** Professor of Jewish Studies and History at Wellesley College and Chair of Digital Heritage Mapping, offers a unique virtual tour of rare Jewish heritage sites in the Middle East. Using Google Earth and cutting-edge multimedia technology, Fran will take us on a virtual visit to Saudi Arabia, Iran, Libya, Syria, and other locations in the region to explore sites central to Jewish history and heritage. These include the legendary tombs of biblical prophets, historic synagogues and schools, and decaying cemeteries. Behind each site is a remarkable story—and a network of Muslims, Jews, and Christians working together to digitally preserve sites before it is too late. Fran will offer a primer of the new field of “geo-mapping” and “digital preservation,” and share behind-the-scenes vignettes from the often clandestine effort to document Jewish history amidst the turmoil of the Middle East.

Community

MAZEL TOV

To **Henry Wasserman** and his family, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah!

To **Carla Naumburg**, on the publication of her new book, *Parenting in the Present Moment: How to Focus on What Really Matters*. For more information about the book and where to buy, visit Carla’s website: www.carlanaumburg.com.

To **Marjorie Feld**, on the publication this past summer of her book, *Nations Divided: American Jews and the Struggle over Apartheid*. For more information and to purchase the book go to www.palgrave.com/page/detail/nations-divided-marjorie-n-feld/?K=9781137029713.

To **Cindy Rivka Marshall**, one of the contributors to a new collection: *New Mitzvah Stories for the Whole Family* (edited by Goldie Milgram and Ellen Frankel: Reclaiming Judaism Press, 2014). <http://www.reclaimingjudaism.com>

TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with Kiddush/B’nei Mitzvah in September and October:

Lisa Goodman and **Bill Weinreb**, **Tracey Rogers**, **Miriam Bronstein**, **Rick Glassman**, **Laurie Gould**, **Beth Brooks**, **Hope Kellman**, **Andrew Stefano**, **Lauren Stefano**, **Laura Katz**, **Barbara Beck**—in memory of my parents, *Edith and Irving Beck* and my brother, *Stephen Beck*; **Steffi Aronson Karp**, **Benjamin Newman**

Rav 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**, and to **Judy** and **Chayim Herzig-Marx** for Torah support.

To **Mark Bronstein**, for the sound system.

To our wonderful staff: **Wendy Buglio, Paula Witkin, Marla Lichtman, and Jon Sarner.**

To our chazzanim (cantors): **Elaine Pollack, Bill Shorr, Doug Hersh, Karen Arnold, Dan Rome, Marc Steinberg, Teddy Seidman, Abby Roll, Sam and Ava Feuer.**

To all of our Torah and haftarah leyners: **Mark Bronstein, Debbie Waber, Mark Farber, Zanny Weinreb, Elaine Pollack, Ed Bruckner, Chayim Herzig-Marx, Karen Arnold, Jacob Roll, Naomi Ingber, Amalia Lieberman, Louise Enoch, Steffi Karp, Cindy Shulak-Rome, and Susan Moser.**

To **Alan Epstein** and members of the Tik-kun Olam Committee, for bringing the Prophet Isaiah into our midst: **Miriam Bronstein, Stacey Chacker, Staci Garnett, Ora Gladstone, Rachel Greenberg, Esther Kohn, Marcia Okun, Jonathan Rosenthal, Barbara Shatkin, Alex Sugerman-Brozan, Bonnie Tenneriello, and Bob Warren.**

To our Shofar blowers: **Karen Wasserman, Josh Lieberman, Ezra Hausman, and Josh Sacks.**

To the members of CDT Sings, under the leadership of **Karen Arnold**, for their beautiful music: **Bob Warren, David Felson, Doug Hersh, Elaine Pollack, Jeremy Katz, Marcia Okun, Michele Arons, Rebecca Pomerantz, Stephen Zisk, Leila Zisk, Sarah Arnold, Sue Lanser, Jo Radner, and Sami O'Reilly.**

To **Amalia Lieberman**, for her viola rendition of Kol Nidre.

To **Laya Steinberg**, for creating the Yizkor scroll.

To **Deb Albenberg**, for leading our Yom Kippur afternoon Nature Walk.

To the High Holydays Children's Programming committee: **Valerie Graf, Lauren Stefano, David Shumsky, and Jodie Siegel;** and our wonderful service leaders: **Susan Moser, Alison Lobron, Esther Kohn,**

Karen Engels, Itai Gal, Gina Fried, and our Darshanim/11th graders: **Lily Gomborg, Zoe Grodsky, Jake Roll, Joseph Katz, Annalisa Flynn, Aryeh Lieberman and Elise Hausman.**

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with the set-up & take-down of our Sukkah: To **Noam Shore**, our veteran Sukkah Coordinator these past many years! And to the rest of the crew: **Marla Cummins, Sue Weil, Sandy Goodman, Pamela Schoenberg Reider, Rachel Pytel, Danielle Klainberg, Mark Rosenberg, Simon Rosenberg, Ben Dash, Debbie Isenberg, Chagit Steiner, Carole Slipowitz—in memory of Fanny Gold; Liz Carver and Rob Greenly.**

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped plan and lead our Sukkot "Day of Learning and Action": **Annette Lawson, Barbara Shatkin, Tal Shalom Kobi, Carla Naumburg, Steffi Karp, Bonnie Tenneriello, and Laurie Goldman.**

CDT COMMUNITY POTLUCKS: EXPLORING A NEW APPROACH

by **Melanie Adler**, VP Membership

One of CDT's wonderful traditions is the hosting of Erev Shabbat community potluck dinners. These dinners, hosted by community members in their homes, offer a wonderful opportunity to connect with old friends, meet new people, eat delicious food, and celebrate our covenantal community. This year, making these dinners accessible and welcoming to all is a priority—but we need your help!

This year we have a schedule! We've designated four Fridays for our community potlucks, so mark your calendars:

November 21 (sign-ups will open November 3), January 23, March 27, May 8

If you'd like to host a dinner on one (or several) of these nights, contact **Melanie Adler** (madler@edc.org). If a Saturday Havdalah potluck works better for you, we're flexible! But how do we get more people to participate? We know from experience that everyone who attends CDT potlucks has a great time, and we'd like to encourage more members to attend. How can we make these events more welcoming to those who are interested but may feel uncomfortable signing up? Please send us your ideas! Here are some of ours:

- **Offer thematic potlucks.** Some of our current potlucks target specific age and geographic groups. But how about targeting specific interest groups? For example, offering a potluck for people who love dogs or wine, who grew up in the Midwest, or who love to play tennis or go to rock concerts? What "specialty" potlucks would you want to attend?

- **Set a challenge.** I know—quality is more important than quantity. But maybe for one month we could create a potluck challenge and see how many members we could get to attend, or how many members who had never been to a potluck before to sign up!

- **Bring a friend!** All CDT members are welcome at all potlucks, but people sometimes feel uncomfortable going to a dinner at an unfamiliar house. So, what about working out a buddy system, where each person who signs up for a dinner reaches out to someone they know (or who they're interested in getting to know better) and inviting them to come along?

The possibilities are endless, so please send your thoughts/suggestions to **Melanie Adler**, madler@edc.org. Looking forward to hearing from you!

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.)

Learning

ADULT EDUCATION

NEW CLASS!

FIRE, STONE, CLOUD: GOD IN METAPHOR

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

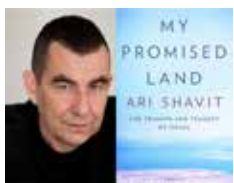
Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm, November 5, 12, 19, December 3

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.

CDT BOOK GROUP: ARI SHAVIT’S MY PROMISED LAND

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

60 Highland Street, living room



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

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, 9:15-10 am

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 9:15 am, 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. 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 for more information.

CHILDREN’S EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

by Annette Lawson, Education Director

Sunday morning religious school at JCDS is a family affair. Come on Sunday morning to JCDS and you will see a building filled not only with children, but parents too.

Our mornings begin with song, prayer, stories, and discussions. Mini Minyan is led by teachers **Alison Lobron** and **Miranda Phillips** for our Nitzanim (Pre-K) and Gan (K) families, while Rabbi Toba leads *Z’mam Rishon* for the families of students in first grade and up. In previous years, our younger grades began Saturday mornings this way, but with our move to Sunday and inclusion of grades 4 and up, this provides an opportunity for our older students and their parents to participate as well.



CDT kids at the Sukkah Party, October 2014

The morning continues with Café, a snack time for students and parents and, like any good café, there is coffee for the adults. When the children go to class, parents are free to linger and socialize with other school parents.

Once the students go to class, there is time not only for socializing, but also for meetings, like that of our Children's Education Committee, and adult learning too.

With the change to Sundays, Rabbi Toba is available to lead adult study and discussion. For example, in September, she and a group of parents met to study Reconstructionist approaches to teshuva in time for the High Holydays.

New this year are our three havurot (community of friends) programs which will be led by our family educator, **Rabbi Sue Ann Wasserman**. Sue Ann and her husband Yale Lansky are new to the CDT community, having just joined a year ago. All three havurot will feature parent learning on

Sunday mornings followed by family activities outside of class time.

A Nitzanim/Gan havurah will explore traditions and practices of Shabbat, with learning for parents on Sunday mornings and home-based family programs on selected Friday evenings over the course of the year.

There are two additional havurot for families with children in Grades 1 through

7. One will explore Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam—how, as families, we might contribute to “repairing the world.” This will be an opportunity for both study and action in the world.

The Mussar and Middot havurah will be an opportunity to work on fostering the personal practice of middot—positive qualities like patience, gratitude, generosity, enthusiasm, and more.

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 November are: Chagit Steiner and Dianne Lior. Please use chesed@dorsheitzedek.org to contact them.

Our congregation values gemilut 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.

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** and **Susan Nitkin**.

Yahrzeit

We will be remembering CDT member **Eugene Black** at Shabbat morning services on November 8, on the occasion of his first yahrzeit. May his memory be for a blessing.

We will be remembering CDT member **Susannah Zisk** at Shabbat morning services on December 6, on the occasion of her third yahrzeit. May her memory be for a blessing.

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>.



Tikkun Olam

TIKKUN OLAM MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 7:30 pm

Living Room of the Second Church

Tikkun Olam is an important part of Jewish practice at CDT. Come share the energy and join in on existing work or start something new!

HABITAT BUILD DAY—OCTOBER 12

by Barbara Shatkin

On Sunday, October 12—a beautiful, sunny day during Sukkot—CDT again volunteered with Metrowest Habitat, helping to build a duplex house on town-donated land in Wayland. Six months after our initial volunteer build day, the construction project had progressed from foundation work to putting the finishing touches on the area under the eaves in anticipation of the roofers' arrival the next day to hang gutters. Our group of 10 volunteers worked on a variety of tasks with enthusiasm and determination. The Habitat site supervisor instructed us on how to cut and bend metal sheeting using a special machine, and then several volunteers stood on very tall ladders and hammered the sheeting onto fascia boards. Other volunteers cut triangular boards with a power saw and, while standing on very tall ladders, mounted them at the corners as soffits. Volunteers stood on a platform held up by staging and did some finishing work and prep for the roofers.

At the end of our build session, the staging needed to be removed in anticipation of the roofers' arrival, and two volunteers lowered the staging, simultaneously pressing on a brake with one foot while cranking with their hands (which was not a simple task as Jodie's crank was much harder to crank than Marla's and the platform needed to be kept level going down!). We also moved a lot of ladders into and out of the house, collected extra sheets of styrofoam insulation into large piles outside the house, and placed boards on top of them to prevent them from being blown away by the wind. Everyone worked hard and enjoyed the day, and this volunteer thought that those who stood on the ladders and staging were very brave indeed.

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 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 on Sunday, November 2 from 7:00–9:00 pm at the Brookline phone bank at Temple Beth Zion, 1566 Beacon Street. To learn more, visit: <http://yeson4ma.org>. To help out on November 2, email **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**. You don't have to come to Tikkun Olam meetings to be involved with this.

FAMILY TABLE

by 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. 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. 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.

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.

Do you want to help pass the Earned Sick Time Ballot Initiative? Sunday, November 2 from 7:00–9:00 pm at the Brookline phone bank at Temple Beth Zion, 1566 Beacon Street.



CDT marches down 5th Avenue during the 2014 People's Climate March. In front: Sheree Galpert, Marla Cummins, Alan Epstein, Nathan Aronow, and Chagit Steiner. Photo by Hilary Marcus.

Nediv Lev

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.

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions.

GENERAL FUND

Matilda and Ed Bruckner—*In memory of our parents*

Sheree Galpert and Peter Hess

Rick Glassman

Priscilla Hunt and Victor Lesser
Debbie Mitzner and Wayne Miller—*In honor of Carol Sklar*

CAMP JRF FUND

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

SCHOOL FUND

HOLY BOOKS FUND

JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Avital Lewis—*In memory of Jill Volk*

BUILDING FUND

Alissa and Gerry Leonard—*In memory of Sol Elkin and Susannah Elkin Zisk*

CDT Calendar

November 2014

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.</p> | | | | | | <p>1</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Steinberg 9:45-12:00</p> <p>CDT Book Club 60 Highland Street: Living Room 12:45pm to 2:15pm</p> <p>A MOCA Social! Home of Sharon Gorberg & John Holohan: 7:30pm</p> |
| <p>2</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Alef-Zayin (Gr. 1-7) Meets at Jewish Community Day School, 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN, 1326 Washington Street, W. Newton 3:45pm to 5:45pm</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Fire, Stone, Cloud: God in Metaphor, with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 60 Highland Street: Room 111 7:30pm to 9:00pm</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 9:15am to 10:00am</p> | <p>7</p> <p>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck 6:00pm</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Nadia Diskin-Gaudette 9:45-12:00</p> |
| <p>9</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Alef-Zayin (Gr. 1-7) JCDS, 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p> | <p>12</p> <p>Fire, Stone, Cloud: God in Metaphor, with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 60 Highland Street: Room 111 7:30pm to 9:00pm</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 9:15am to 10:00am</p> <p>Tikkun Olam Meeting 60 Highland Street: Living Room 7:30pm</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer, 60 Highland Street: Library 8:45am to 9:40am</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service, 9:45-12:00</p> <p>CDT Book Club, 60 Highland Street: Living Room, 12:45pm to 2:15pm</p> <p>CDT Film Club: "The Matchmaker" Meets monthly in members' homes 6:00pm</p> |
| <p>16</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Alef-Zayin (Gr. 1-7) 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Nitzanim and Gan (Pre-K and K) 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> <p>Members' Meeting & Dinner 60 Highland Street: Sanctuary, Fellowship 5:30pm to 8:00pm</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN, 1326 Washington Street, W. Newton 3:45pm to 5:45pm</p> | <p>19</p> <p>Fire, Stone, Cloud: God in Metaphor, with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 60 Highland Street: Room 111 7:30pm to 9:00pm</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 9:15am to 10:00am</p> | <p>21</p> <p>Erev Shabbat Community Potluck Meet in members' homes 6:00pm</p> | <p>22</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Heather Goldman 9:45-12:00</p> <p>Tot Shabbat 60 Highland Street: Room 111 10:45am to 12:00pm</p> |
| <p>23</p> <p>CDT Board Meeting 60 Highland Street: Living Room 7:00pm to 9:00pm</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN, 1326 Washington Street, W. Newton 3:45pm to 5:45pm</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45-12:00</p> |
| <p>30</p> | <p>DEC 1</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN, 1326 Washington Street, W. Newton 3:45pm to 5:45pm</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Fire, Stone, Cloud: God in Metaphor, with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 60 Highland Street: Room 111 7:30pm to 9:00pm</p> | <p>4</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 9:15am to 10:00am</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45-12:00</p> |

Community

KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

Nov 1 Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Steinberg: Sanctuary Cleanup: Jan Gortler-Small / Sara Dash. Ushers: Jan Gortler-Small / Sharon Sevransky

Nov 7 Erev Shabbat: Michele Arons / Amy Dain / Miranda Phillips / Doron Gan

Nov 8 Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Nadia Diskin-Gaudette: Sanctuary Cleanup: Tania Mireles & Bill Shorr - in memory of Marilyn Shorr. Ushers: Jeff Goldman / Betsy Hinden

Nov 15 Shabbat: Sue Lanser & Jo Radner / Lauren Gibbs / Janice Cole

Nov 16 Members' Meeting & Dinner: Meryl Epstein & Trish Nuzzola / Susie Tanchel / Alison Lobron

Nov 22 Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Heather Goldman: Sanctuary Cleanup: Jodi Sugerman-Brozan / Mitch Feuer. Ushers: Vilunya Diskin—in memory of *Esther Leiter* / Susan Bernstein

Nov 29 Shabbat: Marjorie Salvodon & Mark Schafer—in memory of *Laurencia Jean, Luce Attignol, Rosita Attignol and Rose-Marie Salvodon* / Jamie Tessler

Dec 6 Shabbat (kiddush will be in Sanctuary, not Fellowship Hall): Susan Nitkin / Debbie Hemley & Jonathan Weisberg / Ora Gladstone

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. Thank you!

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.



CDT Sukkah Party
Oct 2014

No Fragrances, Please. So that Dorshei Tzedek events are accessible to all of our members and guests, we ask that people refrain from wearing fragrances (perfumes, scented oils, colognes, etc.) to all CDT events. While pleasant to some, fragrances can cause illness to those who are chemically sensitive. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

CDT CHALKBOARD

by Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director

We Want You Back...

It's hard to believe that it's November again and winter is right around the corner. As I write, it's a muggy, 77 degrees outside, feeling more like a mild summer day than mid-October.

November brings the end of the first quarter of CDT's fiscal year, reminding those of you who have "forgotten" (ahem!) to formally rejoin CDT this year that our September 1 deadline has long-ago passed. We want you back!

If you have not done so already, please take time to send in your member renewal and dues pledge forms today, even if you can't send payment at this time. The only way we know you wish to continue membership is to hear from you.

Do you need some assistance? Want to rejoin but lost the paperwork in that daunting pile on your desk? Well then, find them easily on our website at <http://dorsheitzedek.org/members/membership-renewal-packet>.

Do you wish to discuss a financial arrangement but feel uncomfortable about

asking? Have something on your mind you'd like to share? We are here to help but we do need to hear from you. Please, if something is holding you back from sending in your paperwork and payment, connect with one of us and we will be happy to assist.

For membership-related issues, contact our VP for Membership Melanie Adler at madler@edc.org. If it's a financial issue or payment plan you'd like to discuss, contact our VP for Finance Cliff Cohen at cliff.cohen54@gmail.com. For anything administrative, or to clarify an invoice, you can find me at admindirector@dorsheitzedek.org. And Rabbi Toba is always available to speak with you as well - rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org. We will do whatever we can to help you.

And just as a final reminder, November invoices will go into the mail mid-month so please look for those to arrive and try to send payments back in a timely way, or connect to discuss your options. Thanks so much!

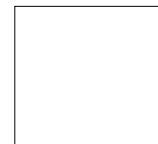
JEWISH COMMUNITY EVENTS

LIMMUSBOSTON 2014

Sunday, December 7, 9 am-6 pm

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



Address correction requested



Tikkun Olam (full report on p.8)

On Sunday, October 12—a beautiful, sunny day during Sukkot—CDT again volunteered with Metrowest Habitat, helping to build a duplex house on town-donated land in Wayland.



Top row, from left to right: Rachel Greenberg, Glenn, Lily Gomberg, Richard Gomberg, Jodie Siegel

Bottom row, from left to right: Marla Cummins, Barbara Shatkin, Sue Weil, Sandy Goodman