



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Elul 5775/Tishrei 5776

September 2015

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
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Bringing It All Together

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer



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IT IS striking that there is no word for “religion” in the entire Hebrew Bible or in the rabbinic literature that gave shape to Judaism as we know it today. What we now see as a distinct area of human life — something that one can participate in or reject; something that causes wars or human uplift — has its roots in what our ancestors saw as simply the way one lived. The ancient Israelites were instructed to understand where they came from—to know that their very existence was rooted in a relationship to the One That had both created the universe and brought them out of slavery--and that there were responsibilities that arose out of this relationship. Some of those responsibilities lay in the realm of what we would today call “religion”: practices related to worship, to the slaughter and eating of animals, to the sacred calendar. Others were in the realm of what we might call “ethics” or even socio-economics: instructions for how to care for the poor and powerless, how to create a system of justice, how to treat one’s neighbor as well as the resident alien. But there was no one word to describe this entire system, with the possible exception of the word “torah” itself, which in a few places is used to refer to the teachings conveyed by Moses to the Israelites.

I think about this integration of the ritual and the ethical, the spiritual and the socio-economic, when I think about the life of a community like Dorshei Tzedek. Mordecai Kaplan, the founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, understood that Judaism could only thrive in the context of what he called “organic community.” He argued that Jewish communities had to encompass more than religious services if they were to survive. Today, our congregation — like many others — lives what Kaplan taught. There are many experiential “doors” into CDT: the door of education, of Shabbat services, of social justice, of chesed/act of caring.

The danger in this approach is that, instead of being experienced as an integrated whole, we approach congregational life as a kind of shopping mall, with separate shops catering to different constituencies or tastes. The people with a “taste” for the spiritual will go to services and certain adult education classes; those with “cultural” predilections will attend the Film Club and MOCA events; those with children will connect primarily through their kids’ participation in the religious school. Even in a relatively small community like CDT (currently about 200 households), it is possible for different groups to rarely if ever cross paths.

My hope is that we can reclaim the integrative vision that motivated our ancestors. Shabbat morning services are not just for those who are ritually observant or who “believe in God” (whatever that may mean); it is a space for us to collectively catch our breath, attend to our spirits (which we all have, whatever our orientation to the sacred), and experience the connection of singing and shared silence and Kiddush lunch. Our communal work for social justice is a deeply spiritual endeavor; indeed, if we don’t attend to our own hearts and minds as we work to create a better world,

we will invariably engage for the wrong reasons and do more harm than good. The acts of chesed that we are called upon to do when someone is in need are not just an “activity”—they are the sacred glue that holds our community together. Education, for children and for adults, allows us to deepen our connection to Jewish texts and traditions and to foster new ways of seeing and acting in the world. And the many ways that members connect socially—through the Film Club, the softball team, Shabbat home dinners, the hiking group, MOCA events—are essential to fostering the web of connection that underlies all the rest of what we do.

As we come in to the new year of 5776, I encourage everyone in the community to try something new, checking out an aspect of our communal life that might feel a bit foreign to you, whether that’s Shabbat services, an Understanding Race book discussion, a film club evening, a hike, an adult ed offering. I hope everyone in the community will engage more fully in the essential work of Chesed, supporting one another in times of need. I say this not to make anyone feel guilty or inadequate—I know we all lead busy lives, with many things calling for our attention. But the great gift of belonging to a community like Dorshei Tzedek is the opportunity it offers for finding meaning and grounding in a world that moves too fast and fosters so much that is unwholesome. To achieve that, we have to bring our whole selves to the task. In this new year, may we all find a sense of wholeness and integration, our own path to joy and justice, in a beautiful book of life that we will write together. *L’shanah tovah tikateivu!*

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.

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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 csrome@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 & Holidays

LABOR DAY SHABBAT

September 5, 9:45am-noon

Labor Day often symbolizes the official end of summer and the start of a new school year, but it is also a time to reflect on the history and meaning of work in this country. At this Shabbat morning service, we will hear from Ivy James, a leader in the local organization MataHari, which is a member of Massachusetts Coalition for Domestic Workers. Ivy will speak about her own experiences and the recently passed Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights.

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE & OPEN HOUSE

Friday, September 11

*6:00pm Candle-lighting & potluck dinner,
6:45pm service*

Join us for this fun, musical, all-ages celebration of Shabbat! We are also welcoming all those who might be interested in Dorshei Tzedek and our children's education program for the coming year, so bring a friend! We'll begin with candlelighting and the Shabbat blessings at 6 pm, followed by a vegetarian potluck dinner (please bring a main dish or salad, enough for 15-20 people; drinks and dessert provided). Services begin at 6:45pm, and we'll end with an Oneg Shabbat at 7:30pm.

THE DAYS OF AWE

SELICHOT PROGRAM

Saturday, September 5, 8:00-10:00pm

*at Temple Hillel Bnai Torah, 120 Corey
Street, West Roxbury*

We kick off the High Holydays season with our sister Reconstructionist congregations, Hillel B'nai Torah and Shir Hadash, with a Saturday evening Selichot program. To enter into the season of teshuvah, turning/returning, we will begin with havdalah, food,

and shmoozing at 8 pm, followed by Rabbi Toba's study session on "Beyond *Avinu Malkeinu*: New Metaphors for God during the Days of Awe." Following the study, Rabbis Barbara Penzner and Rachel Dvash Schoenfeld will help us begin our journey into the High Holydays with Selichot melodies and meditations. Please join us!

ROSH HASHANAH & YOM KIPPUR

begins Sunday, September 13, at 7:45pm

Services at Gann Academy in Waltham

We welcome our members and the larger Jewish community to our High Holydays services, held at Gann Academy in Waltham, MA. Rosh Hashanah begins the evening of Sunday, September 13, at 7:45pm. For a full schedule of services and children's programming, please go to <http://dorsheitzedek.org/join-us-for-high-holydays>.

All non-members who pre-register for services will have a name tag awaiting!

SHABBAT SHUVAH CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE

Saturday, September 19, 9:45am-noon

60 Highland Street

For the special Shabbat of "turning" that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we will have a contemplative service, incorporating singing and times of silence and guided meditation, as well as Torah study. Children are welcome, but please be advised that there will be 10 to 20 minute periods of silence. In order to not disrupt the silence, we ask if possible that you arrive no later than 10 am. Torah study will begin at 11:15am.



Unless noted otherwise, all Shabbat programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton. Shabbat morning services are held weekly, starting at 9:45 am. Free childcare is available during Shabbat morning services in room 112. For the comfort and health of our members and guests, we ask everyone attending our services to avoid wearing fragrances (perfume, cologne, hair and body sprays).

Shabbat & Holidays

SUKKOT

September 27-28

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. On Sukkot we build and eat our meals in the sukkah, wave the lulav and etrog at services, and are commanded to be joyous! Here are some opportunities to do all three!

A SUSTAINABLE HARVEST HOLIDAY

ALL-AGES LEARNING PROGRAM & EREV SUKKOT HARVEST DINNER

Sunday, September 27, 4:00-7:00pm

First Unitarian Society of Newton, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton

The Sukkot program will focus on the ways Sukkot helps bring us to appreciate and preserve the beautiful world we live in. We will celebrate the holiday together as a community- with singing, learning, ritual and food in the sukkah. Workshops for all ages will explore the idea of sustainability in a Sukkot context. Leora Mallach of Ganei Bean-town will lead young children (ages 3-7) in exploring what plants might contribute to “local lulavim.” For teens and adults we’ll have activities inspired by CDT’s current Carbon Challenge, as well as Jewish text study on the theme of sustainability.

4:00pm — Gather in the CDT sukkah and make sukkah decorations!

4:30–5:30pm — Sukkot Workshops

5:35pm — Welcoming Sukkot — We will gather with Rabbi Toba in the sukkah to welcome the Sukkot holiday, with songs and a story and special blessings.

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

SUKKOT MORNING SERVICE

Monday, September 28, 9:30-11:30am

60 Highland Street, West Newton

All are welcome as we shake the lulav, sing Hallel, and celebrate the fall harvest holiday! Kids welcome; no childcare will be available.

SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday evening, October 4, 7:00-8:30pm

60 Highland Street

We close the week of Sukkot festivities with this celebration of the Torah! All ages are welcome as we mark the end of the year cycle of reading Torah and begin anew with Torah Quiz, dancing with the Torah scrolls, and unrolling the scroll to read the very end and the very beginning! Join Rabbi Toba and musicians for this musical, fun evening.

ON AND OFF THE BIMA: AN OCCASIONAL COLUMN ABOUT JEWISH RITUAL AND PRACTICE IN THE DORSHEI TZEDEK COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

by the CDT Ritual Committee

Question: When Is the Best Time to Arrive at Services?

Laurie Goldman responds:

Shabbat services at Dorshei Tzedek begin at 9:45 on Saturday mornings. The liturgy flows according to our tradition’s attunement to the rhythms of our awakening souls and the narrative of personal and collective gratitude, praise, and redemption. But since the service is not a performance, it’s perfectly appropriate to arrive at any time. You’ll be greeted with a smile whenever you arrive and service leaders will announce page numbers in the prayer book so you can join in with those who are already present.

If you arrive at 9:45 you’ll get to help warm up the sanctuary with blessings of gratitude and songs of praise. With each of the morning blessings, more people arrive. More voices amplify the joyfulness and allow us to sing rounds and harmonies interspersed with moments of contemplative silence.

The Morning Service (known as Shacharit or “of the dawn”) begins at around 10:15. This is the part of the service that includes the Barechu that calls the congregation together for formal worship. It’s the first prayer that requires a minyan, a gathering of at least 10 adult Jews. So arriving by that time makes reciting that prayer possible. If you arrive a little later, you can recite the Shema – the iconic “Listen, Israel!” – and sing about crossing the Red Sea into freedom with its resonances for wherever we are in our own life journeys.

If the congregation is standing in silence when you arrive, they may be reciting the Amidah prayer or appreciating the opportunity for silent reflection or meditation. You are welcome to choose any of these options as your point of entry.

The Torah Service typically starts at about 10:45. That’s a good time to arrive if you want to hear the chanting of the Torah (which also requires a minyan). To hear the dvar Torah and participate in the discussion about the week’s Torah portion, be sure to arrive by 11:15 or so. If you are in mourning or remembering a loved one on the anniversary of her or his death, you can plan to arrive by about 11:50 for the Mourners’ Kaddish.

You can still be part of the Shabbat community if you arrive close to 12:00 for a rousing concluding song and the blessings over wine or grape juice and challah. Of course, it’s also fine to come in time for lunch! Conversations over bagels and cream cheese (and delicious gluten- and dairy-free options) are an equally holy part of celebrating Shabbat in community.

Since the service is not a performance, it’s perfectly appropriate to arrive at any time.

Events

CDT FILM CLUB

The Film Club is on summer vacation. We will resume in October, so stay tuned for more information in the fall!

MOCA (MEMBERS OF A CERTAIN AGE) MATTERS

by Louise Enoch

Your MOCA Committee has been putting together a number of fun and informative MOCA events for the upcoming year. Back by popular demand will be a Havdalah social evening, a CDT “TED” talk, and Game Night. Other plans may include an outing to the Jewish Film Festival, a possible trip to the Yiddish Book Center or New York City, and work on “legacy” projects. Stand by for further details. If you have any program suggestions, please let Louise know.

WISE AGING

Following a successful first Wise Aging group, **Marion Ross** and **Louise Enoch** will again be offering another eight-meeting session on Wise Aging for members between the ages of 60 and 75. The program focuses on developing joy, resilience, and spirit for this time of life. Through discus-

sion, study, self reflection, and meditation, participants become better able to see the opportunities, as well as the challenges of aging, and feel optimistic and excited about their futures. More information about the program will be available soon. If you are interested in participating, it's not too early to let Marion or Louise know!

Testimonial from participant Carol Sklar:

For 16 weeks I had the good fortune of being part of a Wise Aging Group at CDT led by Louise Enoch and Marion Ross for members 60 and over. The format for the group followed the ideas put forth in the book *Wise Aging, Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit* by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal. We met 8 times over the course of 16 weeks, for a combination of experiential sharing (turned out we were VERY good at sharing), movement, meditation, optional journaling, insightful quests into our past and my personal favorite: breaking into groups of two. As soon as I heard groups of two I was out the door. Marion quietly assured me that it was good to sometimes step a little out of our comfort zones. She was so gentle and encouraging that I agreed to give it a try. I was short on time and emotional resources — I am not sure which was in scarcer supply — but

I signed on in the dark of winter as did a hearty group of soon to be Wise Agers. How wonderful!

During the two weeks between classes folks began to look at everyday experiences with a more positive and empowering outlook. I radically changed the way I now look at this next portion of my life and to my surprise actually came to enjoy the work we did in groups of two and the depth of knowing someone that could come from the more intimate discussions. During the last session we spent time discussing our legacy and the idea of ethical wills. It was a very uplifting, experience.

I learned so much from and with this group of fellow seekers. At first four months seemed like such a long time commitment when in fact it flew by and we suddenly found ourselves in the bright sunlight of a newly beginning summer with a fresh perspective on aging and a new group of friends.

From Amy Poehler's new book *Yes Please*:
“Fighting aging is like the War on Drugs. It's expensive, does more harm than good, and has been proven to never end.”

Should Marion and Louise offer this class again, would this group be for you? Hands, anyone who thinks they aren't aging?



Standing: Louise Enoch (group leader), Haralie Alpert, Marla Lichtman, Dianne Lior, Lynda Goldberg, Marion Ross (group leader). Sitting: Jackie Slivko, Carol Sklar, Judy Herzig-Marx. Missing from photo: Diana Peretta & Debbie Hemley

Community

MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to **Jenny Siegel and Elizabeth Ferrenz** on the birth of **Batya Shira**!

Mazel tov to **Deb Albenberg** on the completion of her Master's degree in Community Development and Planning from Clark University.

Mazel tov to **Jonathan Magaziner** on the completion of his Master of Science degree in Integrated Elementary and Special Education at Wheelock College.

Mazel Tov to **Charlotte Robbins**, daughter of **Lisa Goodwin Robbins and Andrew Robbins**, who has recently begun a bridge year program. For the next nine months, she will be living with a host family in Ecuador doing volunteer work through an organization called Global Citizen Year.

TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with Kiddush/B'nei Mitzvah/Meetings in July and August:

Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome; Ellie Goldberg—*in memory of her mother Theresa Goldberg, z'l*; **Wendy & Charles Frankston; Dianne Lior; Kevin Weinstein-Hsu; Rabbi Allison Peiser; Phyllis & Alvin Glazerman; Linda Kramer; Carol Sklar**—*in memory of Frances Sklar, z'l*; **Carole Slipowitz; Annie Spanel; Ben Newman; Lauren Stefano; Ellie Baron; Kate DeBethune**

Todah Rabbah to **Ellie Goldberg, Lisa Goodwin-Robbins and Eileen Morrison** for once again helping get our High Holydays mailing prepared and dropped into local mailboxes. We so appreciate your help!

Learning

LETTER FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

by **Shahar Colt**

Dear Dorshei Tzedek Community,

I am thrilled to be joining you this fall as the new Director of Congregational Learning. This role brings together many opportunities which I've been working towards for several years.

People often ask me why I decided to attend rabbinical school. My answer usually begins with my long-time interest in edu-

I am thrilled to be joining you this fall as the new Director of Congregational Learning. —*Shahar*

cation, and how I supported myself in college and during my student teaching year by working in religious schools. Though I thought I was headed into public education, my path re-directed for two reasons.

First, I realize that while I loved the process of teaching, whatever the topic, my favorite subject was actually Judaism—the Judaism that pushed me to be care about social justice, the Judaism that helped me notice the passing of time, the Judaism that I helped me feel grounded in my community. This Judaism was always a central theme in my life, and I loved sharing it with Hebrew school students. Rabbinical school has greatly broadened my Jewish knowledge base, and deepened my commitment to bringing this knowledge and experience back to a synagogue context.

Second, as I worked in schools, after-school programs and summer camp, I felt increasingly pulled to see the educational process as one that affects a whole person—body, mind and spirit—and a whole person is intertwined with his/her families and communities. I longed to work in an environment where learning happens across all ages. A synagogue is an excellent context

for this kind of “whole person in community” education model, because it's all about community, and Judaism loves learning at every age.

Dorshei Tzedek has been engaged in articulating the kind of education it values, and has come up with a series of design principles that closely reflect my own interests. I look forward to using them to explore Jewish life with you at holiday programs, in the religious school, out in the community and in each other's living rooms. As R. Tanhum taught in the Talmud, “Torah can only be acquired in fellowship” —I look forward to getting to know this community and learning much Torah together with you in the process.

Wishing everyone a good and sweet new year—L'Shana Tova U'Metukah!

—*Shahar*

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, starting Sept 10

8:30am-9:15am

60 Highland Street, Library

This weekly gathering combines guided and silent meditation to develop our capacity for mindful awareness. All are welcome. Note that the time may vary in future months. If you are interested but can't make the 8:30am start time, please contact **Carole Slipowitz** (carole@slipowitz.org).

READING HEBREW (AND LIKING IT!)

with **Michael Singer**

Sunday afternoons, after October 7th (when the High Holyday season concludes), will likely run for 8 sessions (1.5 hours each)

by **Michael Singer, CDT Member**

After a 6 year hiatus, **Michael Singer** is once more offering his Hebrew reading course to the CDT community. This class is primarily for adults at an advanced-beginner level of reading Hebrew (i.e. a solid knowledge of the aleph-bet and the vowels, but not necessarily much vocabulary knowledge).

The goals of this course are: to strengthen students' Hebrew reading fluency in prayer-book/rabbinic Hebrew, and to deepen stu-

dents' knowledge of Hebrew vocabulary, grammar, and verbs. (Please note: this is *not* a modern Hebrew course). The course book will be the engaging *Aleph Isn't Enough* by Linda Motzkin (URJ Press, 2001).

Currently, there are 8 students interested in taking the class; I encourage anyone else to contact me (msinger620@gmail.com), even if you are unsure of your level of Hebrew.

This class is intended to be participatory, relaxed, and fun, as my previous students can confirm. I want you to experience the beauty of the Hebrew language and the joys of exploring it in a warm, judgement-free setting.

Our first class will be held after October 7th (when the High Holyday season concludes), and will likely run for 8 sessions (1.5 hours each). As of this writing, it seems that Sunday afternoons will be the best fit for most participants, but please don't let the date discourage you from contacting me.

If you have any questions, please reach out via email. More information, including dates, times, location, and fee, will be forthcoming in the fall.

JEWISH TEACHINGS ON WAR & PEACE

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Larry Rosenwald

7:30-9pm, Wednesday evenings, Oct 21 & 28, Nov 4, 11 & 18, Dec. 2

(free for CDT members; \$36 for non-members)

Is there a pacifist tradition in Judaism? How might Jewish texts and teachings help us make sense of the violent world in which we live? Is there such a thing as a "just war" in Jewish tradition? Join Rabbi Toba and guest teacher Larry Rosenwald, Professor of English at Wellesley College and long-time pacifist and war tax resister, in an exploration of Jewish texts both ancient and modern on the topics of war, peace, and nonviolence.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOTES

by Alison Lobron, Interim Director of Religious School

I am eagerly looking forward to the beginning of the new school year at CDT Religious School. **Rabbi Toba, Shahar** and I have been meeting throughout the summer to prepare for a wonderful year of learning together. We are excited to continue incorporating Project-Based Learning into our curriculum, as well as building more parent and family learning into our education program on Sunday mornings.

We have an excellent team of educators who will be working with our children.

Our returning teachers are **Miranda Phillips, Dani Nurick, Lieba Hall, and Gina Fried**. We are so fortunate to have Miranda and Gina returning to their posts as Gan and Kitah Zayin teachers, respectively. Returning to us from a semester abroad, Dani will be teaching Kitah Bet. Lieba is leaving her old position of Mercaz Ivrit (Hebrew Center) instructor, and will be filling the role of Kitah Gimmel teacher.

Our new teachers include:

Irit Levitan-Trokman (*Nitzanim*). Irit has a great deal of experience teaching preschool-aged children, both locally and in Israel. Most recently, Irit has taught at Hebrew Play (playgroup for preschoolers)

and at Temple Shalom Nursery School. In the coming school year, Irit is helping to develop and teach a new Montessori-style preschool program at Maimonides School.

Alli Moss (*Kitah Alef*). Alli has a long history in the Reconstructionist movement, including six summers working at Camp JRF. Alli holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) from Simmons College. She has extensive teaching experience, and currently teaches Spanish at the middle school level in Peabody.

Risa Dunbar (*Kitah Hay/Vav*). Risa is a rising junior at Brandeis. On campus, she is involved in Interfaith Dialogue initiatives, as well as JStreet U. Risa is currently spending the summer in Israel, teaching art classes at Project Harmony, an integrated Arab-Jewish summer camp in Jerusalem.

Cantor Miriam Silva (*Kitah Dalet*). Miriam brings extensive Jewish background, from her work as a cantor both in the US and Brazil. She has experience as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutor, and also as a fourth grade Religious School teacher at B'Yachad South Area Religious School. Miriam is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Psychology at UMass Boston.

If you are interested in more information about CDT Religious School, please be in touch with me at school@dorsheitzedek.org.



Kids working on decorations for the sukkah, 2014. Photo by Vivienne Shein

Chesed

Chesed (Loving-Kindness) is an important CDT community value. The Chesed Committee is dedicated to creating a caring community by providing support and comfort when one of our members has a major life change such as the arrival of a child, death, injury, illness or other significant life cycle event. The committee coordinates our community's response by using the website Lotsa Helping Hands, and encourages all members to sign up at <http://dorsheitzedek.org/chesed-caring-community> so you can respond when a Chesed request goes out. The committee would like to thank everyone who provided acts of chesed last month. We welcome new volunteers or committee members.

The Chesed committee's coordinators are **Marla Cummins** and **Benita Danzing**; please use chesed@dorsheitzedek.org to contact them. Contacting Rabbi Toba: Rabbi Toba 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 rabbid@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). 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.

CHESED: A COLLABORATIVE ACTION

by Ellie Goldberg

Chesed (Loving-Kindness) is an important Congregation Dorshei Tzedek value. The Chesed Coordinators organize volunteer support when a member has a significant life event such as a birth or adoption, illness, or death in the family.

Most of the time, one volunteer fulfills the Chesed request for a meal or a ride. But sometimes two, three or more volunteers work as a team. There was one family, who lived a distance from Newton, that had a sudden loss. They asked the Chesed committee for a Shabbat dinner. Unfortunately, the weather was terrible, Shabbat was coming, and no one responded to the LotsaHelpingHands posting. The Chesed Coordinator decided to email a short list of people who lived nearest the family. Someone from that list took the lead to respond. Quickly the group self-organized, each taking a part of the task, making the Shabbat dinner and dropping it off. Mission accomplished!

If you have questions about Chesed, as a recipient or as a volunteer, please contact the Chesed coordinators at chesed@dorsheitzedek.org.

REFUAH SH'LEYMAH

We send blessings for a complete healing to **Ilana Streit**, **Ruby Weinberg**, **Allison Hausman**, and **Elaine Pollack**.

Yahrzeit

This month, we remember CDT member **Zachary Carson**, whose 8th yahrzeit falls on September 19; and **Efrem Goldberg**, whose 13th yahrzeit falls on September 27. We will be remembering Zach at Yom Kippur services, and Efrem at Shabbat morning services on September 26. May each of their memories 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>.

Jewish Community Events

Upcoming Programs from the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston. For more information, visit www.jgsgb.org

PASSENGER MANIFESTS AND THE IMMIGRANT VOYAGE

Phyllis Kramer

September 27, 1:30 pm at Gann Academy

POTPOURRI OF GENEALOGICAL SEARCH TOOLS

Steve Morse

October 11, 11 am at Gann Academy

A CASE STUDY: RENEE KAUFMAN AT HEBREW COLLEGE

Steve Morse

October 11, 1:30 pm at Gann Academy

Tikkun Olam

TURN TOWARD JUSTICE IN THE NEW YEAR!

Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015 at 7:30 PM at CDT.

**Cry out aloud, don't hold back,
Lift up your voice like the shofar!
— Isaiah**

Please join the Congregation Dorshei Tzedek Tikkun Olam Committee in these upcoming social justice events.

Thursday, October 8, 2015, 7-9 pm

Join fellow CDT members as we participate in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization's delegate assembly.

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

CDT will be make its voice heard in support of criminal justice reform at a hearing before the legislature's Joint Committee on the Judiciary. The Committee will be considering the Justice Reinvestment Act, a broad measure to reduce incarceration, as well as legislation to reduce the use of solitary confinement in prison. Rallies outside

the State House begin at 11am. The hearing is scheduled for 1 pm.

Friday, October 23, 2015

Erev Shabbat with **Hayley Shaham**, Director of the leading Israeli environmental organization Adam Teva v'Din. Mr. Shaham will give a presentation during evening services at CDT.

And that's just October! Stay tuned for more details.

Join the Tikkun Olam Committee as we plan our work for the rest of the year on incarceration, economic and racial justice, the environment – and whatever you bring to the table. Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015 at 7:30 PM at CDT.

FAMILY TABLE

This year, our congregational commitment to Family Table, greater Boston's kosher food pantry, is 15 boxes of whole grain cereal and 15 cans of soup (veggie or kosher) each month. We want to thank **Ilana Mainelli** for all of her work over the past two years as our Family Table coordinator — finding

drivers to bring our donations over to the FT site, recruiting volunteers for a yearly volunteer day, and educating our community about the importance of Family Table. Todah Rabbah, Ilana! We are looking for a new coordinator or co-coordinators — please contact **Jen Kaplan** if you are interested.

UNDERSTANDING RACE DISCUSSION OF THE NEW JIM CROW

Saturday, October 24, 12:45pm

60 Highland St., living room

The "Understanding Race" CDT working group invites you to participate in a discussion of the book, *The New Jim Crow*, by Michelle Alexander, on Shabbat morning, Oct 24, starting at 12:45 (right after services and kiddush lunch). This highly regarded book provides a history and critique of America's system of institutionalized racism. It is important reading and a call to action for people of conscience. Participants are encouraged to read the book prior to the discussion. For more information, please contact **Alan Epstein** at alan.epstein@rcn.com.

Reconstructionist News

HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYERBOOKS

Mahzors are available now; place your order now to receive your mahzor in time for the High Holidays. Our mahzor is an inclusive, comprehensive volume for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services, rooted in the traditional Hebrew liturgy, yet fully contemporary.

CALENDARS

5776 Pocket Calendars are now in stock. These handy little calendar books are great for keeping track of appointments and holidays in the upcoming Jewish year. They also include contact information for the Reconstructionist movement's offices and a directory of Reconstructionist affiliates.

Place your order today via the Reconstructionist Press Bookstore.

TIKKUN MIDDOT

Cultivating Our Character

You are invited to participate in RRC's Tikkun Middot program, with the goal of introducing the Jewish practice of *Musar*.

Learn more about the first several middot and sign up to receive the "Middah of the Month" at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College website (rrc.edu).

HAZON 2015 NEW YORK RIDE

Looking for a fun way to cycle with new and old friends while also giving back to your community? Sign-up for the 2015 Hazon New York Ride! This exciting weekend

retreat is a fully supported ride and community experience for people of all cycling levels and ages. You'll enjoy canoeing, hiking, yoga, food demos, farm tour, goat milking, a dance party, and, of course, cycling through the Berkshires and the Hudson Valley. Spend Shabbat at Hazon's home at Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center in Falls Village, Connecticut. (Non-riders are invited to join by supporting the cyclists on the road as members of the crew.) Mini-grants are available for teams of 4+ people to benefit your synagogue or the Reconstructionist movement! Learn more or register at hazon.org.

CDT Calendar

September 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			CDT Executive Board Meeting meets in Exec. Board members' homes 7:30pm	Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am-9:15am		Labor Day Shabbat 9:45am to 12:00pm Selichot 5776: Preparing for the High Holydays Temple Hillel B'nai Torah, 120 Corey Street, West Roxbury, MA 8:00pm to 10:00pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Labor Day			Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am-9:15am	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service & Potluck / Open House 6:00pm to 8:00pm	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Erev Rosh Hashanah: Welcoming the New Year 5776 Gann Academy 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 7:45pm	Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 (5776) Gann Academy 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 9:30am to 1:00pm	Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 (5776) Gann Academy 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 10:00am to 12:30pm		Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am-9:15am		Shabbat Shuvah Chanting & Meditation Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
First Day of Religious School for Nitzanim-Zayin (Pre-school-Gr. 7) Meets at Jewish Community Day School, 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown, MA 9:30am to 12:00pm		Kol Nidre/Erev Yom Kippur Gann Academy 333 Forest Street Waltham, MA 6:30pm to 8:30pm	Yom Kippur: The Day of Repentance Gann Academy 333 Forest Street Waltham, MA 9:30am to 7:15pm	Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am-9:15am		Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
27	28	29	30	OCT 1	2	3
Sukkah Building @ FUSN FUSN yard 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA 12:00pm to 2:30pm Sukkot Celebration FUSN 1326 Washington St. Newton: Parish Hall, downstairs kitchen, Alliance Room, Headstart Room, Kids' Chapel, 2 classrooms 4:00pm to 7:00pm	Sukkot morning Service 9:30am to 11:30am	Religious School Classes for Gimmel, Dalet, Hay/Vav (Gr. 3-6) FUSN 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA 3:45pm to 5:45pm		Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am-9:15am	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck 6:00pm	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm

KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

SEP 5 Labor Day Shabbat: Linda Katz/
Peter Katz/Lisa Goodman/Bill Weinreb

SEP 11 Erev Shabbat: Jonathan Gordon/
Miranda Phillips/Pamela Rosenstein/Jeff
Arnold

SEP 12 Shabbat: Steffi Aronson Karp/
Eric Karp/Phyllis Kantor/Bill Kantor

SEP 19 Shabbat Shuvah: Ellen Pashall/
Hope Kellman/ Judy Hersh/Tessa
Goldsmith

SEP 26 Shabbat: Debby Saltzman/John
Saltzman/Alan Epstein/Louise Enoch

SEP 27 Sukkah builders: David Shum-
sky/Marla Cummins/Danielle Klainberg/
Mark Rosenberg/Barbara Huggins/Stuart
Snyder/Jethro Berkman

SEP 27 Sukkot Celebration: Setup: Sara
Coen Dash/Carla Naumburg, in memory
of Leda DiCapi/Joshua Herzig-Marx/Au-
dra Karp/Deb Albenberg/Stacie Garnett-
Cook/Jodi Sugerman-Brozan. Cleanup:
David Roll/Elizabeth Roll/Alex Suger-
man-Brozan/Betsy Hinden/Arthur Lent/
Joel Auslander/Rachel Greenberg

SEP 28 Sukkot morning: Ritual Com-
mittee provides kiddush

OCT 2 Erev Shabbat: Ami Gordon /
Bobby Kleinberg / Jan Gortler-Small /
Dan Halbert

OCT 3 Shabbat: Becca Gutman / Bar-
bara Beck—*In memory of Irving & Edith
Beck, Stephen Beck* / Elizabeth Ferrenz &
Jenny Siegel

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 and 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 re-
frain from wearing fragrances (perfumes,
scented oils, colognes, etc.) to all CDT
events. While pleasant to some, fragrances
can cause illness to those who are chemi-
cally sensitive. Thank you for your under-
standing and flexibility.

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

Alexis and Gabe Landes
Allison Andrews and Arthur Lent
Steffi and Eric Karp
Diana and Richard Fisher Gomberg
Sami O'Reilly and Robert Imperato
Liz Carver and Bryn Austin—*In memory of
our fathers, Harold Carver and John Austin*
Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg
Lisa Schneier—*In honor of Allison Haus-
man's leadership*
Dianne Lior—*In memory of Ina Reznicek*
Marjorie Feld—*In memory of my mom, Ro-
salind Sperling Feld*
Elliot Pittel—*In memory of Dorothy Pittel*
Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome
Marion Ross and Louise Enoch—*In celebra-
tion of Wise Aging and with thanks to our
first group who embarked on this journey
with joy, resilience and spirit*
Deb Hemley—*In memory of David Hemley*
Lauren Gibbs

Barbara Shatkin and Andrew Littman—*In
appreciation of Josette Akresh-Gonzales
and Michael Gonzales*
Jenny Aronson and Nina Aronson—*In
memory of our loving dad and husband,
Lew Aronson, on his yahrzeit*
Allen Post, Evelyn Beck, Amy Mazur, Susan
Silberberg—*To help defray High Holyday
costs*
Susana Wurzel—*In memory of Bernard
Tabbat*
Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan—*In
honor of Stan Fleishman's 75th birthday!*
Sharon Gorberg—*In honor of Steffi Karp,
whose generosity with her time and sewing
skills is helping our carbon challenge*
Nessa Spitzer—*In memory of Bill Spitzer,
Rabbi Toba's dad*

CAMP JRF FUND

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Lisa Schneier—*In gratitude for Rabbi To-
ba's patient guidance*

Lorna Shapiro—*In memory of Debbie Sher*

SCHOOL FUND

Lisa Samelson, Paul Hattis and Family—*In
memory of Judith Ruth Lieberman*

RETREAT FUND

HOLY BOOKS FUND

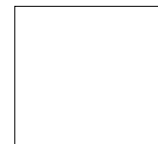
JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

BUILDING FUND



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

60 Highland St.
West Newton, MA 02465



Address correction requested



Noa Nasoff, Lily Gomberg, Elan Katz, Leila Zisk, and Elana Rome at Camp JRF this summer! Mazel tov to Elana for becoming a Camp JRF Board member!