



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Adar II/Nissan I 5776 April 2016

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
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Holding Our Own Through Tough Times

by Jen Kaplan, President



Rabbi Herman Blumberg led a text study session on chesed related texts with members of CDT at the Members Meeting in March.



THIS PAST MONTH has been painful for so many of us with the recent death of Gina Fried, beloved wife of our Rabbi Toba. 53 years is a relatively short time to be on this earth, yet the impact that Gina made on friends, family, colleagues, and her students is astonishing. She was able to touch so many lives. She truly gave of herself in her kindness, authenticity, and outreach, letting others know that they mattered and were valued.

They say that you know who your real friends are when times are tough. The times have been tough lately, and this community has come together in such a beautiful and touching way. CDT members signed up very quickly for shifts throughout the night for *shmirah* (“guarding” the body after death and before the funeral); even those who did not know Gina well still wanted to honor her in this way. People have emailed me asking what they could do to help, have answered the call to help, and have responded with graciousness. I am so grateful for this community.

The ritual committee, ably led by **Laurie Goldman** and **Marion Ross**, has pulled together lay leaders, leyners and d’var Torah givers to provide meaningful services. **Shahar Colt**, our Director of Congregational Learning, has spent additional time with

continued on next page

INSIDE:

- 3 Shabbat & Holidays
- 4 Events
Reconstructionist News
- 5 Community
- 6 Tikkun Olam
- 7 Jewish Community Notes
Membership
- 8 Nediv Lev
- 9 Chesed
Learning
- 10 Calendar
- 11 Religious School Notes

our community, leading Shabbat services, and providing leadership and pastoral support. Both Religious School Director, **Alison Lobron**, and Shahar have provided a forum for the parents and an opportunity for the children to talk about the loss of Gina. Our Chesed committee has done an outstanding job in making sure that Rabbi Toba's needs, as well as those of others in the community, are all being met.

*In Pirke Avot 1:2 (Ethics of the Fathers), Shimon HaTzaddik said:
On three things the world stands.
On Torah,
On service [of God],
And on acts of human kindness.*

Howard Witkin writes at *aish.com*, "Our Mishnah is zeroing in on a fundamental truth about our place in the cosmos. We are not alone, and life is not ours alone. We live in a world where we are compelled to act, react and interact with others. We have three primary relationships in life. We have to learn to live with ourselves, with God, and with others."

The human kindness and outpouring of love for Rabbi Toba and for one another, amidst our own pain, has been tremendous. People have shown up—to services, to the funeral, to shiva. It's not necessarily about doing anything specific (although many of

us are more comfortable with doing something) but just being present, even when it's uncomfortable. I spoke to a person in our shul who told me this was the first shiva she had attended since the death of her son. Up to this point it had been just too painful for her to attend other shiva minyanim, but now she was ready to push herself to go and be present—to show up. This was an act of courage and love.

Pesach, one of the most observed Jewish holidays, is coming up at the end of the month. One of its themes is the importance of our shared responsibility to others. This year, may we celebrate and understand our Divine deliverance from the slavery of Egypt as a catalyst to feel empathy for the experience of others and to work for a more just world. May this holiday propel us to be concerned and engaged with the rights of the stranger and those who continue to be oppressed. This is a wonderful way for us to continue Gina's holy work.

By showing up, lending our support, our love, our care, and our friendship, we are creating a strong community that can weather any storm.

that can weather any storm. I feel blessed to be a part of this community and hope that you do too.

After a mild New England winter, spring is coming—another sign that new life continues, in all its forms.

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

Staff

Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Interim Religious School Director: **Alison Lobron**

Director of Congregational Learning: **Shahar Colt**

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Administrative Assistant: **Shaena Grossman**

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Chesed: **Eileen Morrison and Debbie Saltzman**

Nediv Lev: **Mark Paley**

Newsletter: **Danny Shain**

Ritual: **Marion 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 10th of the month for the following month's issue. For questions, email us at the same address.

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

Shabbat & Holidays

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

Fridays, April 1, May 6, June 10

6:00 pm Candle-lighting & potluck dinner

6:45 pm service

Join us for this monthly fun, musical, all-ages celebration of Shabbat! We'll begin with candle-lighting 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; challah, drinks and dessert provided). Services begin at 6:45 pm, and we'll end with an Oneg Shabbat (dessert) at 7:30 pm. Services are geared towards children ages 3-8, but all are welcome!

TOT SHABBAT

Saturday, April 9

Shabbat morning, 10:45 am-noon

Monthly Shabbat program, led by CDT members, musicians and educators, **Susan Moser** and **Tal Shalom-Kobi**, for children under age 5 and their parents. Join us in celebrating Shabbat with song, stories, and crafts.

PESACH/PASSOVER

PESACH LEARNING WORKSHOP

with Rabbi Toba and Shahar Colt

JCDS in Watertown

Sunday, April 10, 10:30am-noon

Pesach/Passover, the "time of our freedom," begins on Friday evening, April 22. To prepare for the holiday, CDT adults are invited to a special **Pesach Learning Workshop**. Both religious school parents and all others who are interested are invited for a morning of learning about Passover traditions and teachings, with "take aways" for your seder! Child care is available for kids not in the religious school.

SEDER MATCHMAKING

On Passover, it's a mitzvah to attend a seder, and a mitzvah to invite guests to your seder, so do a mitzvah! If you have a space or two at your seder table for a CDT member who needs a place to go, or if you need a seder to attend, please contact our seder matchmaking team, headed by **Melanie Adler**, no later than April 10 (madler@edc.org). Please note that they will make an effort to accommodate special requests (allergies, child aversion, fear of horseradish, etc.) but your flexibility is appreciated!

SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturdays, April 16, May 14

8:45 am, Library

Each month before the Shabbat morning service, we will explore parshat hashavua, the weekly Torah portion, through the lens of commentaries both traditional and contemporary. No prior experience necessary. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

CHANTING AND MEDITATION SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

Saturday, April 2

9:45 am-noon

At this contemplative Shabbat morning service, we will use both sacred chant and guided and silent meditation to enter into the peace and joy of Shabbat. Beginning at 11:15 am, there will be Torah study. The service will be co-led by **Rabbi Toba** and **Karen Arnold**.

PASSOVER SERVICES

Saturdays, April 23 & 30

9:45 am - noon

This year, the first day of Passover falls on Shabbat (first seder is Friday evening, April 22). We will celebrate the holiday with the singing of Hallel and the study of the Song of Songs, traditionally associated with Passover. We will close the week of Passover on April 30 with an 8th day service that includes a special Torah reading, singing of Hallel, and a Yizkor service to remember our loved ones who have passed away.

ON AND OFF THE BIMAH... WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN OCCASIONAL COLUMN

by Marion Ross and Laurie Goldman, Ritual Committee Co-chairs

Do you ever wonder....

- who gets to chant Torah and how do they learn to do so?
- what time should I arrive at services?
- why do we lift the Torah at the end of the Torah service?
- what is the meaning of the Hebrew text on our Ark and Torah table?

For interesting reading on these and other service related topics, visit "On and Off the Bimah" in our "Prayer and More" section on the Dorshei Tzedek website: <http://dorsheitzedek.org/and-bimah>.

If you have other questions about services or would like to suggest a topic to be addressed in this column, please send them to Ritual Committee co-chairs, **Laurie Goldman** (Laurie.Goldman@Tufts.edu) or **Marion Ross** (Marikal50@hotmail.com).

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

Events

CDT HIKES—FIRST HIKE OF SPRING!

Saturday, April 16

Noanet Woodlands (105 Dedham Street, Dover, MA)

Meet at CDT parking lot at 1 pm for carpool; Hike begins at 1:30 pm

Please join “CDT Hikes” on April 16 in the Noanet Woodlands. We will meet at the CDT parking lot promptly after kiddush at 1 pm for carpooling. Kiddush is optional, but bagels are a known source of quick carbs that can be handy on the trail (They can also be a good source of bread crumbs if you have a poor sense of direction!). If you don't want to carpool, meet us at the Caryl Park parking lot at 1:30 PM (105 Dedham Street, Dover, MA). Parking may be tight and you can't park on the main road. Dogs are allowed. As always, wear sturdy shoes, dress in layers and bring a water bottle.

And, as always, no RSVP is necessary—just show up! **In case of bad weather, we post to the CDT listserv by 10 am if we are going to cancel.**

Questions? Contact **Diana** (dfgomberg@gmail.com), **Richard** (richardgomberg@gmail.com), **Marc** (marc@metaphasia.com), or **Stuart** (SLS@SnyderLegal.com).

CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, April 16

Home of Emily Sper

Potluck at 6 pm; Movie begins at 7 pm

Hitler's Children (2011, 80 min; German, English, Hebrew)

The descendants of Adolf Hitler's inner circle—including Hermann Goering, Heinrich Himmler and Amon Goeth—come to terms with their infamous surnames and the role their families played in the Holocaust.

Feel free to attend any part of the evening. If you're coming to the potluck, please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share (in consideration of members with dietary constraints, if you are making a dish with dairy or wheat that can be added later, i.e. 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.

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL WITH CDT!

Rabbi Toba is leading our second congregational trip to Israel (including a visit to the West Bank) this summer, July 7-16. For more information about the trip, please visit our website, <http://dorsheitzedek.org/israel-trip-2016>, or contact **Rabbi Toba** at rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org.

Reconstructionist News

NO'AR HADASH NORTH AMERICAN TEEN KALLAH IN PHILADELPHIA FOR 8TH-12TH GRADERS

April 8-10

The weekend of April 8-10, 8th through 12th graders from across North America will have the opportunity to attend the exciting *No'ar Hadash* North American Teen Kallah, held this year in Philadelphia, PA. We'll be staying in the heart of Philadelphia, walking distance from incredible landmarks like Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Teens will explore the city, taste the many flavors of Reading Terminal Market, celebrate Shabbat near Rittenhouse Square, and eat at Han Dynasty, one of the top 50 Chinese Restaurants in America! For more information, contact **Brianna Spatz** (bspatz@rrc.edu).

Download a registration form at <http://campjrf.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/NATK-2016.pdf> and send it in today!

REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR CAMP JRF NOW

Still catching your breath after the recent snow? Think warm thoughts and register your kids now for a joyful, creative, and inclusive Reconstructionist summer experience. Campers swim, play sports, sing and explore the arts, all while forming lasting friendships and forging their own Jewish identities. Camp JRF is proud to host kids from over 35 Reconstructionist congregations. Register now for Summer 2016 at <http://campjrf.org/parents/application>. Experience Camp JRF with their new promo video: <http://campjrf.org/video>.

TIVNU: BUILDING JUSTICE

JEWISH GAP YEAR PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN THE U.S.

The Tivnu Gap Year is a national program of nine months of hands-on Jewish social justice engagement, based in Portland, Oregon. Participants live together, create community, discover the Pacific Northwest, and explore connections between Jewish life and social justice with their heads, hands, and hearts. \$1,000 off for the first three Reconstructionist-affiliated participants! Additional need-based tuition assistance available at this time. For more info: www.Tivnu.org or www.facebook.com/TivnuBuildingJustice.

Community

JOIN CDT FACES NOW!

So that our staff and members know who we all are, we are asking every adult CDT member to post a photo in our “members-only” section. Please post human pictures (as opposed to flowers or animals) since the purpose of the site is to help us match names with faces. Not sure how to do it? Detailed instructions for uploading photos are on the CDT website in the Members Only section (<http://dorsheitzedek.org/members/member-photos>). You can also contact **Dan Halbert** (halbert@halwitz.org) for tech support, or just send him your photo and he'll be happy to upload it for you.

Thanks for your participation!

MAZEL TOV

To CDT Administrative Director **Marla Lichtman**, who celebrated 10 years of tireless service to our congregation on March 27.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to:

To **Rabbi Toba**, and to **Zoe** and **Zach Miller**, on the loss of their beloved spouse and mother, **Gina Fried**; may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Miriam Bronstein** and family, on the death of her mother, Tamar Bronstein; may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Linda Schiller** and family, on the death of her mother, Inez Krohn; may her memory be for a blessing.

To **Peter Shapiro** and **Theo** and **Luke**, on the death of their mother and grandmother, Joan Shapiro; may her memory be for a blessing.

Yahrzeit

This month, we remember beloved CDT teacher **Lesley Chapman**, whose 7th yahrzeit falls on April 21. We will be remembering Lesley during Shabbat morning services on April 23. May her memory be for a blessing.

TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with kiddush/holiday programs in February and March, and at the Members Meeting:

Mark Farber and **Sherry Katz**, **Cheryl** and **Jeffrey Sacks**, **Haralie Alpert**—*in memory of Francis and Sylvia Greenberg*, **Ellen White**—*in memory of John and Paul White*, **Jennifer Greenberg**, **David Shumsky**, **Laura** and **Joel Katz**, **John Holohan** and **Sharon Gorberg**—*in memory of George and Sylvia Gorberg*, **Ezra Hausman**, **Diane Becker**, **Noah Rumpf**, **Erica Streit-Kaplan** and **James Kaplan**, **Jennifer Nichols** and **Jerold Gelfand**, **Barbara Blumenthal** and **Barry Ehrlich**

Todah Rabbah to CDT Members who chanted from the Torah, led services, and provided Divrei Torah from January 1–March 12.

Leyners: **Melanie Adler**, **Miriam Bronstein**, **Mark Farber**, **Laurie Goldman**, **Max Greenberg**, **Ezra Hausman**, **Dani Krasa**, **Sue Lanser**, **David Lobron**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, **Jordan Schwartz**, **Simon Schwartz**, and **Debbie Waber**

Dramatic Torah Interpretation: **Cindy Rivka Marshall**

Service Leading: **Shahar Colt**, **Laurie Goldman**, **Esther Kohn**, **Audrey Marcus-Berkman**, **Ben Newman**, **Allison Peiser**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Marc Steinberg**, and **Henry Wasserman**

Divrei Torah: **Rachel Davenport**, **Esther Kohn**, **Debbie Waber**, **Henry Wasserman** (and to **Matilda Bruckner** for coordinating)

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.)

Tikkun Olam

ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN PEACE EFFORTS

Save the Date! On the evening of April 6, Ali Abu Awwad and Rav Hanan Schlesinger of Roots will be speaking at Temple Shalom in Newton. To learn more about their work, see <http://friendsofroots.net/index.html>, and read this recent article: "Can an unlikely alliance of Jewish settlers and Palestinians help bring peace to Israel?" <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2016/02/16/news/behind-wall-nonviolent-movement-explosive-land>.

A THIRD WAY: SETTLERS AND PALESTINIANS AS NEIGHBORS

Monday, April 11, 7:30 pm

Temple Sinai (50 Sewall Avenue, Brookline)

CDT is co-sponsoring this film, a 90 minute story that follows Rabbi Menachem Froman (the Israeli who pioneered much of the work that Roots is now continuing), as well as substantial scenes with Ali Abu Awwad and several others. It shows both settlers and Palestinians "on the ground" in the West Bank, doing their courageous ac-

tivism over a period of about the last seven years. Discussion with the filmmaker, Harvey Stein, will follow the film. The event is free and open to the public. Other co-sponsors include Temple Sinai, J Street, and Encounter.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

The CDT Criminal Justice Reform Committee is organizing a volunteer session at the Prison Book Program (PBP) in Quincy, MA the evening of Tuesday, May 3, from 6:30 to 9 pm. The PBP supplies individuals and groups of prisoners with quality reading material. Volunteers will be given an overview of the PBP and training in the volunteer work, which involves filling prisoners' book requests and packaging the books. Travel by T is recommended, as PBP is located right across the street from the "Quincy Center" stop on the Red Line, in the basement of the United First Parish Church. If interested in volunteering on May 3, please contact **Barbara Shatkin** (bfshatkin@aol.com).

JOIN THE CDT TEAM IN THE 20TH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

Sunday, May 8

The Mother's Day Walk is a celebration of our potential to create communities where all families can live in peace and all children are valued. More than that, the Mother's Day Walk is a commitment to do the work necessary to bring that vision of peace to life. We are walking to raise \$600,000 so that we can sustain the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute as a center of healing, teaching, and learning for families impacted by murder, grief, trauma, and loss. Walk with us toward peace, this Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th, 2016!

If interested, please contact **Abby Cohen** at abby.cohen@verizon.net.

THE GBIO DELEGATES ASSEMBLY

by Amy Mazur

Dorshei Tzedek was well-represented at the recent GBIO Delegates Assembly Meeting in March. **Shahar Colt, Alan Epstein, Paul Hattis, Elizabeth Ferrenz, Lauren Gibbs, Amy Mazur, Erica Streit-Kaplan, and Bob Warren** traveled to Roxbury Presbyterian Church to engage with Massachusetts Senate President Stan Rosenberg on the topics of gun violence prevention, criminal justice reform, and health care affordability. Each issue was discussed and President Rosenberg was asked to: keep pressure on to build the base and power for gun violence prevention; promote the state's Justice Reinvestment Initiative and support legislation related to reducing incarceration rates; and support a bill to give the Health Policy Commission the "oomph" it needs to bring health care costs under control. Our very own **Paul Hattis** represented the GBIO Health Care Team and spoke of how we all have to work together to reduce costs.

President Rosenberg committed to facilitating all these initiatives, and in his response, also mentioned the recent efforts on the part of the State House to be more transparent and responsive to all citizens

of Massachusetts. He also spoke about the focus on criminal justice reform and income inequality, emphasizing the need for shared prosperity for all. Recent legislative initiatives included the passing of the earned income tax credit, and the increase in minimum wage (expected to increase another dollar next year).

The words that drew the strongest reaction from President Rosenberg had to do with approaching the opioid crisis from a social justice perspective. "When people of color were affected by the opioid issue, it was a crime; when white people were affected, it became a disease." Rosenberg went on to say that when fundamental needs of individuals are not met, possibility is undermined, and it is our responsibility as residents, people of faith, and as voters to raise up and provide opportunities for all.

The GBIO Spring Action will take place on May 24, and CDT has pledged to have 20 congregants in attendance. We can do it and you can be a part of the GBIO experience, so save the date!

Jewish Community Events

5TH ANNUAL BOSTON JEWISH FOOD CONFERENCE

Sunday, April 3, noon-7:00 pm

Congregation Shaarei Tefillah in Newton Centre

Once again, CDT is co-sponsoring this annual springtime event! Organized by Ganei Beantown: Beantown Jewish Gardens, the BJFC fosters new dynamics and connections within the Jewish community by utilizing food and agriculture to discuss the intersections of justice, sustainability, and culture against a background of Jewish traditions and contemporary life. The day includes multiple workshops (in the kitchen and classroom) and culminates in a community *shuk* (marketplace), featuring dinner prepared by conference participants, Do-It-Yourself activities, kosher food sales, advocacy opportunities, tabling by community organizations and a silent auction.

FROM HOLOCAUST TO NEW LIFE: HOW WILL WE REMEMBER?

COMMUNITY HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION OF YOM HASHOAH

Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston

Sunday, May 1 10:30 am

Faneuil Hall, Boston

The commemoration convenes the Greater Boston community to honor local survivors of the Holocaust and pay tribute to those who perished. Each year the program fea-

tures Holocaust survivor testimony so their story can be passed on to future generations. The program will highlight the unique lives survivors built after they escaped the unimaginable horror of the Holocaust and will feature student reflections about how we keep the memory alive.

CAFÉ ACHSHAV

Sunday, April 10, 7:15-9:15 pm

Temple Israel of Natick

Experience the joy of Klezmer music while noshing on irresistible desserts and schmoozing with good friends and family. Who knows, maybe there will be a *bisl* dancing? Adult admission purchased in advance is \$25.00 per person; \$30.00 at the door. Admission for youth ages 5-17 is \$15.00. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, and we are grateful for the support of all sponsors. Please contact Temple Israel of Natick (office@tiofnatick.org) or 508-650-3521 to purchase admission or learn more about sponsorships.

JEWISH ARTS COLLABORATIVE'S INAUGURAL SEASON

With everything from the Odessa Havana Project's fusion of salsa, jazz, and klezmer, to some creative kreplach at Beyond Bubbie's Kitchen, from Shakespeare's Shylock to a Sholem Aleichem puppet show, there is something fun for everyone in the inaugural Spring season of the Jewish Arts Collaborative (the new

organization combining the Boston Jewish Music Festival and New Center for Arts and Culture). Learn more at www.jartsboston.org.

ISRAEL AND THE MEDIA: A PUBLIC CONFERENCE

Sunday, April 3 - Olin-Sang Auditorium

Monday, April 4 - Sherman Hall, Hassenfeld Conference Center

Brandeis University

Keynote speaker Ethan Bronner, senior editor at Bloomberg News and former Jerusalem bureau chief at The New York Times, will deliver the inaugural Ilan Troen Lecture on Contemporary Israel Affairs. The program includes a roundtable discussion with leading journalists and panels on "The Changing Landscape of the Media," "Israeli Media and Portrayal of the Conflict," and "Coverage of Israel by Jewish Newspapers."

ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL AND HIS ROLE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLES OF THE 1960S

Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Mandel Reading Room, Mandel Center for the Humanities, Brandeis University

For more information, please see <http://www.brandeis.edu/israelcenter/newsevents/spring2016.html>.

Membership

CDT MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE

by Elliot Pittel, Team Captain

The CDT Softball Season kicks off our 10th anniversary season with two exciting games in April. The Tzedekmen open on the road against Temple Reyim in Newton Lower Falls on April 10. Our home opener is the following week, April 17, when Temple Israel-2 from Natick makes a visit to Forte Field. Both games start at 10 am.



David Shumsky, Elliot Pittel, James Kaplan and David Lobron, part of the men's chesed skit. David: "To get more men involved, we need to make chesed more competitive." Elliot: "I didn't know chesed was co-ed."

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

Melanie Adler and Andy Cohen

Sarah Birkeland and Roy Edelstein

Kate DeBethune

Sunny and Meier Feld—*In honor of Marjorie Nan Feld becoming a full professor at Babson College*

Nancy Gertz—*In honor of Cindy-Shulak Rome's specialness*

Sandy Goodman—*In memory of Rachel Jeanne Lehr*

Sharon Gorberg—*In memory of my beloved father George L. Gorberg*

Martha and Elliot Helfand—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Steffi and Eric Karp

Jennifer Levine-Fried and Matthew Fried

Jody Mazur and David Banyai—*In celebration and in memory of Gina Michelle Fried, such a light*

Lissy Medvedow and Cliff Cohen—*In memory of Lucille Feinstein*

Gertrude Nemeth and Rachel Nemeth Cohen—*In memory of Leonard I. Cohen*

Marilyn and Neil Port—*In memory of beloved wife and mother, Gina Fried*

Sharon Sevransky—*In memory of Helen Sevransky*

Erica Streit-Kaplan and James Kaplan

Deborah Waber—*In honor of good friends*

CAMP JRF FUND

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ellie Goldberg—*In memory of Gina Fried*

SCHOOL FUND

RETREAT FUND

HOLY BOOKS FUND

JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Ellie Axe—*In memory of Gina. Sending love and prayers to Toba, Zachary and Zoe.*

Marjorie Feld and Michael Fein—*In loving memory of Gina Fried*

Elisa Goldberg and Stephen Weinberg—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Allison and Ezra Hausman—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Judy Hersh—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Rabbi Adam Lavitt and Alex Weissman—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Michael Luckens and Sharon Schumack—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Marion Ross—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Rev. Mark Seifried—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Eve and Ken Shulak—*In memory of Gina Fried*

Sheila Weinberg and Maynard Seidman—*In memory of Gina Fried, beloved wife of Rabbi Toba Spitzer. May her memory be a blessing.*

BUILDING FUND

Chesed

The Chesed Committee would like to thank everyone who did acts of Chesed last month.

Chesed (Loving-Kindness) is an important CDT community value. The Chesed Committee is dedicated to creating a caring community. We coordinate volunteers who provide a meal or other acts of support and comfort when one of our members has a major life event such as a new baby, illness, or death in the family. We post Chesed tasks online on the LotsaHelpingHands (LHH) calendar.

If you have a major life cycle event or illness or injury, please email President **Jen Kaplan** (jenkap12@gmail.com).

The Chesed Coordinators for April and May are **Debby Saltzman** and **Eileen Morrison**. Please contact them at chesed@dorsheitzedek.org.

Sign up for **LotsaHelpingHands** at <http://tinyurl.com/SignUpLHH>
Forgot your LHH password? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/GetPsWrdLHH>

REFUAH SH'LEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to **Ruby Cohen**.

Yahrzeit

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>.

Learning

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, 8:30-9:15 am

60 Highland Street, Library

This weekly gathering combines guided and silent meditation to develop our capacity for mindful awareness, and to help us cultivate qualities of patience, gratitude, and compassion. On the first Thursday of each month, **Karen Arnold** will lead a meditation based on the weekly Torah portion. On the second Thursday of each month, **Rabbi Toba Spitzer** will incorporate chant (the singing of simple Hebrew phrases from liturgical and biblical texts) as well as mindfulness meditation. At other sessions, **Carole Slipowitz** and other CDT members will facilitate the meditation. All are welcome, whether experienced in meditation or not.

No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! For more information, please contact mindful-mornings@dorsheitzedek.org. All are welcome.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

with Dr. Sanford Goldfless

Meets Weekly September through May at Participants' Homes (Cost: \$15 per session. Fee can be reduced based on what you feel comfortable with).

In this class we get familiar with the Jewish Bible (the Tanach or Torah, Prophets and Writings) by reading it in English and dis-

cussing 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 converse about the course of Jewish history. The class is interactive, low key and open to all Dorshei Tzedek members and their friends. For more information contact **Stan Fleischman** at: stanfma@gmail.com.



Sam Williams, who directs a statewide youth violence reduction initiative and teaches at Wheelock College, spoke on the bimah on March 26 about his experience with incarceration and afterward. He then joined CDT members for lunch.

CDT Calendar

April 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 2 All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck Candle lighting and dinner 6:00pm Service 6:45pm
3 Religious School Classes for Alef-Zayin 9:30am to 12:00pm 5th Annual Boston Jewish Food Conference 12:00pm to 7:00pm CDT Board Meeting 7:00pm to 9:00pm	4	5 Religious School Classes for Gim-mel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	6 “CDT Exploring the Bible” 2:00pm to 4:00pm CDT Executive Board Meeting 7:30pm	7 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	8	9 Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm Tot Shabbat 10:45am to 12:00pm
10 Religious School Classes for Nitzanim-Zayin (Pre-school-Gr.7) 9:30am to 12:00pm CDT Men’s Softball 10am	11	12 Religious School Classes for Gim-mel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	13 “CDT Exploring the Bible” 2:00pm to 4:00pm	14 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	15	16 Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45am to 9:40am Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm CDT Film Club 6:00pm
17 CDT Men’s Softball 10am	18	19	20 “CDT Exploring the Bible” 2:00pm to 4:00pm	21 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	22	23 Shabbat Morning Passover Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
24	25	26 Religious School Classes for Gim-mel, Dalet and Hey/Vav (Gr. 3-6) Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	27 “CDT Exploring the Bible” 2:00pm to 4:00pm	28 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	29	30 Shabbat Morning Passover Service & Yizkor 9:45am

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.

KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

Erev Shabbat, April 1: Mark Yurkofsky/
Phoebe Cushman/Theresa St. John-Siegel/
Todd Carmody

Shabbat, April 2: Ellen Hemley & Mark
Bronstein/Susan Nitkin & Jeffrey Marcus

Shabbat, April 9: Diana Perretta (*in mem-
ory of my husband and parents*) / Peter
Shapiro / Richard Cohen / Fran Malino

Shabbat, April 16: Barbara (*in memory of
Edith Bushman*) & Elliot Pittel / Stephanie &
Nem Hackett

Shabbat & Passover, April 23: Ruth Paris/
Miriam Bronstein

Shabbat & Passover, April 30: Gail Press-
berg/Lisa Chedekel & Isabel Morais/Mar-
cia Okun

Kiddush Note: The complete kiddush and
holiday assignment schedule is available
in the members' calendar on our website.
When notified of your dates, please be sure
to put them into your personal calendars.
The whole congregation counts on your
participation in kiddush and each assigned
person is needed and expected to show up.

**Parents of students in 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th
grades,** who generally help out with B'nei
Mitzvah kiddush, ushering and sanctuary
clean-up, can primarily find their names
listed on B'nei Mitzvah dates.

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

Religious School Notes

INCLUSION AT CDT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: EXCITING PLANS FOR 5777 SCHOOL YEAR

By Alison Lobron, Interim Religious School Director

Inclusion, in the broadest sense of the word,
is at the core of our Dorshei Tzedek com-
munity. Besides being an important value to
our synagogue community as a whole, inclu-
sion is also a critical piece of our Religious
School.

There are 65 stu-
dents enrolled in our
Religious School. Of
these, at least twelve
have documented
special needs and re-
ceive support services
in their regular school
settings. After taking a
close look at our stu-
dent population, and
our current resources,
we determined that
this area needs spe-
cific attention.

There is a lot of energy in the wider Jew-
ish community right now around address-
ing the needs of individuals with disabili-
ties. We are fortunate to live in a time and
place where there are resources, in the form
of both consulting and grants, available to
help with this work.

We submitted two grants this winter: to
Gateways: Access to Jewish Education and
to the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Proj-
ect. Gateways does amazing work around
providing access to Jewish education to stu-
dents with disabilities. They run their own
Religious School and Bar/Bat Mitzvah tu-
toring program. In addition, the Gateways
staff consists of very experienced educators
who provide consulting and staff develop-
ment to most of the Jewish preschools, day

schools, and supplementary schools in our
area.

The Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project
(RSIP) is a new partnership between the Ru-
derman Family Foundation and Combined
Jewish Philanthropy. RSIP provides support

and access to a very active
network of synagogues in
promoting inclusion in all
aspects of synagogue life.

I'm delighted to report
that we have received
funding from *both* orga-
nizations! This funding
will be channeled into the
Religious School in order
to create a new position
titled Inclusion Coordina-
tor. The goals for this new
position are as follows:

“Inclusion, in the
broadest sense
of the word, is at
the core of our
Dorshei Tzedek
community”.

1. Create the infrastructure needed for in-
clusion—specifically around parent-school
communication
2. Broaden staff development to include
classroom/behavior management, as well as
differentiated instruction
3. Provide the support needed by all students
to participate in Jewish ritual life in a way
that is meaningful for them—specifically
class “Siyyumim” (celebrations of learning)
and Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation
4. Work with school leadership to make
whole-school programs accessible to all
learners

It is our hope that with the creation of this
new position, we will continue our efforts
to strengthen our Religious School program
for all our students.

If you have questions, concerns or feedback about the CDT Religious
School and would like to connect with the parent-run Children's
Education Committee, feel free to email CEC@dorsheitzedek.org
or reach out to any of us individually: Erica Streit-Kaplan (Chair),
Andy Stefano, Audra Karp, Becca Gutman, Emily Shumsky &
Tania Mireles.



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland St.
West Newton, MA 02465



Address correction requested



Purim 2016

