



# Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Iyar/Sivan 5777 May 2017

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465  
617-965-0330 | [www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org) | [info@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:info@dorsheitzedek.org)

## Blessing the Day

by Jen Kaplan, President



IN "THE ART OF BLESSING THE DAY,"  
Marge Piercy writes:

*Attention is love, what we must give  
children, mothers, fathers, pets,  
our friends, the new, the woes of others.  
What we want to change we curse and then  
pick up a tool. Bless whatever you can  
with eyes and hands and tongue. If you  
can't bless it, get ready to make it new.*

I love this part of the poem. Attention is needed for so many things. We can curse those issues in the world that trouble us, and yet, ultimately, we also can be part of the change. "Pick up a tool," "make it new"—these are both her instructions and ones valued by many in our community.

As we know, there is much brokenness in our world—people, discrimination, the "isms", substance abuse, governments that fail their people, consumable items made not to last—and the question remains: how do we deal with that brokenness?

I came upon a beautiful Japanese art tradition called kintsugi (or kintsukoroi) which restores a broken cup, plate, or bowl by embracing its full history. Omid Safi writes,

*"Rather than disguising the damage, they illuminate the cracks  
with gold, silver, or platinum. The result is often more beautiful*



*than the unblemished original. We value success, wholeness. Unlike this Japanese art form, we don't yet have a way of looking for what was once broken and has been healed and illuminated. How lovely would it be to find that a cracked and illuminated cup can be even more beautiful than*

*a whole cup. How wise to realize that the broken hearts, illuminated and made whole, can be even lovelier."*

*continued on next page*



CDT members at the 2015 Mother's Day Walk for Peace. Join this year's 21st Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace - details on page 7.

### INSIDE:

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

This led me to think about the value of our community at Dorshei Tzedek. We cannot heal every societal ill, but we *can* sit with a friend while she is undergoing chemotherapy. We can make a meal for someone in his or her time of joy (a new baby) or sadness (death of a family member). We can listen and hold a friend's hand while she is struggling to get through a difficult time in her life. Do these actions heal the cracks? I would say, "yes." Showing up and expressing our concern can be, and is, an act of healing; sometimes, just our presence is enough.

There are larger challenges that need us to "pick up our tools." Can one person make a difference? I categorically believe "yes"—but are we more powerful in a group? Without a doubt. Look at the influence in the Boston area of GBIO of which Dorshei Tzedek is a big part. The Tikkun Olam committee projects have included prison reform, health care, and human rights, to name just a few.

On a smaller scale, one of the things that I have striven to create during my presidency

at CDT is shared leadership. Yes, I have been the President for almost two years, but I do not lead this community alone. There is a wonderful executive board—**Melanie Adler, Lisa Schneier, Cliff Cohen, Lissy Medvedow, Doron Gan, and Ellen Hemley**—who have worked tirelessly. There are board members—**Susan Silberberg, Jen Levine-Fried, Ruth Paris, Barry Ehrlich, Nancy Gertz, and Steve Zisk**—who give of their time and expertise. There are committee chair people and members who function seamlessly and do important work to help our CDT community, in ways that are often unseen.

All of us, whether our actions are small or big, make an impact in the healing of our world. As it is written in Pirkei Avot (a book of ethical teachings from Mishnaic period rabbis), "it is not incumbent upon you to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it."

Let us bless each day and get ready to make it new.

**AS WE KNOW, THERE IS MUCH BROKENNESS IN OUR WORLD—PEOPLE, DISCRIMINATION, THE "ISMS", SUBSTANCE ABUSE, GOVERNMENTS THAT FAIL THEIR PEOPLE, CONSUMABLE ITEMS MADE NOT TO LAST—AND THE QUESTION REMAINS: HOW DO WE DEAL WITH THAT BROKENNESS?**

## 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

Director of Congregational Learning: Rabbi Shahar Colt

Administrative Director: Marla Lichtman

Administrative Assistant: Lidia Prunte

Inclusion Coordinator: Alison Lobron

### Executive Committee

President: Jen Kaplan

First Vice President: Lissy Medvedow

VP Finance: Cliff Cohen

VP Membership: Melanie Adler

VP Education: Lisa Schneier

VP Leadership: Ellen Hemley

Secretary: Doron Gan

Past President: Allison Hausman

### Board Members-at-Large:

Susan Silberberg, Jen Levine-Fried, Barry Ehrlich, Ruth Paris, Nancy Gertz

### Off-Board Chairs

Children's Education: Andy Stefano

Chesed: Debby Saltzman and Dianne Lior

Communications: TBA

Nediv Lev: Mark Paley and John Carroll

Newsletter: John Holohan

Ritual: Marion Ross and Laurie Goldman

Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome

Space: Ezra Hausman

Tikkun Olam: Bonnie Tenneriello and Abby Cohen

Website: Dan Halbert

Welcoming: Melanie Adler and Allison Hausman

## 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](mailto:cbsrome@comcast.net).

## Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and photos to [dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org) by the 10th of the month for the following month's issue.

**Volunteer Staff:** John Holohan (chair), Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Barry Ingber, Barbara Pittel, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Michael Singer, Amy Westebbe.

# Shabbat & Holidays

## ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, May 5 - FINAL DATE before the Retreat and July break

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

All are welcome to join us for this special all-ages erev Shabbat service, which will be co-led by students in our Kitah Dalet class! Candle-lighting and potluck vegetarian dinner begins at 6 pm (please bring a veggie main dish/salad to share, enough for at least 15 people), with a service at 6:45 pm.

## SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday mornings, May 13, June 10

8:45-9:40 am, 60 Highland Street, Library

All are welcome to explore the weekly Torah portion, with commentaries both traditional and modern. No text study experience necessary! Bring your own caffeinated beverage.

## BAT MITZVAH OF MAYA GARG

Saturday, May 6

Please join us as our daughter Maya Neelam Garg is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Maya is a seventh grader at Brown Middle School in Newton where she enjoys learning and participating in school musicals and plays. Maya loves to dance and spend time with her dog, Toby. In addition, she plays piano and volunteers as an assistant in the Spotlighters Program which is part of Newton Athletes Unlimited. Please join us for a festive Kiddush lunch after the service.

—Lori and Pushkal Garg

## TOT SHABBAT

Saturday, May 13

See Shabbat Unplugged schedule below.

## SHAVUOT

Tuesday evening, May 30-31,

8:15 pm-4:15 am

Congregation Kehillath Israel,  
384 Harvard Street, Brookline

Shavuot is the holiday when we celebrate receiving Torah by staying up until the wee

## SHABBAT UNPLUGGED

Friday and Saturday, May 12-13

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel called Shabbat a “palace in time”—25 hours set aside to refrain from “doing” and experience just “being.” While every Shabbat is an opportunity to “unplug” from all the things that keep us distracted, worried, or too busy during the week, over this Shabbat we encourage everyone, kid and adults, to “unplug” from something—the TV, phone, computer, social media, commerce, work—and “plug into” the simple joys of a walk in the woods, a meal with family or friends, a nap, or one of the following activities!

### FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 12 - SHABBAT POTLUCKS

Don't miss this chance to sign up for this year's final round of Erev Shabbat community dinners! Usher in Shabbat with other members of CDT. To sign up for a dinner, in a variety of neighborhoods on a variety of themes, go to the “Sign-ups” section in the Members' area of <http://dorsheitzedek.org/>

### SHABBAT MORNING, MAY 13

Bike to shul! Shabbat is traditionally a day to avoid mechanized travel, so here's an opportunity to bike or walk to CDT. If you are interested in joining a group of CDTers biking together, please contact Rabbi Shahar at [dcl@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dcl@dorsheitzedek.org).  
**Torah study, 8:45 am**—all are welcome to join Rabbi Toba for an exploration

hours to learn! This year we are once again celebrating with the Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot, joining Jewish communities from throughout the greater Boston area for an evening of learning Torah of all sorts—from text study to cooking to music to conversation about social justice and more. Stay tuned for details.

of Parshat Emor, which includes a discussion of the counting of the omer, the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

**Shabbat morning services, 9:45 am–noon**—Come celebrate Shabbat with song, silence, prayer, and Torah study. Services this morning will be co-led by students in Kitah Vav.

**Tot Shabbat, 10:45 am–noon**—Families with children ages 2-5 are welcome to this musical, fun Shabbat morning activity for young children! This will be the final Tot Shabbat program of the year.

**Shabbat afternoon**—take a walk, or a nap, or hang out and schmooze! Then come close out Shabbat with...

### HAVDALLAH ON THE WATER

6 pm-9 pm, at the Fisher/Gomberg home in Newton

Bring Shabbat to a close with a potluck dinner and boating on the Charles River! Bring a veggie main dish to share, and a kayak or canoe if you have one (there will be boats available as well, so it's fine if you don't). The hosts will provide drinks and desserts. Everyone can eat and/or paddle around; then, at 8:15 pm, the group will head out onto the water for a floating havdallah ceremony! (In case of rain, dinner and havdallah will happen indoors). Please RSVP by May 10 to [dfgomberg@gmail.com](mailto:dfgomberg@gmail.com) (RSVP is important in order to have enough boats available).

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).

# CDT Events

## CDT VISIT TO THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

### “MEMORIES UNEARTHED: PHOTOGRAPHY FROM THE LODZ GHETTO”

Sunday, May 7, 3:30-5:00 pm

Rabbi Shahar will lead a group for CDT members through the exhibit. For more information visit: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/memory-uneearthed>. For more information, please contact Rabbi Shahar, [del@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:del@dorsheitzedek.org). RSVP required.

## CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, May 6, at the home of JoAnn and Michael Feldstein

Potluck at 6:00 pm; movie starts at 7:00 pm, to be followed by a group discussion

**The Kind Words** (2015, 118 min., Hebrew, French )

*While mourning their mother's death, Jewish siblings Dorona, Netanel, and Shai learn that the man who raised them isn't their biological dad. The news soon sends them on a quest across France to find their real father—who happens to be a Muslim.*—Netflix

Feel free to come for any part of the evening. If you're coming to the potluck, please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share (in consideration of members with dietary

constraints, if you are making a dish with dairy or wheat that can be added later, ie. salad with cheese or croutons, please keep separate). Due to space constraints, this event is for members and their families.

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

## CDT RETREAT—FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 2-4, 2017

Camp Yavneh, NH

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - May 15

The fabulous CDT retreat is coming, with activities for all ages, and a wonderful opportunity to meet other folks in the CDT community. Find more information and a link to the online registration at: <https://dorsheitzedek.org/retreat>. If you have any other questions please contact **Allison Andrews** at [drarandrews@gmail.com](mailto:drarandrews@gmail.com).

## HIKE WITH CDT

Saturday, May 20, 1:00 pm (carpool from CDT), 1:30 pm (hike)

Upcoming dates: June 24, July 16

Our Saturday, May 20 hike will be back at the Middlesex Fells Reservation, where we will attempt to hike the entire 6.9 mile Skyline Trail before sunset. (If it gets late, we'll take an alternate route out). The hike should take about 5 hours; the terrain will be variable, but in general you should expect a reasonably strenuous afternoon with several rocky ascents.

A map is available at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/fells.pdf>. Details about the Skyline Trail are available at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/recreate/fells-hikes-rides.pdf>.

We will caravan/carpool from CDT at 1:00 pm; or, meet us at 1:30 pm at the Long Pond parking area on South Border Road on the west side of the reservation. Parking is tight; carpooling is encouraged. Dogs are allowed, but they will need to be on leash.

As always, please wear sturdy shoes, dress in layers and bring a water bottle. And, as always, no RSVP is necessary—just show up!

Questions? Contact **Diana**, [dfgomborg@gmail.com](mailto:dfgomborg@gmail.com); **Richard**, [richardgomborg@gmail.com](mailto:richardgomborg@gmail.com); **Marc**, [marc@metaphasia.com](mailto:marc@metaphasia.com), or **Stuart**, [SLS@SnyderLegal.com](mailto:SLS@SnyderLegal.com).

# Community Events

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS FOR GREATER BOSTON RESIDENTS

The Combined Jewish Philanthropies Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for financial aid for the 2017-2018 academic year. The Committee awards financial assistance to financially needy undergraduate students whose permanent address is in a CJP service community.

Aid is in the form of a grant or an interest-free loan. The average award is \$3,200-\$3,700. Awards are based on documented financial need. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2017 for Fall 2017 freshman.

For more information concerning eligibility requirements or for an application, please go CJP Scholarship Fund page [www.jvs-boston.org/jvs-boston-article/121-cjp-scholarship-committee](http://www.jvs-boston.org/jvs-boston-article/121-cjp-scholarship-committee), call (617) 399-3145, or email [scholarship@jvs-boston.org](mailto:scholarship@jvs-boston.org).

# Community

## TEEN CHILD CARE HELPERS NEEDED AND A CALL FOR SMALL KIDS!

**Be a part of the reason CDT is a great place for families with small children!**

Are you a teen who would like to make a meaningful contribution to the CDT community and earn some money? We are currently looking for a few more teens to sign on as caregivers for small children during Shabbat services on Saturday mornings and for various other events throughout the year. This is a great chance to gain working experience, get to know more members of the community, and make a difference in the lives of our very youngest members and guests! If you are in middle or high school and are interested, please contact **Kate de Bethune**, [kdebethune@gmail.com](mailto:kdebethune@gmail.com), for more information.

**How can your small child make a contribution to the CDT community?**

Bring them to services on June 10th!!

Curious?

CDT will be giving our teen childcare providers a training session during Shabbat services on June 10th. We would like to ensure we have enough toddlers and preschoolers (18 months to age 5) to make for a rich learning experience.

Our teens and tots will be working with Barbra Kidd, a teacher at the Children's Corner childcare center at Newton Wellesley Hospital. Barbra also runs the babysitting certification courses at NWH. She is a wonderful person and session should be fun for everyone!!

Please consider bringing your small children on June 10th from 10:00am to 12:00pm! **Contact Kate de Bethune** ([kdebethune@protonmail.com](mailto:kdebethune@protonmail.com)) with any questions.

## MAZEL TOV

To **Elaine Bresnick**, on her marriage to Alan Cushing, and daughter **Anna's** marriage to Jesse Kosiba!

To the **Caputo** family, on Abby's becoming a Bat Mitzvah!

To **Haralie Alpert**, on the birth of her grandson, Tzal Francis Alpert!

## YAHARZEIT

This month we remember CDT founding member **Jill Volk**, on the occasion of her 10th yahrzeit, which falls this year on May 13. We will be remembering Jill at Shabbat morning services on May 13.

## REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings for complete healing to **Jacqui Bloomberg**, **Thea Breite**, **Charlene Brotman**, **Dan Karp**, **Lissy Medvedow**, **Susan Moser**, and **Jaime and Susana Wurzel**.

## CONDOLENCES

To **Maya Townsend** and **Robin Bernstein**, on the death of Maya's mother, Janis Barbara Lubawsky Townsend; 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 <http://dorsheitzedek.org/sites/default/files/managed/mourning-2010.pdf>.

## NEW MEMBERS

We give a hearty CDT welcome to the following new members:

**Rebecca Herst** and **Daniel Lesser**

## TODAH RABBAH

A huge todah rabbah to **Mark Bronstein**, for all his work setting up the new speakers in the CDT sanctuary!

A heartfelt todah rabbah to **Linda Hsu**, for being our Seder Matchmaker this year!

**Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with Shabbat set-up/clean-up in March and April:**

**Madeline Steinberg** and **Mitch Feuer**—in memory of Glenda Feuer, **Allison** and **Ezra Hausman**, **Peter Shapiro**, **Shirley Milgrom**—*in memory of Esther and Louis Milgrom*, **Reva Kasman**, **Mike McEwan**, **Ellen Pashall**, **Elaine Landes**, **Barbara Shatkin**, **Fran Malino**, **Linda Hsu**, **Linda Kramer**, **Barbara Shatkin** and **Andrew Littman**, **Elizabeth Ferrenz** and **Jenny Siegel**, **Abby Schwartz**, **Daniel Reeves**, **Carolyn Fine**—*in memory of Sara Fine* and **Jerry Friedman**—*in memory of Pepi & Mark Friedman*, **Laya Steinberg**—*in memory of Victor Steinberg* and **Bruce Miller**

Please notify the Newsletter of life cycle events, significant accomplishments, or other moments you would like to share with the community.

## SUPPORT CDT THROUGH AMAZON.COM

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

# Learning

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT LEARNING

### ADOPTION IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY—WITH JENNY SARTORI

*Sunday, May 7, 10:20-11:40 am*

*JCDS (57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown)*

An exciting new component of this year's Sunday morning program is that we are hosting a series of programs open to all adults (and teens, too!) in the community. All are welcome for this final Sunday Morning program of 5777.

## 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, helping us

cultivate qualities of patience, gratitude, clarity and compassion. All are welcome, whatever your level of experience (or lack thereof!). No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! For more information, please contact [mindful-mornings@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:mindful-mornings@dorsheitzedek.org).

## SPRING TALMUD CLASS REPORT-BACK

**by Diane Yates, Diana Perretta, Haralie Alpert, and Helaine Carroll**

CDT offered a Talmud class as part of the spring offerings for adult learning with Rabbi Shahar. The experience was positive for those of us who were new to the course and those returning to the class, which was offered last Fall.

Rabbi Shahar delivered content, historical context, analysis, and analysis of the analysis...and skillfully kept us on track! Rabbi

Shahar was a great teacher and selected excellent texts to read. We all were challenged as well as guided to higher level thinking. The class helped us understand the people who wrote the Talmud, their times, and their thinking.

We examined a section from the Babylonian Talmud, Tractate Bava Metzia, which focused on damages. We attempted to understand the rabbis' perspectives on verbal damage through stories of financial transactions and donkeys, and one central story about Rabbi Eliezer. We learned that our interpretations, sometimes in left field, took on a life of their own and, magically, led us back to the main theme of damages, or, in this specific case, verbal damage.

Thank you for the offering, CDT! We look forward to more and encourage anyone curious to join us!

## YOVEL: 50 YEARS

This spring marks the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War and the beginning of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. In Jewish tradition, the 50-year cycle of Yovel (Jubilee) is an opportunity to re-set national priorities and to enact "release"—from oppression, from inequality, from the ways in which the past limits possibilities for the future. To mark these 50 years, we are sponsoring two educational events, open to the community, that explore both the past and the future of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict—please join us!

## JERUSALEM: DREAMS AND REALITIES

*Wednesday, May 24, 7:30pm-9pm, CDT sanctuary with Professor Sue Lanser and Rabbi Toba Spitzer*

Yom Yerushalayim 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty. At this program, Rabbi Toba will lead text study exploring the complex narrative surrounding Jerusalem in Jewish history, and Sue Lanser will share stories and insights from her experiences as a Brandeis faculty member working at Al Quds University for over a decade. She will explore the delicate relationship between East and West Jerusalem, describe the ways in which the occupation affects the daily lives of the city's Palestinian residents, and identify some inspiring paths toward creating a Holy City of justice and peace.

## WOMEN WAGE PEACE: A NEW APPROACH

*Saturday, June 10, 6:30-9:00 pm (dinner included), 60 Highland Street*

*with Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum of Women Wage Peace*

At this Shabbat evening/Havdallah program, marking the 50th anniversary of the end of the Six-Day War, we will enjoy Middle Eastern food and learn about the work of one of the most exciting developments in the movement to find a just and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum will share with us the growth and impact of Women Wage Peace, and we will present her with the quilt squares that our members have been making this year for WWP's "Piece by Peace" project.

Women Wage Peace (WWP) is a unique grassroots movement founded in Israel just after the 2014 Gaza War/Operation Protective Edge. Its one goal is to bring

*continued on page 7*

# Tikkun Olam

## CDT VOTES TO BECOME A “LEVEL 2” SANCTUARY

by Bob Warren

After a membership-wide discussion process, the CDT Board of Directors unanimously voted to establish the congregation as a “Level 2 Sanctuary” for immigrants under threat of imminent deportation.

A Level 2 Sanctuary designation means that CDT is agreeing to participate within a cluster of other houses of worship in Newton to support a Level 1 Sanctuary. Although we will not be housing an immigrant or immigrant family, we will be committing volunteer participation along with members of other synagogues, churches, and mosques, to provide a myriad of support services and tasks for a family housed in a Level 1 sanctuary in Newton.

The purpose of the Sanctuary commitment is both to give support to an immigrant or immigrant family in need as an act of Chesed and to participate in a national movement to change the narrative about immigrants living in our community and country as a whole. Our commitment to sanctuary would be public. It must be stated that no individual member of the Congregation is obligated to participate in this volunteer effort.

Through the leadership of our Tikkun Olam committee, some of whom have participated in several trainings about Sanctuary, the Congregation has learned and discussed the importance and merits of

sanctuary. We have discussed and studied the legal implications of sanctuary as well. The Board determined, after receiving feedback from the membership, the Massachusetts Community Action Network (MCAN), and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), to vote in favor of this effort.

CDT may never be asked to provide Level 2 Sanctuary support. However, our commitment to join over 800 other faith-based institutions nationwide in a sanctuary pledge is a strong statement in solidarity with the immigrant community in the United States to stand up against the anti-immigrant sentiment developing in the country.

For more information about this effort, please contact **Bonnie Tenneriello** or **Abby Cohen** from the Tikkun Olam Committee.

## PRISON BOOK PROGRAM BOOK DONATION PROJECT

*Tuesday, May 2, 6:30-9:00 pm*

CDT members will be volunteering at the Prison Book Program on Tuesday, May 2, from 6:30-9:00 pm. We travel to the program in Quincy Center by T and carpool. Volunteers select books from a collection of donated books that meet prisoners' written requests, and package books up for mailing. If interested in volunteering, please go to the Prison Book Program sign-up in the Members section of the CDT website. Questions? Email **Barbara Shatkin** at **bfshatkin@aol.com**.

## 21ST ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

*Sunday, May 14th, 8:30 am-12:00 pm*

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14th, please join CDT as we support the work of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute and participate in the 21st Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace. Last year CDT had over 70 participants working their way through the city from Fields Corner to Boston City Hall.

Everyone who walks is asked to register online. Registration information and details about the walk can be found on the CDT website, <https://dorsheitzedek.org/mothers-day-walk-for-peace>. This year, each person is asked to pay a registration fee of \$10 in addition to any other donations collected. While one of the goals of the walk is to raise money for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, the larger goal is to raise awareness of the problem of violence in these neighborhoods just miles from our own and to demand dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder.

The religious school will also be participating in the walk so that we can support the belief that “in unity, there is healing.” More information will be coming through email. If you have any questions, please contact **Abby Cohen** at **abby.cohen@verizon.net** or **Rabbi Shahar Colt** at **dcl@dorsheitzedek.org**.

---

“Yovel” *continued from page 6*

about the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in a manner that is non-violent, respectable, and agreeable to both Israelis and Palestinians, within four years. WWP has grown in the past 28 months from a handful of women who came together agreeing that enough is enough to over 13,000 registered members in Israel, hundreds of activists who work on a volunteer basis day and night, and more than 36,000 followers and supporters worldwide. WWP

reaches out to women across Israeli society, from all parts of the political spectrum—Arab and Jewish, religious and secular—and from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds. The movement's demand for a change in national priorities has begun to resonate deeply with tens of thousands of women who refuse to accept that future generations in this region must live indefinitely by the sword.

*Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum is a 2008 graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College who made aliyah in 2013; in addition to helping to build up the new Israeli movement “Women Wage Peace,” she continues as project manager and co-editor for Jewish Women International's Holiday Guides and as an active member of its Clergy Task Force on Intimate Partner Violence.*

# 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.

## NEDIV LEV CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Each year CDT members contribute "from the heart" to the Nediv Lev campaign. Our Nediv Lev target is \$75,000, which is about 13% of this year's CDT budget. These funds help support events and programs that engage all members of our growing congregation, and also help us come together as an inclusive and thoughtful community to respond to our local, national and global challenges. We are two-thirds of the way to our goal—thank you to everyone who has donated thus far! If you have not yet had a chance to make your Nediv Lev contribution, you can use the form at <https://dorsheitzedek.org/members/nediv-lev-online-pledge-form> or look under "giving" on the CDT website. If you have any questions or comments, contact one of the Nediv Lev Co-chairs, **Mark Paley**, [mark.paley@gmail.com](mailto:mark.paley@gmail.com), or **John Carroll**, [jcarroll@mit.edu](mailto:jcarroll@mit.edu).

## WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS.

### GENERAL FUND

**Melanie Adler** and **Andy Cohen**  
**Michele Arons** and **Michael Brann**—*in memory of Donald Baish*  
**Ellie Baron** and **Kate DeBethune**  
**Robin Bernstein** and **Maya Townsend**—*in memory of the life of Janis Barbara*

*Lubawsky Townsend, who passed on 3/23/17*

**Susan Bernstein**

**Elaine Bresnick**—*in honor of the marriage of Anna Bresnick and Jesse Kosiba; in honor of the marriage of Elaine Bresnick and Alan Cushing*

**Miriam Bronstein**—*in honor of Rabbi Toba and the Tikkun Olam Committee*

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

**Abby Cohen** and **Stuart Snyder**

**Becky Cohen** and **Jake Weinberg**—*in memory of Charles Galloway*

**Janice Cole**

**Marla Cummins**

**Phoebe Cushman** and **Joel Auslander**—*in honor of Mia and Sam's 5th birthday*

**Rachel Davenport** and **Mark Paley**—*in honor of Sherry Israel's 80th birthday*

**Louise Enoch** and **Alan Epstein**

**Marjorie Feld** and **Michael Fine**—*in memory of Rozzi Ilene Sperling Feld*

**Carolyn Fine** and **Jerry Friedman**

**Diana** and **Richard Fisher Gomberg**

**Jacqueline** and **Stan Fleischman**—*in memory of Gina Fried*

**Sheree Galpert**—*in memory of Susannah Zisk*

**Lauren Gibbs**—*in memory of Mara Gibbs; in thanks to all at CDT who connected with me in this process*

**Phyllis** and **Al Glazerman**

**Ellie Goldberg**—*in memory of Efrem Goldberg, Emanuel Koenigsberg, Theresa Koenigsberg and Jesse Koenigsberg*

**Lynda Goldberg** and **Joseph Bayes**—*in memory of Rose Bayes*

**Tessa Goldsmith**—*in memory of Gina Fried*

**Lisa Goodman** and **Bill Weinreb**

**Marjorie** and **Newton Greenberg**—*in honor of Celia Snyder, daughter of Abby Cohen and Stuart Snyder, for winning the Gold Medal in the National Scholarship Art and Writing Awards for her photograph*

**Ora Grodsky** and **Jonathan Rosenthal**

**Becca Gutman**

**Stephanie** and **Nem Hackett**

**Carol Hemley**

**Judy Hersch**

**Barbara Huggins Carboni**—*in memory of Tamar Bronstein, of blessed memory*

**Barry Ingber**—*in memory of Mara Gibbs*

**Sherry Katz** and **Mark Farber**

**Steffi** and **Eric Karp**

**Reva Kasman**

**Linda** and **Peter Katz**—*in memory of Lina Weiss*

**Laura** and **Joel Katz**—*in honor of Rabbi Toba; in memory of Mara Gibbs*

**Hope Kellman**

**Jeff Kichen**

**Esther Kohn**

**Alissa** and **Gerry Leonard**—*in memory of Susannah Elkin Zisk*

**Jen Levine-Fried** and **Matt Fried**

**Dianne Lior**

**Alison** and **David Lobron**

**Fran Malino**—*in memory of Eugene C. Black*

**Cindy Rivka Marshall**—*in memory of Arthur Marshall, my father*

**Amy Mazur**—*in memory of Mara Gibbs*

**Tatjana Meschede** and **Dani Krasa**—*in memory of Hana and Edgar Krasa*

**Margo Michaels**

**Shirley Milgrom**—*in memory of Esther and Louis Milgrom*

**Eileen Morrison** and **Michael Jablon**—*in memory of David, Dorothy, Al, and Betty*

**Rabbi Allison Peiser**

**Rachel** and **Chad Pytel**

**Liz Reisberg**

**Cheryl** and **Jeff Sacks**

**Mark Schafer**—*in memory of Bert Schafer*

**Sharon Sevransky** and **Jeff Goldman**

**Peter Shapiro**

**Barbara Shatkin** and **Andrew Littman**

**Emily** and **David Shumsky**—*in memory of Peter Klemperer*

**Jodie Siegel**—*in memory of Gina Fried*

**Emily Sper**—*in memory of Mara Gibbs*

**Rabbi Toba Spitzer**—*in honor of Jen Kaplan, the CDT Board, and the CDT staff*

**Theresa St. John-Siegel** and **Steve Siegel**

**Chagit Steiner** and **Tom Brown**

**Erica Streit-Kaplan** and **James Kaplan**—*in honor of Rabbi Toba and Rabbi Shahar*

**Jamie Tessler**—*in memory of my mother, Eleanor F. Licht Tessler*

**Deborah Waber**—*in memory of my father, Isadore Waber; in honor of Jo Radner's joining the Jewish people*

**Ellen White**

**Susana** and **Jaime Wurzel**—*in memory of our cousin, Rachel Goldstein*

continued on page 9

# Chesed

## OUR CARING COMMUNITY

by Ellie Goldberg

Have you checked out the Dorshei Tzedek “Chesed: Caring Community” webpage recently?

Under “Chesed Inspiration” you’ll find several articles that describe common feelings that sometimes get in the way of participating in Chesed as a giver and as a receiver. We share these articles and links to previous newsletter columns and favorite recipes as part of our ongoing effort to build connections for a caring community.

- *A Small Pot of Violets*
- *How Not to Say the Wrong Thing*
- *Accepting Meals from Strangers as Caregivers*
- *When The Time Comes: Tips For How To Visit The Dying*
- *How to Help a Friend Who’s Going Through Something Horrible*

The Chesed Coordinators for May are **Debby Saltzman** and **Dianne Lior**.



Our congregation values Chesed, acts of loving-kindness, especially when members have a major life event such as the arrival of a child, death, injury or illness.

The Chesed Committee offers Dorshei Tzedek members the opportunity to experience the joys and blessings of Chesed as both receivers and givers. The Chesed Committee coordinates tasks such as meals, grocery shopping, and transportation to a medical appointment.

We post Chesed tasks online on the Lot-saHelpingHands (LHH) calendar. We encourage emails or phone calls between the volunteers and recipient families to confirm arrangements.

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

**IF YOU HAVE A MAJOR LIFE CYCLE EVENT OR ILLNESS OR INJURY, CONTACT RABBI TOBA SPITZER AT [RABBI@DORSHEITZEDEK.ORG](mailto:RABBI@DORSHEITZEDEK.ORG) OR CALL 617-965-0330. 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 [RABBI@DOSHEITZEDEK.ORG](mailto:RABBI@DOSHEITZEDEK.ORG) OR 617-965-0330. 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.**

Nediv Lev *continued from page 8*

## CAMP JRF FUND

## RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Karen Arnold**—*in honor of Jo Radner, on the occasion of her conversion!*

**Jo Radner**—*with thanks to Rabbi Toba Bonnie Tenneriello and Andrew Sofer*

## SCHOOL FUND

## RETREAT FUND

## HOLY BOOKS FUND

## JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND


## BUILDING FUND



Happy congregants at the Goodman-Weil potluck in March

# CDT Calendar

# May 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Religious School Classes Gr. 3-6 Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	3	4 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	5 All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck Candle lighting and dinner - 6:00pm Service - 6:45pm	6 Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Maya Garg 9:45am to 12:00pm  CDT Film Club 6:00pm
7 Religious School Classes for Nitza- nim/Gan-Gr. 6 9:30am to 12:00pm Adoption in the Jewish Community 10:20am to 11:40am Visit to the MFA 3:30pm to 5:00pm CDT Sings Rehearsal 7:30pm	8	9 Religious School Classes Gr. 3-6 Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm  Ritual Commit- tee Meeting 7:30pm to 9:00pm 60 Highland St Library	10 Tikkun Olam Committee Meeting 7:30pm to 9:00pm	11 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	12 CDT Erev Shabbat Community Pot- luck Dinners CDT members' homes 6:00pm	13 Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45am to 9:40am  Shabbat Morning Service & Kitah Vav Siyyum 9:45am to 12:00pm  Tot Shabbat 10:45am to 12:00pm Room 111
14 7th/8th Grade Meeting for Mother's Day Walk All Day Mother's Day Walk for Peace 8:30am CDT Sings Rehearsal 7:00pm	15	16 Last Day Re- ligious School Classes Gr. 3-6 Meets at FUSN 3:45pm to 5:45pm	17	18 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am  GBIO Action Location TBA 7:00pm	19	20 Shabbat Morning Service & Kitah Hay Siyyum 9:45am to 12:00pm
21 Last Day Religious School Classes for Nitza- nim/Gan-Gr. 6 9:30am to 12:00pm 7th/8th Grade Meeting 5:30pm to 7:30pm CDT Board Meeting 7:00pm to 9:00pm CDT Sings Rehearsal 7:30pm	22	23	24 Jerusalem: Dreams and Realities 7:30pm to 9:00pm	25 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	26	27 Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
28	29 Memorial Day CDT Offices closed	30 Erev Shavuot Congregation Kehillath Israel 8:15pm to 4:15am	31 Shavuot: CDT Offices closed	June 1 Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am	2  CDT Retreat! June 2-4 Camp Yavneh, NH	3

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

## KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

**Erev Shabbat, May 5:** Wendy Gedanken, CAPTAIN / Emily Mathis / Jeffrey Arnold / Tessa Goldsmith

**Shabbat, May 6:** Sanctuary Cleanup: Bill Shorr / Sharon Sevransky  
Ushers: Abby & Jordan Schwartz

**Shabbat, May 13:** Becca Gutman, CAPTAIN / Susan Nitkin / Rob Saper / Miriam Bronstein

**Shabbat, May 20:** Louise Enoch, CAPTAIN & Alan Epstein / Gail Pressberg / Sheree Galpert

**Shabbat, May 27:** Stuart Snyder, CAPTAIN / Allison Peiser / Idit Klein / Margo Michaels

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

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

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

# Religious School Notes

## KITAH GIMMEL UPDATE

by Vered Brooks

This year Kitah Gimmel has been exploring the beginning of Genesis through understanding the power of partner-learning to approach challenging texts. Cheverutah (partner-learning) is a difficult concept for students, and so we have looked at how much richer our work can be when we really incorporate others' ideas and work together. We looked at how to receive others' ideas actively and how to disagree respectfully, culminating in the cooperative writing of several midrashim (stories) to explain why we cover our eyes when lighting candles on Shabbat. To help us understand the significance of the responsibility that the beginning of the Torah places on all humans, we have gotten involved with a CDT community garden, where all produce goes to the Newton food pantry and local shelters/soup kitchens. We will remain involved with the garden over the summer, and would encourage anyone interested to get involved in this wonderful project.

## "FOLLOW MY FOOTSTEPS" TALK

by Abby Caputo

Recently, Dorshei invited Rachael Cerrotti, an independent photographer, writer, and educator, to present her project: Follow My Footsteps. Follow My Footsteps documents Rachael's journey over more than a decade to piece together her grandmother's past and her displacement during World War II. Rachael attempted to immerse herself in her grandmother's story by travelling to all of the relevant places, meeting the descendants of the important people in her grandmother's life, and documenting the journey in photographs. She traveled from Kolin, to Prague, to Germany, throughout Denmark, to Sweden, and finally to America.

Rachael told her story to a group of CDT congregants with a slide show of incredible pictures she took along her journey. She spoke about her grandmother's life, the many farms she worked at in Denmark, her

treacherous boat ride across the Baltic Sea to Sweden, and her struggle to find where she belonged after years of statelessness. Rachael spoke about her relationships with the descendants of people who knew her grandmother, and who contributed to her grandmother's ultimately surviving the war.

Rachael's grandmother's story was different from most other Holocaust survival stories because she was always on the run from the war, never in the middle of it. Rachael offers a unique perspective on the story as the granddaughter of a survivor because she is telling the story through a combination of someone else's memories and her own re-creation of the story. Rachael also told CDT about twin boys, refugees from the Middle East, who she met while in Sweden. Rachael explained how these boys' stories were remarkably similar to her grandmother's. She emphasized how the refugee crisis today greatly mirrors the one that occurred in the midst of World War II, and how important it is that we do it right this time. Overall, Follow In My Footsteps is a powerful piece of art that is especially relevant in today's national and international political climate.

## CDT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, May 7, 9:30-10:30 am

JCDS (57 Stanley Ave, Watertown)

Do you know anyone who would enjoy being part of our CDT Religious School community? Please invite them to join us for our open house on Sunday, May 7, 9:30-10:30 am! Visitors will experience Z'man Rishon, attend our opening assembly, meet with Rabbi Shahar, and tour the school with members of our children's education committee. Childcare is available upon request. Please be in touch with **Rabbi Shahar** at [dcl@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dcl@dorsheitzedek.org) with any questions.



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

60 Highland St.  
West Newton, MA 02465

Address correction requested

## CDT Outdoors

**Spring is here!** Join in a hike, cheer at a softball game or Party in the Park. Check the Calendar (page 10) or the CDT Events (page 4) to keep up with everything that's happening.

