



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779

September 2018

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
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There is a Place

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer



THIS YEAR, September is filled with Jewish holidays, beginning with erev Rosh Hashanah the evening of September 9, and continuing all the way through our Simchat Torah celebration the evening of Sunday, September 30. The new year, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah—I have no idea what our ancestors were thinking when they decided to cram so many holidays into a few weeks! Yet however crazy it makes us congregational rabbis, it is powerful to move through the varied emotions and mind-states that mark these days.

Rosh Hashanah is a celebration of the beginning of a new year, yet is also called *Yom Din*, the “Day of Judgment,” as our ancestors imagined God reviewing all of Creation and judging whether to give us all another chance to get things right. A mixture of celebration and trembling, awe as well as possibility, mark this day. On Yom Kippur we confront our capacity for transgression as well as

our own mortality—heavy subjects to accompany a 25-hour fast. Yet our tradition says that we come into the day knowing that we are already forgiven by the Source of Compassion, and so our fast is a joyful one. And during Sukkot we celebrate harvest and abundance, a deep sense of having enough, by moving out of our solid houses into a rickety, impermanent structure that is open to the rain.

Celebration and apprehension; awareness of wrongdoing and of compassion; joy and fragility. This packed holiday season pushes us to understand how in the midst of paradox we can find the meaning we seek.

I am reminded of two poems I love, one by a 13th century Sufi Muslim mystic, the other a 20th century secular Jewish Israeli. Here is an interpretive translation (by Coleman Barks) of a few verses by the Persian poet Rumi:

Photo: 30 members of CDT attended GBIO candidates night in Dorchester, August 2018. Candidates for district attorney and the two democratic candidates for governor answered questions on health care, affordable housing, and justice reform. Photo by John Holohan.

*Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing [lit. “beyond religion and infidelity”],
there is a garden. I’ll meet you there.
When the soul lies down in that grass,
the world is too full to talk about.
Ideas, language, even the phrase “each other”
doesn’t make any sense.*

And “The Place Where We Are Right,” by Yehudah Amichai:

*From the place where we are right
flowers will never grow
in the spring.
The place where we are right
is hard and trampled
like a yard.
But doubts and loves
dig up the world
like a mole, a plow.
and a whisper will be heard in the place
where the ruined
house once stood.*

Rumi imagines a flowering garden of mystical union, beyond concepts of religious orthodoxy and rejection of that orthodoxy; a place where language breaks down and all is One. Amichai offers a critique of the place we inhabit where orthodoxy—of all sorts—rules; where “we are right” and entertain no doubts. His alternative vision is a garden where flowers grow, the ground tilled by “doubts and loves.”

In both of these poems I find an invitation beyond the rigid categories that limit how we think and how we relate to one another; an invitation into a spaciousness that offers something desperately needed in these difficult times. And perhaps that is what the holidays of the month of Tishrei offer us as well: an opportunity to embrace paradox, to experience a world in which judgment and compassion combine into something else, in which abundance is celebrated through simplicity, in which we can forgive ourselves and others because we understand that we are all held by the Source of Love and Compassion. I look forward to meeting you in this “place” during these holidays! *L’shanah tovah tikateivu*, may we all be written and sealed for a good and sweet sweet new year.

Rabbinic Liaison

Rabbinic Liaison Committee: The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists to ensure the maintenance of a good working relationship between Rabbi Toba 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.

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

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Rabbi Toba Spitzer
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Welcoming: Benita Danzing
Space: Jen Kaplan

Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and photos to dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org. Usually the deadline is the 10th of the month for the following month’s issue. For questions, email us at the same address.

Volunteer Staff: John Holohan (chair), Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Liz Holohan, Barbara Pittel, DB Reiff, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Amy Westebbe.

Shabbat & Holidays

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE & OPEN HOUSE

Friday, September 7

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 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; drinks and dessert provided). Services begin at 6:45pm and end with an Oneg Shabbat dessert at 7:30pm.

SHABBAT SHUVAH CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE

Saturday, September 15, 9:45am-noon

60 Highland Street

This Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is called "Shabbat Shuvah"-the Shabbat of Return/Turning. The service will incorporate song and silence, guided and silent meditation, from 9:45am-11:15am, and then Torah study from 11:15am to noon (Mourners Kaddish will be recited at the end of the service). Please join us for a reflective celebration of Shabbat and an opportunity to continue and deepen the experience of the High Holydays.



THE DAYS OF AWE

SELICHOT: TESHUVAH STORIES

Saturday evening, September 1, 8:00-10:00pm

60 Highland Street, Fellowship Hall

With Selichot, we begin our journey into the Aseret Yamei Teshuvah, the Ten Days of Turning. We kick off the High Holydays season with a Saturday evening Selichot program featuring our own stories of teshuvah. The program includes:

8:00pm Havdallah, dessert, and schmoozing.

8:20pm Teshuvah Stories, with storyteller Cindy Rivka Marshall, featuring personal stories from Doron Gan, Marion Ross, and Mark Schafer.

In the style of the "Moth" radio hour, we will hear personal stories from CDT members, and then have the opportunity to share our own stories in pairs or small groups (with the opportunity to just be a listener if you don't feel like sharing!). Our storytellers will reflect on moments of repentance, or of turnings in their own life journeys.

9:30pm Music and meditations for teshuvah, "turning/return"

Rabbi Toba and CDT member Rabbi Elaine Pollack will close the evening with song and guided meditation to help begin our journeys into the Days of Awe.

ROSH HASHANAH & YOM KIPPUR

Gann Academy in Waltham, MA

Begins on Sunday, September 9, at 8pm

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 9, at 8pm, with a musical, participatory service. For a full schedule of services and children's programming, please go to <http://dorsheitzedek.org/high-holydays>.

While we do not want finances to be an obstacle to anyone's participation, we do rely on contributions from our guests, as well as fees for childcare, to cover the considerable expense involved in our High Holydays programming. All non-members who pre-register for services will have a name tag awaiting!

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 rooms 109-110. 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).

Holidays

SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH

Sukkot is the “Festival of the Ingathering,” the Biblical harvest holiday when 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!

EREV SUKKOT

Sunday, September 23

FUUSN, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA

4:45pm Young Family Program

5:30pm Welcoming the Holiday in the Sukkah

6:00pm Potluck Sukkot Dinner

At 4:45pm, families with children 0-6 years are invited to a fun holiday program in the

sukkah. At 5:30pm, adults and kids of all ages are invited to join us for songs and blessings as we welcome the Sukkot holiday, followed by a vegetarian potluck dinner at 6pm. We’ll meet inside in case of rain. Please bring a vegetarian main dish or salad to share.

SUKKOT MORNING SERVICE

Monday, September 24, 9:30-11:30am

60 Highland Street, West Newton

All are welcome to come and shake the lulav and sing Hallel in celebration of Sukkot. No childcare provided, kids are welcome in the service.

SUKKOT HOME DINNERS

Friday, Sept. 28 & Saturday, Sept. 29

Sign-ups for CDT Potlucks - Sukkot Style - at members’ homes - will be on our website in early September! Experience the joys of eating in a sukkah, dining with friends, and celebrating the end of the harvest as a community! Prospective members welcome.

For more information, contact **Debby Saltzman** (debbysaltzman@gmail.com), CDT Community Potluck coordinator.

SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 30

60 Highland Street, West Newton

4:30-5:30pm — Young Family Celebration

Parents and kids age 0-6 are invited to sing & dance with the Torah!

7:00-9:00pm — All-ages Celebration

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, Rabbi Shahar and musicians for this musical, fun evening.

On & Off the Bimah

An occasional column from the Ritual Committee

By Fran Malino and Marion Ross

What do we think about during services on Saturday morning? And what do we do?

We asked ourselves these questions after one of our Shabbat morning services. To answer, we turned to our table-mates at our Kiddush luncheon. Here are some of the responses we received.

Many of us arrive with a desire simply to be present. For some this means singing with others, an opportunity not readily available during the week.

Others admitted to wandering minds. They found themselves listening to the rain or looking around to see who was in the sanctuary. While they questioned themselves for doing so, they realized that listening was

also a way of being present and that looking around became a way of experiencing community.

This sense of being together in a community was a recurring theme. One of us even reflected that when he returns to the siddur after his mind has wandered, he feels welcomed back—welcomed by the text and by the people around him.

The structure of the service and Rabbi Toba’s careful attention to time provided many with a feeling of safety and comfort.

The text itself, we discovered, speaks to us in a variety of ways. Some read the Hebrew with understanding. Others read only the English. Some follow the Hebrew as an exercise—to see how many words they recognize. Others enjoy reading below the line or at the back of the siddur, comfortable following Rabbi Toba’s incorporation of po-

etry and commentary. And for those who do not understand Hebrew at all, its familiar rhythms and sound provide a soothing meditative state.

Differences notwithstanding, all agreed that presence at services offers the respite we seek from the stress and noise of the week.

So what can we conclude from our Kiddush conversations?

We at CDT have varied and enriching ways of being present during Shabbat services. And for all of us, conversing around the Kiddush table continues and also extends that experience.

What do you do during Shabbat services? If you’d like to share your reflections please send them to **Fran Malino** and **Marion Ross**, for the **Ritual Committee**.

Community

INTRODUCING....MEMBERSHIP MISHIGAS

A not-quite-monthly column from the Welcoming Committee

By Sheryl Koenigsberg

As a relatively new member of CDT, and a very new member of the Welcoming Committee, I have been reflecting on last year's High Holidays, which were my first at CDT. They were lovely, joyful, and meaningful, and right away I knew our family was going to join this congregation.

And yet, there were a few things I wish I had known. Perhaps these will help you if you are new, or refresh your memory if you've attended before:

1. There is always a seat. The sanctuary may look packed to the gills, but somehow, through some Harry Potter-esque magic, the ushers find a way to seat you somewhere. If you're lucky, it may happen to be next to your favorite college professor who you hadn't known attended CDT. But even if it isn't, there is a seat for you.

2. Old habits die hard. I'm a singer; I love to belt out the prayers and psalms and songs at services. Invariably, I find myself belting out the version from the Silverman Machzor circa 1933, not our egalitarian Reconstructionist liturgy. And of course that is most often when I'm thinking I'm Celine Dion.

3. Everyone really wears white on Yom Kippur. When the website and email say that it is customary to wear white on Yom Kippur, it's not like at other congregations that say it is customary to wear white on Yom Kippur. EVERYONE WEARS WHITE! Wearing your "festive" fuchsia sweater may make you feel like a purple Manischewitz stain on the white Pesach tablecloth. Or so I hear...

4. My kid isn't going to stay in babysitting. To me, the babysitting setup looked awesome— tons of snacks, super-nice caretakers, and a Toys 'R Us liquidation sale's worth of toys and games. But when I left my daughter in babysitting, intending her to stay for two hours so I could get some prayer time, I may as well have been leaving her in

the desert for forty years. So I relented and brought her into the adult service with me, which was lovely—for thirteen minutes. At that point, babysitting suddenly became the Promised Land. I bet you can guess how long that lasted...

5. The break during Yom Kippur is lovely. I used to go home during the break and nap and feel hungry and cranky, but last year because of a car-toddler-nap situation, I was at Gann all day. It couldn't have been nicer. There was text study, a hike, tai-chi, and time to decompress. By *Ne'eilah* I felt both befriended and engaged. (OK, I was still hungry.)

And an addendum: People really, really want you to be there. The people I met last year were genuine in their welcoming me to the congregation and the holidays. That's why I chose to join the **Welcoming Committee**. If you have any questions during the holidays (or just want someone friendly to sit with) we'll be easy to spot — we'll have purple buttons that easily identify us.

Writing this, I realize how much I am looking forward to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur 5779. *L'shanah Tovah* to all.

SUKKOT POTLUCKS COMING UP!

By Debby Saltzman

Mark your calendars now for the first round of CDT Community potluck dinners, on the Friday and Saturday evenings of Sukkot, September 28th and 29th. Community potluck dinners are a great way to meet new people or reconnect with old friends. Sign-ups will open in mid-September.

If you build a sukkah and would like to host a potluck please contact **Debby Saltzman** (debbysaltzman@gmail.com).

Yahrzeit

This month, we remember CDT members **Zach Carson**, whose 11th yahrzeit falls on September 15; **Efrem Goldberg**, whose 16th yahrzeit falls on September 23; and **Shari Zimble**, whose 10th yahrzeit falls on October 3. We will remember Zach at Shabbat morning services on September 8; we will remember Efrem at Shabbat morning

services on September 22; and we will remember Shari at Shabbat morning services on September 29. May each of their memories be for a blessing.

REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings for complete healing to **Shirley Milgrom** and **Lissy Medvedow**.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to **Michael Jablon**, on the death of his sister, Barbara Alpert; 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

Welcome to new members **Sue Kline**, **Karen Rookwood**, **Zoe Stark & Jen Gup-till** (and son **Jonah**), **Jessica Morgan-Moss**, and **Zachary Kosan & Megan Fox**.

Welcome back to returning members **Cindy Bittker** and **Merav Opher**.

TODAH RABBAH

Todah Rabbah to everyone who helped with kiddush last month!

Ilana Mainelli (Captain), Theresa St. John-Siegel & Steven Siegel, Tim Caputo, Eileen Morrison & Michael Jablon (Captain), Pam & Steven Katz, Ellie Goldberg (Captain), Linda & Peter Katz, Lauren (Captain) & Andrew Stefano, Nathan Aronow, Noah Rumpf (Captain), Joshua Herzig-Marx, Hali Diecidue, Diana Perretta (Captain), Wendy & Charles Frankston

A grateful Todah Rabbah to the following CDT members who got our annual High Holydays mailing assembled and sent out. We appreciate you!

Lisa Goodwin-Robbins, Charlotte Robbins, Emily Sper, Eileen Morrison, Helaine Carroll, Ellie Goldberg, Sheree Galpert, and Phyllis Kantor.

Tikkun Olam

THINKING ABOUT ISRAEL, THINKING ABOUT PEACE

Dorshei Tzedek's Israel-Palestine Peace group (ippeace) is now under the umbrella of the new Tikkun Olam steering committee. We are happy to be coordinating our activities with other congregational initiatives to work together where our objectives converge.

The ippeace group is planning four programs for this year as well as inaugurating a study group.

- Our October program will focus on generational differences in Jewish responses to the Occupation. We will be joined for this discussion by members of the organization If Not Now.

- In December, we will hold a discussion of "Jewish Perspectives on BDS" for those who missed our program last February or who would like to continue the conversation.

- Our spring programs will explore Israeli and Palestinian experiences of and perspectives on the conflict.

We welcome all members of CDT to these programs. We take no collective position on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and seek understanding of, and across, different points of view.

We propose to host a study group this year that focuses on the question of a Jewish and Democratic Israel. We chose this topic before the passage of the Nation/State Bill but agree that it seems even more pressing now. The study group would meet three times over the course of the year and discuss readings about topics that include the role of religion in a Jewish/Democratic Israel; the rights of non-Jews in Israel; and the ways in which the question of "Jewish/Democratic" affects political solutions to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

CDT-ippeace is an active listserv for news, resources, and discussion about Israel/Palestine. If you are interested in joining the list, have any suggestions for future programs or projects, or would like to stay

informed about our proposed study group, please contact **Sue Lanser** (lanser@brandeis.edu) or any other member of the ippeace steering committee: **Louise Enoch** (lpemoch@rcn.com), **Elaine Landes** (elainefelson@gmail.com) or **Jonathan Rosenthal** (jonathan@just-works.com).

"VOTE YES" FOR DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR OUR TRANSGENDER NEIGHBORS

By Rachel Kelemen and Joshua Brown

In 2016, Massachusetts passed a landmark state law banning discrimination against transgender people in public spaces, allowing everyone to use public spaces free of discrimination. The law is about ensuring that transgender people have the same basic protections as everyone else and can live their lives with safety and dignity. This law is now under threat.

An anti-LGBT campaign has gotten a referendum to repeal the anti-discrimination law onto the November 2018 ballot. This referendum would legalize discrimination against transgender people in restaurants, hotels, doctor's offices and all other public spaces, making transgender members of our community less safe. We are mobilizing CDT members to fight this regressive ballot measure and preserve equality in our state. This is the first statewide effort opponents of equality have undertaken, and we want to make sure that Massachusetts stands strong and for equality.

Why is it so important for all of us, cis or trans, to fight this initiative? Proponents of discrimination against transgender individuals falsely claim as their principal motivation that women and children will be endangered if we continue to allow trans community members to use facilities aligned with their gender identity. These pernicious pretexts exploit public sympathy for victims of sexual violence. We must all stand up and proclaim that transgender people are not a threat and that we will not let oppressive laws be passed in our names. We owe it to our transgender friends, neigh-

bors, and children to make sure that this ballot measure is resoundingly defeated.

Unfortunately, recent polling shows that public opinion on this issue is more closely divided than we would have hoped. A WBUR poll from earlier this summer found that only 52 percent of people were in favor of keeping the current nondiscrimination law. This is too close for comfort. Furthermore, the wording of the ballot question itself is confusing. A "yes" vote means that we will keep the current law (rejecting the ballot measure), while a "no" vote means that the current law protecting transgender people will be repealed (denying their rights to use facilities corresponding to their gender identity in public). In an election where turnout is likely to be low, this confusing and closely contested ballot initiative needs voters to be educated and motivated to vote YES.

As November approaches, keep your eyes out for more information on how to become more active in this movement. In the meantime, please visit Freedom for All Massachusetts at www.freedommassachusetts.org and Keshet at www.keshetonline.org, and start talking with your friends and neighbors about how important it is to defeat this referendum.

Finally, remember-vote "Yes" for dignity and respect for all.

CDT Events

CDT FILM CLUB

The film club is on hiatus until October.

For information about the film club or if you'd like to host a film, contact the co-chairs, **Stan Fleischman** and **Emily Sper**, film-club@dorsheitzedek.org.

CDT GARDEN CONTINUES THE HONORABLE WORK OF FEEDING THE HUNGRY

By Laya Steinberg

In this our third year of growing, the CDT garden has already donated over 580 pounds of produce to the Newton Food Pantry, well on our way to match and hopefully exceed last year's total of 870.

Some highlights from the past few months:

- We had a large turnout for our spring cleanup which included redoing the fence around one bed, an effort to eliminate stubborn weeds
- Elliot Shumsky with the help of dad David and brother Jacob planted and weeded for his Bar Mitzvah project
- Three groups from the Running Brook Camp came to work in the garden as part of their community service project
- Kitah Gimmel planted seeds indoors, prepared the soil and planted their seedlings. Rising Gimmel students will harvest this fall and the whole upper school will participate in a Sukkot program at the garden.

We welcome newcomers—come once or all season. We will be growing and harvesting into October and then we'll need help to put the garden 'to bed' for the winter. "Many hands make light work". Join us! Email **Laya Steinberg** at lasword@rcn.com for more info.

Photos:

Top: Harvest bounty

Right, top: Elliot Shumsky (with wheelbarrow) working on his Bar Mitzvah project

Right, bottom: Lucy Caputo and Talia Cohen Weinberg tend the garden

Left: Nathan Aronow, Judy Hersh, and Doug Hersh at garden.

Photos by Laya Steinberg.



Chesed

WHAT DO THE SHIVA AND CHESED COMMITTEES DO?

By Ellie Goldberg

When there is a death in your family, the Dorshei Tzedek community and our rabbis can be a significant source of support and comfort. We recommend that you read the CDT booklet “Finding Comfort, Giving Support: A Guide to Mourning at Congregation Dorshei Tzedek” before a death occurs to learn about some of the customs and traditions. (<https://dorsheitzedek.org/mourning>)

When a family member passes away (or when death is imminent), your first step is to contact Rabbi Toba at the CDT office, 617-965-0330, or at home (listed in the members’ directory) or via email at rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org.

Rabbi Toba can help you make decisions about your needs for funeral planning, shivah, and related issues. Rabbi Toba will ask you about the need for immediate help for family members such as rides or babysitting, a meal after the funeral or a meal on an upcoming Shabbat, etc. She will then ask the Chesed Committee coordinators to contact you to get details for posting your Chesed request on the LotsaHelpingHands website.

If Rabbi Toba is out of town, you can contact Rabbi Shahar. If both she and Rabbi Toba are away, there will be another rabbi “on call” or you can contact the CDT President. Our Shivah committee (**Judy Herzig-Marx**, **Amy Mazur**, and **Nancy Gertz**) will also be available to help arrange for shiva minyan leaders and getting the prayer books to your home.

September Chesed Coordinators are **Annette Jacobs**, **Dianne Lior**, and **Elaine Landes**. If you have requests, suggestions, recipes or questions, please contact them at chesed@dorsheitzedek.org.

The Chesed Committee would like to thank everyone whose acts of kindness manifest the spirit of Chesed in our community.

For more information about Chesed see the articles and resources on the CDT web page: Chesed (Caring Community) <https://dorsheitzedek.org/chesed-caring-community>.

The Chesed (Loving-Kindness) Committee coordinates our congregation’s response to a member’s life cycle event such as a birth or adoption, illness, or death.

LotsaHelpingHands (LHH) is your connection to Chesed. Join “Chesed at CDT” on the LHH website. You’ll receive requests for meals, rides, or errands and other ways you can offer a gesture of kindness.

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

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@dorsheitzedek.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 completely confidential.



Learning

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT LEARNING

These programs are held during Religious School at JCDS, 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown — see each program for times. All are welcome!

APOLOGIZING TO OUR CHILDREN

Sept. 16th, 11am-12pm

with Carla Naumburg

Join other parents to explore how to approach Yom Kippur and how to do teshuvah with your children. CDT member **Carla Naumburg** has published and speaks widely on mindfulness and parenting.

SUKKOT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sept. 23rd, 10:30-11:45am

with Laya Steinberg

What might the harvest holiday of Sukkot have to teach us about protecting the Earth? What sustainability practices can we commit to in the new year? Come learn with CDT member **Laya Steinberg**, an educator, children’s book author, and force behind the CDT Giving Garden.

PROTECTING TRANS RIGHTS IN MA!

Sept. 30th, 10:30-11:45am

with Mimi Micner of Keshet and CDT members

Keshet’s Advocacy and Campaign Specialist, rabbinical student Mimi Micner, along with CDT members, will present about the Yes on 3! campaign, seeking to protect Massachusetts laws ensuring the rights of transgender people in public spaces. Learn about the issues and how to get involved in this important ballot question.

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, 8:30-9:15am

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. This month, **Karen Arnold** will lead a meditation preparing for Rosh Hashanah on Sept. 6, and Rabbi Toba will

lead a teshuvah-themed session on September 13. Other group members will facilitate the meditation on other mornings. All are welcome, whatever your level of meditation experience (or lack thereof!).

NEW CLASS!

SHABBAT AND SUSTAINABILITY: THE RADICAL PRACTICE OF REST

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer and guest teacher
Laya Steinberg

Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm, October 11
through November 8

The practice of Shabbat, one of the fundamental pillars of traditional Judaism, can be experienced as oppressively restrictive or radically liberating. What is the meaning of Shabbat, and how do we make it relevant to

What is the meaning of Shabbat?

our lives? How can Shabbat be understood not only as a personal, spiritual experience, but also as a social-political-environmental practice? In this class we will study traditional and modern texts on Shabbat, and explore how we might develop or deepen our own Shabbat practice, as individuals and as a community.

SKETCHES OF JEWISH SPAIN

Sunday, October 21, 7pm-9pm

60 Highland Street, CDT Sanctuary

with Rabbi Toba and members of the CDT
Spain Trip

This past April, 25 CDT members joined Rabbi Toba and Rabbi Leila Gal Berner on a tour of Spain, highlighting the Jewish history of that country. At this program, members of the group will share photos and reflections on what was learned and experienced during this powerful trip. Presentations will be lively and interactive. Come join us to appreciate a sense of what it was like to be in a country with 800 hundred years of an amazing Jewish heritage which ended in 1492, and is now being revitalized by a new generation of Jews from around the world.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOTES

by Rabbi Shahar Colt

This summer we have been busy planning for the new school year and I am excited to share some updates and announcements about what we have on the horizon. I look forward to seeing everyone again soon at High Holydays, All Ages Shabbat and the beginning of CDT Religious School!

Shana Tova U'metuka — wishing you a good and sweet new year!

Staffing Update: It is exciting to report that our teaching staff this year will be full of familiar faces, with only three staff people who are totally new to the CDT school. In addition to our teachers and madrichim, we can look forward to having several specialists working in the classrooms. **Andrea Kamens** returns as our school storyteller during *z'man rishon* and leading storytelling workshops in the classes. **Tal Shalom-Kobi** will bring her beautiful music teaching, and **Laya Steinberg**, CDT Gardener extraordinaire, will be working across our community leading programs on sustainability and Judaism.

Adult and Parent Learning Programs: At the end of last year we gathered feedback about adult and parent learning topics that people were interested in, and we are excited to be able to offer diverse and deep classes. Following up on requests for more parenting related sessions similar to themes that came up in Parenting through a Jewish Lens, this year we will have open parenting related sessions, including:

- Apologizing to Your Child (pre-Yom Kippur),
- Talking to Children about God with Rabbi Toba
- Talking with children about race with CDT parent leaders
- Talking to children about death, with retired Children's Hospital Chaplain Mary Robinson

These are just a few of the program offerings. There is adult programming almost every Sunday morning, most of which are open to anyone in the CDT community,

so check out the full listing on our online calendar!

"Tots" and their Adults: Where and how do families with young children interact at Dorshei? We have been exploring this question, and thinking about how CDT can better meet these families where they're at. To that end, we have added to the calendar new holiday programming specifically for young children and their parents for Sukkot and Simchat Torah. In addition, we will have a few parent brunches hosted through the nitzanim class for families with younger children to come and meet the nitzanim families, hang out together, and get to know the program and the space. CDT member **Becca O Murchadha** will be one of our tot shabbat leaders and will be coordinating the brunches.

Jewish Community Events

NEW COURSES FROM RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM AND RITUALWELL

Network Immersions are new, in-depth, fee-based courses that require some coursework and a willingness to bring your creative energy and commitment. This year's offering include:

- Food Justice
- Seasons of Our Earth
- Death and Mourning
- Writing Contemporary Liturgy
- Ritual for Trauma and Healing
- Jewish Queer Ritual
- Forgiveness and Spirituality for Therapists

Members and staff of Reconstructionist affiliated communities and Network subscribers receive a 10% discount. The full 2018-19 lineup of Network Immersions and Learning Networks is now available on our website. Questions? Contact **LearningNetworks@ReconstructingJudaism.org**.

CDT Calendar

September 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.</p>						<p>1</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm</p> <p>Leil Selichot Service 60 Highland St: Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary 8:00pm to 10:00pm</p>
	<p>2</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Tuesday Teacher Orientation 3:45pm to 5:45pm FUUSN: 1326 Washington St, Newton, MA</p> <p>Assistant Teacher Orientation 6:00pm to 8:00pm FUUSN: 1326 Washington St, Newton, MA</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am to 9:15am</p> <p>CDT Sings Rehearsal 60 Highland St: Living Room 7:30pm to 9:30pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck / Open House! 60 Highland St: Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary 6:00pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service, 9:45am to 12pm</p> <p>CDT Sings Rehearsal 60 Highland St: Living Room 12:45pm to 2:45pm</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Erev Rosh Hashanah: Welcoming the New Year 5779 Gann Academy: 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 8:00pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 (5779) Gann Academy: 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 9:30am - 1:00pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 (5779) Gann Academy: 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 10:00am to 12:30pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am to 9:15am</p> <p>CDT Sings Rehearsal 60 Highland St: Living Room 7:30pm to 9:30pm</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Shabbat Shuvah Chanting & Meditation 9:45am to 12:00pm</p> <p>CDT Sings Rehearsal 60 Highland St: Living Room 12:45pm to 2:45pm</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Religious School Nitzanim/Gan - Gr. 7 57 Stanley Ave, Watertown, MA 9:30am to 12:00pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Kol Nidre/Erev Yom Kippur Gann Academy: 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 6:30pm to 8:30pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Yom Kippur: The Day of Repentance Gann Academy: 333 Forest St. Waltham, MA 9:30am to 7:00pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am to 9:15am</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Religious School Gr. 1-7 57 Stanley Ave. Watertown, MA 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> <p>Sukkah Set-up FUUSN: 1326 Washington St, Newton, MA Yard 12:30pm</p> <p>Sukkot Celebration 4:45pm to 7:00pm FUUSN: Parish Hall, Head Start Rm, Downstairs Kitchen</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>Sukkot Morning Service 9:30am to 11:30am</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Religious School Garden Program 240 Beaver St. Waltham, MA 3:45pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am to 9:15am</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Religious School Gr. 1-7 57 Stanley Ave. Watertown, MA 9:30am to 12:00pm</p> <p>Erev Simchat Torah Family Service 4:30pm to 5:30pm</p> <p>Simchat Torah Celebration 7:00pm to 9:00pm</p>	<p>OCT 1</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Mindful Mornings 60 Highland Street: Library 8:30am to 9:15am</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45am to 9:40am</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah of Shira Lobron 9:45am to 12:00pm</p>

Kiddush Note: The complete kiddush and holiday assignment schedule is available in the members' calendar on our website. Please remember to sign-in to the site to access the calendar as well as all member-specific information. 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 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.

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. 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

Marvin Brotman—*In memory of Melvin Brotman*

Kate de Bethune and Ellie Baron—*With thanks to Barbara Carboni for the "trail-a-bike"!*

Phyllis & David Farber

Jennifer and David Greenberg—*In memory of Max Kuperman*

Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx—*In honor of Toba Spitzer, Lissy Medvedow, Jen Kaplan and the board and off-board members of CDT*

Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg

Stephanie Karger

Eric Karp—*In memory of Freyda Karp*

Hazel and Bob Keimowitz—*In memory of David Levi Keimowitz Crozier*

Marla Lichtman—*In memory of my wonderful dad, Freddie and my sweet pooch, Daisy Marie*

Alison Lobron—*In memory of Steven Auderieth*

Amy Mazur

Eileen Morrison and Michael Jablon
Carrie and Jordan Pollack

Dan Rome—*In memory of my father, T. Herzl Rome, to mark his yahrzeit*

Marjorie Salvodon and Mark Schafer
Sharon Sevransky and Jeff Goldman

Jo Ann Share—*In memory of Harry Share*
Barbara Silberberg

Susan Silberberg

CAMP JRF FUND

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Robin Bernstein and Maya Townsend

Thea Breite and Susan Moser

Benita Danzing and Nathan Aronow—*In memory of Gina Fried. "Always remembered by Gears 2 and 4."*

Tracey Rogers and Jane Schwartz—*In honor of the President, Lissy Medvedow*

SCHOOL FUND

Benita Danzing and Nathan Aronow—*In honor of Rabbi Shahar Colt*

RETREAT FUND

HOLY BOOKS FUND

JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

BUILDING FUND

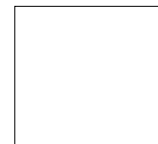
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Buy your books, electronics, and whatever else, and support CDT at the same time! CDT is an Amazon Associate. When you click on the Amazon link on the bottom of the CDT homepage at www.dorsheitzedek.org, a portion of any purchase you make will be contributed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



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

60 Highland St.
West Newton, MA 02465



Address correction requested



“The Moth”-style Teshuvah Stories

Selichot, Saturday evening, September 1, 8:00-10:00pm

60 Highland Street, Fellowship Hall



In the style of “The Moth” radio hour, we will hear personal stories from CDT members, and then have the opportunity to share our own stories in pairs or small groups (with the opportunity to just be a listener if you don’t feel like sharing!). Our storytellers Cindy Rivka Marshall, Doron Gan, Marion Ross, and Mark Schafer will reflect on moments of repentance, or of turnings in their own life journeys.