



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5779

October 2018

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
617-965-0330 | www.dorsheitzedek.org | info@dorsheitzedek.org



New Developments for the New Year

by Lissy Medvedow



THE HIGH HOLYDAYS present us with a chance to reflect, be thoughtful, be quiet with ourselves, commune with our community, and experience Congregation Dorshei Tzedek in all our richness of spirituality, tradition, and ritual. As I write this column, Rosh Hashanah has just ended. Our services were beautiful, as usual, filled with music, prayer, text study, warmth,

and humor (if you weren't there, you really should go online to read Rabbi Toba's Erev Rosh Hashanah sermon about Seven Lessons Learned from Appliances). We welcomed new members, honored many groups, including this Newsletter's talented team, and woven throughout the many hours of sitting and standing (so much standing!), we had time - a precious commodity that generally eludes us - to contemplate the past year, 5778, and to envision the new year - our hopes and dreams - for ourselves, our families, our communities, our country, and the whole world. All of humanity would so greatly benefit from Teshuvah, the act of turning, from expulsion to inclusion, nuclear weapons to olive branches, terror-

ism to anti-territorialism, and hatred and fear to basic kindness and welcoming of strangers. May it be so.

As we begin our new year, 5779, in our own community at CDT, growth and changes are underway. We have reached 227 households, with 12 new households joining since June. Our Religious School has 80 students, an increase of 12 from last year. Most of our religious teachers returned - a true testament to the culture, leadership, and caliber of the school. Two of our young adult members, Bat Mitzvah alumna of CDT and children of longtime members, have joined the staff of the school as Assistant Teachers. How great is that! We will soon be officially launching ShulCloud, our new membership and financial database. Shortly, you will be able to edit your own profiles, pay for dues and school tuition online, and submit membership and school registrations electronically. ShulCloud will catapult us into the 21st century in all its technological splendor. Stay tuned.

In recognition of how deeply Tikkun Olam reflects and encompasses our core values, we added the position of Vice President of Tikkun

Olam to the Executive Committee of the CDT Board. This summer, Tikkun Olam established a Steering Committee, comprised of leaders of many of our initiatives including Criminal Justice, GBIO, the CDT Garden, Immigration, Economic Diversity, Understanding Race, and the Israel-Palestine Peace group. Both Welcoming and Tikkun Olam members sported buttons during the High Holydays and will continue to do so at holidays and Shabbat services throughout the year inviting people to engage in conversation and ask questions, such as: “Ask me how we are seeking justice.” “Ask me what page we’re on.” “Are you new here? I was too.” “Ask me. I can help.” If you missed the impactful Leadership Development workshops last year, don’t despair. We’ll be offering a second round of workshops this year. You, too, could gain a better understanding of the qualities exemplified by strong and inspirational leaders, learn strategies of good leadership; and this year, you’ll have the advantage our taking our added session on how to facilitate a great meeting. Watch for announcements.

During the High Holydays you may have noticed assisted listening devices, reserved chairs where ushers could accommodate people who required special seating, and



Photo by Viv Shein

Rabbinic Liaison

The **Rabbinic Liaison Committee** exists to ensure the maintenance of a good working relationship between our rabbi and the congregation. While congregants are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns directly with **Rabbi Toba**, they may at times feel more comfortable talking to the Rabbinic Liaison Committee. Issues raised by congregants are discussed confidentially and, when appropriate, are shared with the Rabbi in a constructive manner. To discuss a question or concern, contact **Cindy Shulak-Rome, Rabbinic Liaison Chair** at **cbsrome@comcast.net**.

a music stand, ready for an individual who might have difficulty holding a prayer book. As in past years, we had a Quiet Room where a person could go for a break from the stimulation of the large sanctuary. At Kiddush, we had a special table reserved for people who required gluten-free food, and the children’s snack/lunch service had a combo gluten free/nut free table. In our regular sanctuary at 60 Highland Street, we have large print prayer books and a ramp that can connect to the bima on an as-needed basis. We are trying to anticipate the needs of our members and guests, but if anyone has special needs that are not being met by CDT, please let me know, or e-mail the Inclusion Committee at **access@dorsheitzedek.org** and we will try, as best as possible, to remedy the situation.

I’m excited to start my second year as CDT President. I hope to see many of you at services, holidays, programs, events, Tikkun Olam activities, the Reconstructing Judaism convention in Philadelphia, and wherever else our paths may cross. Please let me know if there is ever anything I can do for you, comments you would like to share, or ideas you have for CDT.

Shana tova.

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
Program Associate: Lidia Pruen
Inclusion Coordinator: Amira Shulman-Kumin
- Executive Committee**
President: Lissy Medvedow
VP Finance: Ezra Hausman
VP Membership: Jamie Tessler
VP Education: Bill Shorr
VP Leadership: Rob Greenly
Secretary: Rochelle Weichman
- Board Members-at-Large:**
Bill Weinreb, Emily Mathis, Jordan Namerow, Laurie Gould, Dan Rome & Margo Michaels
- Off-Board Chairs:**
Children’s Education: Andy Stefano & Josh Komyerov
Chesed: Elaine Landes
Nediv Lev: John Carroll
Newsletter: John Holohan
Inclusion: Susan Nitkin & Abby Schwartz
Ritual: Marion Ross and Laurie Goldman
Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome
Space Liaison: Jen Kaplan
Website: Dan Halbert
Welcoming: Benita Danzing

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.

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

Shabbat & Holidays

SHIRA LOBRON BAT MITZVAH

Shabbat morning, October 6

David and Alison invite the CDT community to celebrate **Shira Lobron** as she is called to the Torah for her *bat mitzvah*! Shira will be reading from *Parashat Breishit*, the first Torah reading of the new year. We hope many people will join us for Shira’s celebration and a kiddush lunch after services.

Shira, a seventh grader at Day Middle School in Newton, is active in theater arts, and enjoys playing clarinet, soccer, gymnastics, and her pet hedgehog, Rosemary. For her *Tikkun Olam* project, Shira taught gymnastics to Special Olympics athletes at MIT. She really enjoyed sharing her passion with those gymnasts.

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT

Friday evening, October 12, November 2, and December 14

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

Join us for this fun, musical, all-ages celebration of Shabbat! We begin with candle-lighting and the Shabbat blessings at 6:00pm, followed by a vegetarian potluck dinner (please bring a main dish or salad, enough for 10-15 people; drinks and dessert provided). Services begin at 6:45pm, and we end with Oneg Shabbat dessert at 7:30pm.

LEV JOSEPHINE GORDON BAT MITZVAH

Shabbat morning, October 20th

Kristin Butcher and **Scott Gordon** are excited to share their joy with the CDT community when their daughter, **Lev Josephine Gordon**, is called to the Torah. The service will be followed by a lunch for the CDT community from noon-1pm, followed by music and dancing from 1-3pm.



Photo by Viv Shein

TOT SHABBAT

10:45am-noon, October 27, November 10 and December 8

Tot Shabbat is a monthly Shabbat morning program for families with kids age 5 and younger, led by CDT members **Tal Shalom-Kobi** and **Becca O’Murchadha**. Join us in celebrating Shabbat with songs, stories, crafts, and more! Tot Shabbat meets during the workshop time on Got Shabbat in October, and from 10:45am-noon in November and December.

GOT SHABBAT? Arts Matter Shabbat, in collaboration with the Jewish Art Collaborative

Saturday morning, October 27, 9:45am-Noon

“Got Shabbat?” is an opportunity for the whole community to come together to celebrate Shabbat in creative and fun ways! This month we are celebrating the Jewish Arts. We begin at 9:45am with lots of music for all ages, and then workshops from 10:15am-11:15am, after which we come back together for a creative reading of Torah and the closing blessings. Whether you are 5 or 50 or 100, we hope to see you there!

Community

MEMBERSHIP MISHIGAS

An occasional column from the Welcoming Committee

by Sheryl Koenigsberg

With the start of the new school year, both secular and at CDT, a few members of our congregation have mentioned that they aren’t familiar with our Religious School. You can get a primer on the philosophy, curriculum, and logistics of our school in the Family Handbook for Religious School, which you can find on the website: Family Handbook for Religious School, found on the CDT website under the “Learning” tab.

Even better, though, is to hear it from our students themselves. At the end of the school year, we asked our students what they learned, and what they liked best. Here’s what they said:

*“Lurning [sic] new words.”
“I learned the Egipt [sic] story.”*

Our littlest students (4- and 5- year olds) meet monthly. Their Sundays start with an abbreviated *Shacharit* service called “Mini-Minyan” and their curriculum comprises “My Jewish World” and “Blessings.” They hear Bible stories and holiday stories, and are initiated into the ancient Jewish tradition of asking “why?” and “I wonder.”

*“[My teacher] taught me to be nice
to enybody [sic].”*

Our first and second graders join the bigger kids for a more formal “*z’mán rishon*” service at the start of school each Sunday. Their curriculum focuses on “Jewish Time” (the holiday calendar, the cycles of the year, and the historical/agricultural context for this.) The other main unit is “Jewish Values,” where we continue building their social justice awareness.

*“Reading the stories from the Torah.”
“I learned about prophets.”*

Our third graders start coming to Religious School twice a week, which continues through sixth grade. On Sundays, they study Torah stories, starting with Bereishit and progressing through the narrative. By sixth grade they also study the Prophets and Rabbis.

*“I learned that Judaism has room for any
kind of spirituality that a Jew wants to practice.”
“I can read more Hebrew.”*

On Tuesdays, our third through sixth graders focus on Hebrew, Prayer, and Jewish Culture. I’m a particular fan on how we teach Prayer – we teach the “choreography” (when do you bow?), the “text” (what are we saying and why?), and the “experience” (modes of prayer, both traditional and alternative.)

“I learned A LOT.”

In seventh grade, our students are deep in their bar/bat mitzvah preparation, as well as learning about 20th Century Jewish experience. Equally important, they are given time to build their own community, the way any good Jewish community is built – over bagels. After seventh grade, our students go on different paths for their Jewish education journey – some to community programs throughout Boston, others as *madrichim*, helping our younger students.

As a new Religious School parent, I can tell you that **Rabbi Shahar**, **Rabbi Toba**, the Education Committee, and a spectacular group of talented educators, musicians, artists, and storytellers have crafted and delivered a very thoughtful and unique education experience for our congregation’s youngest members.

To learn more, join one of our adult programs on a Sunday morning to get a feel for the vibe in the building, or contact **Rabbi Shahar** to schedule a visit to the school.



Photo by Viv Shein

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

Community

CDT MEMBERS’ MEETING

Sunday October 28, 5:30pm 8:30pm at 60 Highland Street, West Newton

5:30-6:15pm Pizza (and dairy/gluten-free alternative) dinner

6:15pm-8:00pm Members Meeting

At our first Members Meeting of the year, we will hear from the Economic/Class Diversity working group, and have an opportunity to hear about initiatives including leadership development, and more! We hope to have at least one representative from every CDT household at the meeting.

Yahrzeit

This month, we remember **Eugene Black**, whose 5th yahrzeit falls on October 23. We will be remembering Gene at Shabbat morning services on October 20.

Refuah Shleymah

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

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

A warm welcome to new members **Andy Chapolini**; **Elana (Rome) & Dave Cutler**; **Marian Glaser & Joel Suttentberg**; **Lorin Troderman & Suzanne Rowntree**; and **Rosalyn, Pablo, Alvin, Neo, and Mila Goldbarg**.

Todah Rabah

Todah Rabah to everyone who helped with kiddush last month! **Tessa Goldsmith** (Captain), **Barry Ingber**—in memory of Milton Ingber, **Laurie Goldman**, **Wendy Gedanken** (Captain), **Elaine Pollack**, **Beth Brooks**, **Noam Shore**, **Leah Diskin**, **Abby Cohen**, **Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn** (Captain),—in memory of **Kayla Flynn**, **Reva Kasman**, **Sheree Galpert**, **Amy Pollack-Howard** (Captain), **Carole Slipowitz**, **Jan Gortler Small**, **Ami Gordon**.

Todah Rabah to **Cindy Rivka Marshall**, storytellers **Marion Ross**, **Doron Gan**, and **Mark Schafer**, and to **Elaine Pollack** for a meaningful and moving Selichot program.

Hamon Todot (many, many thanks!) to everyone who helped create our beautiful High Holydays services:

To all those who helped with planning and logistical support: **Laurie Goldman**, **Marion Ross**, **Matilda Bruckner**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Cindy Rivka Marshall**, **Dianne Lior**, **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, **Dan Rome**, **Debbie Waber**, **Ezra Hausman**, and **Chayim Herzig-Marx**. And to the many volunteers who helped with set up and registration, *todah rabah*!

To **Mark Bronstein** for the sound system and the assisted listening devices, and for setting up our live-streaming.

To our wonderful support staff, **Marla Lichtman** and **Lidia Prunte**, and to **Wendy Buglio** and her helpers.

To our awesome *chazzanim* (cantors): **Karen Arnold**, **Michael Feldstein**, **Doug Hersh**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Dan Rome**, **Bill Shorr**, **Marc Steinberg**, **Anna Kaplan**, and **Jane Robinson**.

To all of our Torah & haftorah leyners: **Karen Arnold**, **Mark Bronstein**, **Miriam Bronstein**, **Ed Bruckner**, **Louise Enoch**, **Izzy Feinfeld**, **Chayim Herzig-Marx**, **Audra Karp**, **Steffi Karp**, **Sue Lanser**, **Amalia Lieberman**, **David Lobron**, **Susan Moser**, **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, and **Debbie Waber**.

To **Karen Arnold** and **Sue Lanser** and all of the members of CDT Sings, for the beautiful music: **Michele Arons**, **Andy Chipolini**, **Dave Felson**, **Doug Hersh**, **Judy Hersh**, **Jess Morgan-Moss**, **Marcia Okun**, **Ruth Paris**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Mona Pollack**, **Rebecca Pomerantz**, **Jo Radner**, **Cindy Rivka Marshall**, **Karen Rookwood**, **Carole Slipowitz**, **Andrew Sofer**, **Bob Warren**, and **Steve Zisk**.

To our Shofar blowers: **Jacqui Bloomberg**, **Ezra Hausman**, **Josh Lieberman**, **Karen**

Wasserman, and special guest **Jacob Morrow-Spitzer**!

To **Terry Traub** and **Tal Shalom-Kobi**, for their beautiful fiddle and bass accompaniment on erev Rosh Hashanah, and to **Kate DeBethune**, for her powerful cello rendition of *Kol Nidre*.

To **Deb Albenberg**, **Doug Hersh**, and **Jamie Tessler**, for leading the Yom Kippur afternoon Nature Walks.

To **Jamie Tessler** and **Joshua Brown** for sharing their Jewish Journeys, and to **Josette Akresh-Gonzales**, **Ben Newman**, and **Jo Radner** for sharing their poetry during the afternoon *Avodah* reflection.

To the High Holydays Children’s & Family Service leaders: **Vered Brooks**, **Rabbi Shahar Colt**, **Karen Engels**, **Esther & Ammi Kohn**, **Alison Lobron**, and **Tal Shalom-Kobi**, and to our Inclusion Coordinator, **Amira Shulman-Kumin**, for helping make our children’s programming accessible to all.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!

CDT Events

NEW PHOTO EXHIBIT IN CDT SANCTUARY - ED BRUCKNER

Ed Bruckner chose a sample of his favorite photos from the last several years for the current exhibit in the sanctuary. They give an idea of the wide range of subjects and approaches he explores, from portraits to shop windows, reflections of all sorts, and almost abstract studies in light and color. Ed does a lot of street photography, wandering around and looking for interesting, surprising or unusual subjects—people, children, statues, reflections, store windows. He likes to notice things in busy popular areas that other people just walk past without seeing how interesting they are. The exhibit includes a selection of photos from Boston, Chicago, Houston, Paris, Strasbourg, a small town on the coast of Spain, London, and New York City.

CDT Events continued on page #7

Inclusion



MARK BRONSTEIN IS MY HERO

by Kate de Bethune

Because I could read the bass clef fluently, I was conscripted into my high school marching band to play the sousaphone. Equipped with a Napoleonic-era uniform and the large serpent itself, I dutifully supplied an endless stream of B-flats, E-flats and Fs to underpin the harmonies of whatever Sousa marches or fight songs were the order of the day - all while trying to avoid being planted on the ground when a stiff November breeze caught the bell of the instrument.

One Saturday, seated in the stands and chilled to the bone, I removed the bell of the instrument while the action unfolded on the field of play below. Out of curiosity, I reached in and - ! - pulled out a woolen cap. I reassembled the instrument and tested out a few notes - wow! So much louder! Amazing.

Truth be told, I was glad for that chapter of my musical career to end, except in one way. I wish my hearing were more like that sousaphone. If I could only reach into my ears and pull out the “stocking cap” that is stopping them up, then surely I would hear better.

But it’s not so simple, and I can’t.

I have bi-lateral, sensorineural hearing loss. It’s congenital - I’ve had it from birth - but I was first diagnosed when I was in my late twenties. The mid-tone, or speech ranges, are most affected. My high-hearing (what is usually lost with aging) is excellent - better than normal. I hear like a dog.

At first, and with a great deal of unconscious effort, I was able to function pretty much normally. In spite of the deficit, my ability to understand speech was nearly perfect. But eventually, there was tinnitus and more mental strain, so I was fitted with hearing aids. As time has passed the my hearing continued to deteriorate; my left ear now picks up about 30% of words and the right about 70%.

Imagine reading a book in which two out of three words are missing. That’s what it’s like to try to hear with this kind of deficit.

Now imagine trying to read that same book with a bright light shining in your eyes. That’s what it’s like to trying to hear with background noise.

It can be tough to negotiate, so I choose my environments as carefully as I can. I have to be able to look at someone to be able to “hear” them, and I have honed my sense of what is truly worth the effort to hear. But much is beyond my control. In these cases, I must try accept my limitations optimistically and graciously, while keeping a sense of equanimity about myself.

One time of year when I really care about hearing every word is the high holiday season at CDT. I love so many parts of the service – and especially look forward to Rabbi Toba’s talks. But, usually it is very frustrating to try to hear...Ellie would tell me the gist and I would read the talks online afterwards. But something important is missing when you can’t experience the communal feelings evoked in the moment.

Then, two years ago, **Mark Bronstein** started providing assisted listening services at CDT for those who need them. When I first heard about this, I eagerly wrote in to sign up for my gadget. Mine is the “loop” style that works with the tele-coils in my hearing aids. All I have to do is put the device around my neck, press a button and, voila, the rabbi’s voice is comfortably present in my ears and I CAN HEAR. EVERY. WORD. When I first turned it on, I nearly wept. I could even close my eyes and HEAR. EVERY. WORD. Even the jokes, the asides, the quick patter of the aliyah blessings. For me, it was nothing short of transcendent and transformative.

While I may not be able to “pull the stocking cap” out of my ears, Mark has brought the sounds that I most care about hearing right where I need them to be. What a gift and what a blessing. Thank you, Mark!

The addition as of assisted listening devices was aided by CDT’s participation in the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project, of which we are a partner congregation. To learn more about inclusion initiatives at CDT, please contact Inclusion Committee chairs Susan Nitkin and Abby Schwartz, at access@dorsheitzedek.org.

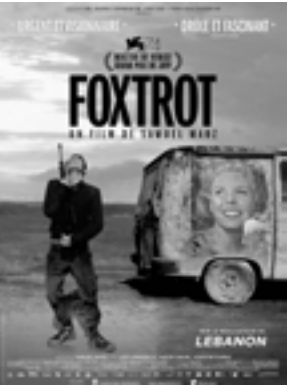
Editor’s Note: We have heard that several folks who were sick on the High Holy-days also think Mark is a hero for setting up the streaming of our services.

CDT EVENTS

CDT FILM CLUB

Saturday, October 20 at the home of Ellie Goldberg

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



Foxtrot (2018, 112 min., Hebrew) After his son’s death, Michael spirals into a whirlwind of anger only to experience one of life’s unfathomable twists which rival the surreal military experiences of his son.

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, for more information or if you’d like to host a film. Future films and dates (subject to change):

- November 17: In Between
- December 15: Restoration
- January 12: Hannah Arendt
- February 16: Sand Storm
- March 16: A Green Chariot
- April 13: The Insult
- May 11: In Search of Israeli Cuisine

STORIES FOR SELICHOT

CDT member, storyteller, and coach **Cindy Rivka Marshall** led CDT members in a Moth Radio Hour-style “Teshuvah Stories”for Selichot. Turnout was great and people were eager to hear and share their own stories. **Rabbi Toba** remarked on the depth of the insights and Teshuva in people’s stories. Cindy said, “I have done this in other organizations, so I know the power of stories to inspire people and build community. It was exciting to bring it here to CDT.”

Rabbi Elaine Pollack added another spiritual dimension to the evening guiding members through a prayerful meditation to prepare for the high holy days of 5779!



Mark Schafer (far left), Doron Gan, Marion Ross, Cindy Rivka Marshall.
Photo by John Holohan

Learning

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: A RECONSTRUCTIONIST APPROACH

with Rabbi Adam Lavitt

20 evening sessions, 7:00-8:30 pm, Oct. 15, 2018 - Apr. 2019 | CDT members \$300; non-members \$350 Location TBD. For more information and to register, go to www.dorsheitzedek.org/adult-education

If you are beginning to explore Jewish life and practice, or seeking to fill the gaps in your Jewish education, this class is for you! Class sessions will address the foundations of Jewish living, key concepts in Judaism, and offer a taste of the wide variety of Jewish texts. For those interested in conversion to Judaism, the class will serve as a useful introduction, and rabbinic support will also be provided. Come join us on a journey towards meaningful engagement in the riches that Jewish tradition has to offer.



Rabbi Adam Lavitt, former Community Educator/Assistant Rabbi at Dorshei Tzedek, is Rabbi and Chaplain at Hebrew SeniorLife, and curriculum writer for Moving Traditions.

Learning

NEW CLASS!

Shabbat and Sustainability: The Radical Practice of Rest

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer and guest teacher Laya Steinberg Thursday evenings, 7:30-9pm 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 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 14, 7pm-9pm

[PLEASE NOTE CORRECTED DATE]

60 Highland Street, CDT Sanctuary with Rabbi Toba and members of the 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.

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. On the first Thursday of each month, Karen Arnold leads a meditation based on the weekly Torah portion, and Rabbi Toba leads the meditation on the second Thursday of each month. Other group members lead the meditation on other mornings. All are welcome, whatever your level of meditation experience (or lack thereof!).

Tikkun Olam

“YES ON 3” CAMPAIGN 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.

“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.”

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

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.



Chesed

BUILDING A CARING COMMUNITY

by Ellie Goldberg

Dorshei Tzedek’s 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. For more information about Chesed see September’s article “What do the Shiva and Chesed committees do?” (<https://tinyurl.com/Chesed-Shiva>). Other articles and resources are posted on the CDT web page: Chesed (Caring Community) <https://dorsheitzedek.org/chesed-caring-community>.

We are part of a Caring Communities Resource Network that shares ideas and best practices organized by Jewish Children and Family Services. CDT members are invited to attend a JC&FS interactive workshop led by a panel of caring community leaders. As always, this workshop will provide time to network with other caring community members.

What attracts synagogue members to become involved in their caring community? Wednesday, October 17, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at JF&CS Headquarters, 1430 Main Street, Waltham. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to: Sue Spielman, MPA, CCRN Manager, JF&CS, 781-693-5659 or sspielman@jfcbsoston.org.



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>.

October Chesed Coordinators are **Jo Ann Feldstein**, **Eileen Morrison**, and **Fran Malino**. 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.

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.

Jewish Community News

LIMMUDBOSTON CELEBRATES JEWISH CULTURE

Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018, all day

Hold the date for LimmudBoston, the annual festival celebrating Jewish culture, which takes place all day, Sunday, Dec. 2, at Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington Street, Auburndale. LimmudBoston offers something for everyone: text talks, parenting, panels, social justice, food demos, storytelling, music, and more. See the schedule, and register today! www.LimmudBoston.org

CDT Calendar

October 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SEPT 30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Office Closed (Shemini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah)	Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA		Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am 60 Highland Street: Library		Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45am to 9:40am 60 Highland Street: Library Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah of Shira Lobron 9:45am to 12:00pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA		Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am 60 Highland Street: Library Shabbat Sustain- ability, and Us: An Exploration 7:30pm to 9pm 60 Highland Street: Living Room (Parlor)	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service/Potluck 6pm to 7:30pm 60 Highland Street: Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45am to 12:00pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Religious School Nitzan- im/Gan - Gr. 7 9:30am to 12:00pm 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown, MA		Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA		Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am 60 Highland Street: Library Shabbat Sustain- ability, and Us: An Exploration 7:30pm to 9pm 60 Highland Street: Living Room (Parlor)		Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah of Lev Gordon 9:45am to 12:00pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Religious School Gr. 1-7 9:30am to 12:00pm 57 Stanley Avenue, Watertown, MA		Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA		Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am 60 Highland Street: Library Shabbat Sustain- ability, and Us: An Exploration 7:30pm to 9pm 60 Highland Street: Living Room (Parlor)		Got Shabbat? (Including Tot Shabbat) 9:45am to 1:00pm
28	29	30	31	NOV 1	2	3
		Religious School Gr. 3-6 3:45pm to 5:45pm 1326 Washington St. West Newton, MA		Mindful Mornings 8:30am to 9:15am 60 Highland Street: Library Shabbat Sustain- ability, and Us: An Exploration 7:30pm to 9pm 60 Highland Street: Living Room (Parlor)	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service/Potluck 6pm to 7:30pm 60 Highland Street: Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary	Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah of Ayla Kobi 9:45am to 12:00pm

Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.

KIDDUSH ASSIGNMENTS

October 6 Shabbat: Sarah Birkeland / Erica Streit-Kaplan / Karen Engels / Jordan Schwartz / Doron Gan / Susan Silberberg / Polly Crozier / Jessica Keimowitz / Josh Komyerov / James Kaplan / Valerie Graf / Michele Arons & Michael Brann

October 12 Erev Shabbat: Susie Tanchel (Captain) / Sarah Birkeland / George Howard / Jonathan Gordon

October 13 Shabbat: Joshua Brown (Captain) & Rachel Kelemen / Cindy Rivka Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury

October 20 Shabbat: Marni & Tim Caputo / Becky Cohen & Jake Weinberg

October 27 Shabbat: Janet Boguslaw & Howie Kaufman (Captain), in honor of our sons, Alex & Daniel, / Ora Grodsky & Jonathan Rosenthal / Becca O Murchadha / Tom Brown / Ruth Paris, in memory of Isaac, Dorothy and Steven Paris / Becky Cohen & Jake Weinberg

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Allison Andrews and Arthur Lent
Amy Brodesky and Rex Flynn—*In memory of Kayla Ellen Flynn*
Miriam Bronstein—*In memory of Tamar Bronstein*
Matilda and Ed Bruckner
Beth and Jeffrey Green—*In memory of Israel Zevin*
Ora Gladstone
Selma and Leon Gortler
Rob Greenly
Carol Hemley—*In memory of David Hemley*
Tal Shalom Kobi
Ilana Mainelli
Carla Naumburg and Josh Herzig-Marx
Judy Pollack
Susan Sachs
Marjorie Salvodan and Mark Schafer
Alan Segal and Maribeth Ortega
Jodi and Ben Tillinger

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 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 online shopping you were planning to do anyway.

Reconstructionist News

LAST CALL: RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM CONVENTION 2018

Thursday through Sunday, November, 15-18 Philadelphia, PA

Registration subsidies available from Reconstructing Judaism and from CDT

This is the first national Reconstructionist gathering in many years, and we hope to have lots of CDT members there! Highlights include: workshops on themes including social justice, Jewish identity, re-imagining communities, and teaching Reconstructionism; varieties of daily and Shabbat prayer experiences; music, storytelling, yoga, meditation, and much more! To learn more and to register, go to www.reconstructingjudaism.org; if finances are an obstacle, please be in touch with **Rabbi Toba**.



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



Address correction requested



Resistance



CDT members hold a service in Boston Garden before a June 30th march to protest the Trump Administration immigration policy. Photo by Steffi Karp