



60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465  
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# L'dor Vador—from Generation to Generation



by Lissy Medvedow



**A**S MANY OF you know, I have just become a grandmother for the first time. Olivia, a member of CDT's first Hebrew School class, gave birth

to our new baby grandson, Sawyer Elliot Susman, on Friday, April 5, in New York City. I was instantly in love, a feeling only rivalled by the way I felt when I had my girls. After spending innumerable hours revelling in holding the baby (so much so that I found myself feeling guilty about being a "baby hog"), we returned home to our now permanently changed status in life—grandparents. Several friends welcomed us to the "best club in the world." While we were in New York, I missed the shiva of

a CDT member's father and in e-mailing Rabbi Toba to extend my regrets to the family, I contemplated, once again, the cycle of life. My sister, my cousins, and many of our friends have recently become grandparents and marvel at the continual joy their new grandbabies bring to their lives. It's amazing the capacity of our hearts to expand. I'm reminded of the scenario that many parents experience when having a second child. The older child asks: "how can you love another baby as much as you love me?" The answer is always the same. The heart grows exponentially; there's more than enough love to go around.

As I write this column, Cliff and I are planning to return to New York City in a scant

two weeks, to have the great pleasure of spending Passover with Olivia, our younger daughter, Charlotte, son-in-law Aron, my Mom, and little Sawyer. The wonder of the holiday, with its resplendent symbolism, will not be diminished whatsoever by the fact that Sawyer will not be able to recite the Four Questions, notwithstanding his status as the youngest person at the table. That honor, once again, will go to Charlotte who will start us off, followed by my mother, who as she has done every Passover since I was a child, will recite the first question in Yiddish. Tradition.

Passover encompasses so much tradition. The seder plate, the Haggadah, the songs, the plagues, and of course, the food. Every year, we may have a slightly different focus to the seder but the rhythm of the holiday remains steadfast. And yet, we know that traditions evolve. Now, for example, our seder plate always has an orange to

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commemorate Miriam and the strength of women in the Torah and in Judaism. That's what I love about being a Reconstructionist Jew. We treasure the past by embracing tradition, while interpreting the present to permit full engagement in contemporary society.

This Passover, we'll again think about how incredibly lucky we are to be surrounded by family, love, to have jobs, homes, sustenance, books, and to be able to enjoy unbridled freedom. We'll feel especially blessed to have baby Sawyer at the table bringing four generations together. Four generations! Passover represents so much of what we're fighting about and for in this country and across the world—freedom and dignity for all humankind, clean air and water, and justice regardless of the color of one's skin. From Torah to today, the profound struggles against tyranny and the resilience and strength of people remind us that we need to continue to be vigilant and to protect democracy with a fervor.

We at CDT are also lucky because our congregation's mission and values personify democratic ideals. In our quest to find

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justice

an Executive Director, we have been impressed that candidates invoke CDT's values during interviews. Our values resonate and demonstrate our commitment to tradition, learning, and justice. As always, I'm struck by how prescient our founders were (thank you!) by giving us the name Dorshei Tzedek, seekers of justice. Hopefully, by the time this newsletter is published, we will have hired our inaugural Executive Director and will be able to introduce that person to our community at the final Members Meeting of the year on May 19 from 5:30-8:00pm at 60 Highland Street. At that meeting, we'll also be voting on the slate of officers and Board, bidding farewell to Board members and Committee Chairs, and approving the budget for 5780. I

hope you'll all be able to be there to share in the excitement of moving forward as a congregation.

L'dor vador. From generation to generation. I look forward to seeing you in the coming months and I promise, I won't show you the hundreds of photographs I already have of baby Sawyer!!

## 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 Prunte

Inclusion Coordinator: Amira Shulman-Kumin

### Executive Committee

President: Lissy Medvedov

VP Finance: Ezra Hausman

VP Membership: Jamie Tessler

VP Education: Bill Shorr

VP Leadership: Rob Greenly

VP Tikkun Olam: Bob Warren

Secretary: Rochelle Weichman

### Board Members-at-Large:

Bill Weinreb, 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 & Debbie Waber

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

## Rabbinic Liaison Committee

**Rabbinic Liaisons:** While congregants are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns directly with Rabbi Toba or Rabbi Shahar, there are other avenues through which to bring concerns. The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists to ensure the maintenance of a good working relationship between Rabbi Toba and the congregation. Issues raised by congregants are discussed confidentially and, when appropriate, are shared with the Rabbi in a constructive manner. To discuss a question or concern, contact **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, Rabbinic Liaison Chair at [csrome@comcast.net](mailto:csrome@comcast.net). Rabbi Toba, as Rabbi Shahar's supervisor, is the person to whom to bring any concerns relating to Rabbi Shahar and her work for the congregation.

## 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). 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, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Amy Westebbe.

# Shabbat & Holidays

## YOM HASHOAH V'HAGEVURAH/ HOLOCAUST & RESISTANCE RE- MEMBRANCE DAY PROGRAM

Wednesday, May 1, 7:30pm-9pm

60 Highland Street, in the CDT Sanctuary

As we gather to remember the six million who perished and the many who resisted the Nazis, CDT member Jaime Wurzel will share stories of his parents' experiences during the Holocaust. Children of Hasidic families, his father fought with partisans during the war and his mother survived Auschwitz. After the war they immigrated to Bolivia. Please feel free to invite guests; the program will be appropriate for older children (11 and above).

## ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

May 3, June 7



Join us for this fun, musical, all-ages celebration of Shabbat! Our fourth graders will

be co-leading the Kabbalat Shabbat service as a special siyyum (completion) of their learning. We gather at 6:00pm for candle-lighting and dinner (see below), and services begin at 6:45pm.

This month, we have a special dinner—not potluck!

To make life a little easier, the congregation is sponsoring the dinner, which will include pizza, a few types of pasta/Italian dishes, salads, and tuna; drinks and dessert will also be provided, as usual. You are still welcome to bring a dish if you'd like!

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 9:45am. 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).

## SHABBAT UNPLUGGED

Friday-Saturday, May 10-11

While every Shabbat is an opportunity to “unplug,” this is our yearly opportunity as a community to take the invitation that Shabbat offers us: to “be” rather than “do”; to turn our attention from the world of consumption to the realm of reflection; to unplug from those things—our computers or workplaces or cars—that keep us harried or stressed or tied into the busyness of our lives. It's an opportunity to enjoy a Shabbat meal with family and friends, enjoy a Shabbat service, take a walk or an afternoon nap. Whether you join in a CDT activity or rest at home, take the opportunity to unplug this Shabbat!

## HERE'S A SCHEDULE FOR SHABBAT UNPLUGGED:

### CDT HOME DINNERS

Friday & Saturday, May 10-11

Signups will open in early May for the final round of CDT Community Potluck dinners on the weekend of May 10-11. Dinners are planned in Boston, Watertown, JP, and Newton. Find one that works for you! It's a great way to reconnect with old friends or get to know newer members. Booklets with Shabbat blessings and Erev Shabbat songs are available at CDT; contact Lidia Pruenete (officeassistant@dorsheitzedek.org) to make arrangements to pick them up.

Any questions or to put your name on a hosting list for next year please contact **Debby Saltzman** at [debbysaltzman@gmail.com](mailto:debbysaltzman@gmail.com).

### SHABBAT MORNING- MAY 11

**8:45am, Torah Study:** All are invited to join Rabbi Toba for Torah study preceding the Shabbat morning service—bring your own caffeinated beverage! We will explore ancient and modern commentaries on the weekly Torah portion, Kedoshim—which includes the famous instruction to “love your neighbor as yourself” (no previous Torah study experience required). The next Shabbat morning Torah study will be June 22—please note this date has been changed from June 1.

**9:45am, Shabbat morning service, featuring our Kitah Hay (5th grade) class!** Join us for prayer, song, study, and more. During the Torah service, we will be remembering one of CDT's founding members, Jill Volk, on the occasion of her 12th yahrzeit.

**10:45am, Tot Shabbat:** Families with children aged 2-5 are invited to this fun Shabbat program featuring music, art, story, and more! Tell your friends; all are welcome. The final Tot Shabbat of the year will be on June 1.

**Noon, Kiddush lunch!** Whether or not you attend services, come join us for a community lunch.

**Shabbat afternoon:** Read a book, meditate, take a nap!

**And you can end Shabbat Unplugged with:**

### HAVDALLAH ON THE WATER!

Saturday evening, May 11

6:00-9:00pm

Dinner at the Fisher-Gomberg home, 290 Islington Road, Auburndale

All are welcome to come by beginning at 6:00pm for a vegetarian potluck dinner and some casual canoeing and kayaking on the Charles River. Around 8:15pm, we'll all paddle onto the river with our Havdallah candles and spices for a very special Havdallah service on the water. RSVP's are requested so that we can make sure we have enough boats and candles ([dfgomberg@gmail.com](mailto:dfgomberg@gmail.com)). If you happen to have a canoe or kayak, or a Havdallah candle and/or spices, it would be great if you would bring them, but it's fine to just come with a vegetarian dinner contribution.

The Gombergs will provide drinks and desserts (and boats, paddles, and life jackets!). All ages welcome. If you'd rather just watch from the shore, you can join the photography crew or the unofficial rescue crew!

Shabbat continued on page 11

# Community

## IMPORTANT NOTE FROM OUR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: LOGISTICS

**Meeting and program set-up:** If you are holding an event or meeting at CDT and would like help with setup or assembling supplies, please email requests to Program Associate Lidia Prunte ([officeassistant@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:officeassistant@dorsheitzedek.org)) at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. Thank you for understanding the need for advance notice!

**Storing congregant items & item donations:** Due to space constraints in the Second Church, CDT is not able to store items belonging to congregants. If you'd like to leave an item for another member to pick up, items can be kept for short periods of time (a few days) in the church's lost and found basket, next to the coat rack, by the Mass Pike entrance. And of course, you may always arrange to meet each other in the building to do your exchanges.

And while we really do appreciate the thought, if you have anything to donate to CDT, please ask Administrative Director Marla Lichtman or Program Associate Lidia Prunte if they are needed, before dropping anything off. Thank you!

## REFLECTIONS ON SHABBAT MORNING KIDDUSH AND ALL-AGES EREV SHABBATOT

By Margo Michaels

Over the past few months, the Board has been learning about CDT members' experiences related to Kiddush responsibilities and All-Ages Erev Shabbatot. Our goal was to explore if/how we could improve these aspects of congregational life. We interviewed a number of members, held a discussion group with long-term members, and received over 170 responses to our survey. If you participated in any of these efforts, THANK YOU for your time in giving us feedback.

### Here are some key insights we gleaned:

The participatory nature of CDT membership is steeped in our history and our founding philosophy. As a small congregation just starting out in the '90s, there were few members and almost no staff. This meant that members had to do everything, from setting up chairs to organizing Shabbat dinners at CDT. Secondly, the founding members placed a high value on a "participatory" Judaism at CDT. As we have grown, and as we have become a more diverse congregation by age and by life stage, it may be time to re-evaluate some of the core responsibilities of membership, including Shabbat morning Kiddush and All-Ages Erev Shabbatot.

The top reasons why members like sharing food during Shabbat morning Kiddush include hanging out with friends/acquaintances, sharing a communal meal, and to a lesser extent, sharing a communal meal

made by others, meeting new people, and appreciating the participatory nature of Kiddush contributions. While about 20% of respondents weren't satisfied with the quality or quantity of food at Shabbat morning Kiddush, about 50% found nothing to critique at all. Regarding Kiddush duty itself, few expressed difficulty bringing food when they are on, but 20% of found it difficult to commit to Shabbat dates so far in advance. Some found the responsibilities for set-up to be confusing.

For the people who come to the All-Ages Shabbat, about one-third found it difficult to bring or prepare food to share—either because of the 6pm starting time or other demands related to work and parenting. For about one-fifth of these respondents, concerns about bringing food affect whether or not they will attend.

### New approaches to sharing food on Shabbat

To address this last challenge for families with young children, the CDT Board has voted to try out providing dinner for a few of the all-ages Erev Shabbat services in the coming months, beginning this spring, in May. Bringing food is still an option if allergies or preferences make it difficult to eat the food we are ordering. For Shabbat morning Kiddush, the Board is considering a number of modest changes to make participation easier for members. This will be rolled out officially in the fall, so stay tuned. *The Board hopes these changes will improve the membership experience for all members!*

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## MAZEL TOV

To **Sid Hackett**, and his family, on becoming bar mitzvah!

To **Lissy Medvedow**, **Cliff Cohen**, and **Charlotte Cohen**, on the birth of their grandson and nephew, Sawyer, to CDT graduate Olivia Susman and her husband Aron!

To **Rabbi Toba**, on the marriage of her stepson (and CDT graduate) Zach Miller, to Amanda Hawkes!

## Yahrzeit

This month we remember **Jill Volk**, beloved founding member of CDT, on the occasion of her 12th yearzeit. We will be remembering Jill at Shabbat morning services on May 11.

## REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings for complete healing to **Carol Sklar**, **Lisa Hirsch**, and **Janice Cole**.

# Community

## CONDOLENCES

To **Carolyn Fine** and **Jerry Friedman**, on the death of Carolyn's father, Milton Fine. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **Lisa Schneier**, on the death of her brother-in-law, Sanford Cohen. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **Elizabeth Roll**, and to **David, Juliet, Jake** and **Abby Roll**, on the death of Elizabeth's father, Harvey Halpern. May his 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>.

## TODAH RABAH

Today Rabah to everyone who helped with kiddush last month:

**Daniel Lesser, Jodi Rosenbaum Tillinger & Ben Tillinger, Denise Yurkofsky, Ilana Mainelli, Louise Enoch & Alan Epstein, Tatjana Meschede & Daniel Krasa** (Captain), **Tania Mireles, Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Danielle Klainberg, Gail Harris & David Reider, Alissa & Gerry Leonard, Diana & Richard Fisher Gombert** (Captain), **Bonnie Tenneriello & Andrew Sofer, Barbara Shatkin & Andy Littman, Sami O'Reilly & Robert Imperato** (Captain), **Allison Peiser, Jen Levine-Fried, Esther Kohn, Deborah McEwan, Robert Saper** (Captain), **Phyllis Glazerman, Marni & Tim Caputo, Ellen Lubell** (Captain) & **David Nathan, Carolyn Fine** (Captain) & **Jerry Friedman, Barbara & Elliot Pittel**.

## INCLUSION

by **Susan Nitkin**

*Leaf revealed at daybreak,*

*To show*

*Deep green, and beautiful in places. Tiny holes*

*And missing pieces where caterpillars fed last month*

*Interrupt. And complex non-patterns of dried-out lines weave throughout*

*From summer heat.*

*And then*

*Sunlight filters down through canopy, between branches and twigs,*

*And settles on leaf.*

*Awakened now, green within leaf continues life anew, shimmers...*

*Unseen, but still, revealed.*

The idea of feeling unseen as one's full self, with one's beauty and specialness being hidden from our community, formed the core of the Inclusion Committee's presentation at the March 2019 Members Meeting, in which the Mental Health Initiative (MHI) was launched.

The two areas of focus for the MHI this year are:

Addressing stigma around mental illness: We know that stigma makes it difficult for people to engage in community and ask for help, even from people with experience who could potentially offer guidance and support. What can we do to reduce and even eliminate fears of otherness?

Removing obstacles: How do we exist in a community where we are diverse? What does it mean to create a culture where there is no shame about our brokenness? How can we make it more comfortable for people to ask for help, so meals and visitors "show up" during a time of crisis or ongoing hard times?

The members present were asked to answer, either verbally or in writing, some questions about (1) how our community can make it easier for individuals and families experiencing mental illness or mental health challenges to more fully participate in congregational life, (2) what knowledge and skills we need in order to be more understanding, and (3) how we can we reduce stigma within and beyond our community.

We received a rich array of responses, which will help the Inclusion and Chesed Committees as we collaboratively plan our MHI activities for the upcoming year.

As we develop programming, we will share with the community. Meanwhile, the Inclusion Committee is meeting on May 9, with the Mental Health Initiative as the main agenda item. If you would like to attend, or if you would like to participate in the Mental Health Initiative some other way, please contact us.

Thanks for your warm reception and your willingness to engage in this conversation,  
Susan

Inclusion co-chairs:

**Susan Nitkin, Abby Schwartz**

# Religious School Notes

## END OF YEAR SIYYUMIM!

Shabbat services for the first two weeks of May we will be led by our religious school classes as a way to celebrate and culminate their learning this year. We invite the congregation to join them, to experience their leadership and hear their unique voices and visions.

**Kita Dalet** (4th grade) will lead All Ages shabbat: **Friday, May 3**

**Kita Vav** (6th grade) will lead shabbat morning: **Saturday, May 4**

**Kita Hey** (5th grade) will lead shabbat morning: **Saturday, May 11**

# Learning

## MINDFUL MORNINGS

Thursday mornings, 8:30-9:15 am

60 Highland Street, Library

This weekly gathering combines guided and silent meditation to develop our capacity for mindful awareness, 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!).

# Chesed

## Chesed: Comfort IN, Dump OUT

by Ellie Goldberg

One of the barriers to participating in Chesed is the feeling that we don't know what to say or we fear that we might say the wrong thing. Please visit CDT's Chesed: Caring Community webpage for inspiration, advice and answers to frequently asked questions.

A couple of years ago, we posted this article, *How Not to Say the Wrong Thing* by Susan Silk and Barry Goldman (Los Angeles Times, April 7, 2013). "It works in all kinds of crises—medical, legal, even existential. It's the 'Ring Theory' of kvetching. The first rule is "comfort in, dump out."

CDT member **Eileen Morrison** recommends *The Art of Condolence* by Bruce Feiler, (New York Times, October 1, 2006). It is for those who are inexperienced or out of practice in comforting someone in grief. Feiler offers some tips for mastering, or at least not humiliating, yourself in the lost art of condolence.

To coordinate the community's Chesed needs, we use the Lotsa Helping Hands website. Please join at <http://tinyurl.com/SignUpLHH>.

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

The Chesed Coordinators for May 2019 are **Judy Hersh** and **Debby Saltzman**. Contact them with comments, questions, or recipes at [chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org).

**Chesed Q&A:** What Do the Shiva and Chesed Committees Do? <https://tinyurl.com/Shiva-Chesed>

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 Rabbi Toba (confidentially) at [rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org) or 617-965-0330. Rabbi Shahar Colt, our Director of Congregational Learning, is also available and can be contacted at [dcl@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dcl@dorsheitzedek.org). Rabbi Toba 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.

# Tikkun Olam

## GBIO: A NEW RELATIONSHIP

### Alan Epstein

In January, CDTers met with GBIO's new organizers, Kathleen Patron and Zienab Abdelgany, to highlight CDT's long relationship with GBIO (20 years!), and to explore how we might work together in the future. In March we met internally to build CDT's support for GBIO's social justice work, and one result is that we now have two GBIO liaisons: Louise Enoch and Tony Broh.

In the meantime, GBIO went through a radical reimagining of its power base and capabilities, culminating in a Delegates Assembly April 11 attended by 5 leaders in GBIO's member congregations. Louise Enoch, Alan Epstein, Paul Hattis, Bob Warren, and Tony Broh represented CDT. The main task for delegates was to discuss and vote on a proposal to "Refound" GBIO, by focusing organizers' attention on building relationships with congregations and organizations that are not well represented within GBIO, in particular:

- Those whose members are directly impacted by federal immigration policies.
- Asian, Latinx, African-American, Muslim and Catholic communities.
- Labor unions and other community organizations focusing on justice.

Such a major refocusing on growing an additional 15-20 organizations to build GBIO's power required input from all GBIO member congregations. CDTers weighed in with support, adding to the 100% approval vote of those congregations attending. This will mean somewhat fewer GBIO actions in the coming 18 months, but more focus within current GBIO congregations on organizing training, work on ending racism for the congregations with white members, and local actions defined by congregations.

Personally, I see this as a very positive and affirmative step for all of us committed to social justice.

## SAVE THE DATE: MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

*Sunday, May 12th, 8am program, march begins 8:30am*

For over a decade, CDT has been participating in this greater Boston community event and fundraiser for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute (you can read more about it at [www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org](http://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org)). The Peace Institute invites everyone to "Join us on Mother's Day to demand dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder" and to create a community of compassion and peace. CDT Group organizer **Abby Cohen** will be setting up our team page (details below). Keep your eyes out for the registration link!

**START: Town Field Park, Fields Corner**  
1520 Dorchester Avenue  
Dorchester, MA 02122  
Program – 8:00am  
Walk launches – 8:30am

### **MIDWAY Point- Where CDT School will join the walk!**

Madison Park High School  
75 Malcolm X Blvd, Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120  
Day of Registration at Madison: 7:00 am  
Program at Madison: 9:00 am  
Estimated launch from Madison with walkers coming from Town Field: 9:45am

## UNDERSTANDING RACE BOOK DISCUSSION

*May 18th, 1:00 - 2:30pm, following Shabbat lunch*

CDT's Understanding Race group is hosting a book discussion of Robin Diangelo's new best-selling book *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism*. We'll meet from 1:00 - 2:30 on Saturday, May 18th following Shabbat lunch. Please join us whether you've read the whole book or just part of it.

## TALES FROM BEYOND THE BAN

*Tuesday, May 28, 7:30pm in the CDT sanctuary*

CDT will host extraordinary storyteller Milbre Burch in a special performance of powerful tales from the seven predominantly Muslim countries named in the President's initial travel ban, bookended with personal stories by those impacted by the ban. This evening of what Burch calls "storytelling as a tool of reconciliation" will benefit BIJAN (Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network). Tickets at the door; sliding-scale donation \$9-\$36.

## JOIN THE JERICHO WALKS IN BURLINGTON, MA

March in Solidarity with those being mistreated by an inhuman immigration system.

**Every third Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm (3-2-1)**  
**(Next walk on Tuesday, May 21)**  
Walks take place at the ICE offices in Burlington, MA  
(1000 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803)

The Jericho Walk is a silent interfaith prayer and act of solidarity. The walk draws inspiration from the Battle of Jericho, in which the community marched around the city of Jericho seven times, causing the city walls to fall.

"The Jericho Walk of today is a silent, peaceful, and prayerful walk to bring down the walls of our unjust immigration system and is open to people of all or no faiths."

For anyone interested in taking part and carpooling from Newton, or for additional information, feel free to contact **Amy Mazur** at [acmazur@comcast.net](mailto:acmazur@comcast.net).

# CDT Events



Photo: Sharon Gorberg

## CELEBRATING MARLA LICHTMAN!

*Saturday evening, May 4*

*8:00-10:00pm*

*60 Highland Street, Fellowship Hall*

After 13 years of dedicated service to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, our beloved **Marla Lichtman** is retiring and moving on to new adventures. We will be celebrating Marla with Havdallah, delicious desserts, tributes, and more! All CDT members are invited. Please RSVP to your e-vite!

## CDT FILM CLUB

*Saturday, May 11 at the home of Stan and Jackie Fleishman*

*Potluck at 6:00pm, with the movie at 7:00pm followed by discussion.*

*In Search of Israeli Cuisine* (2017, 98 min, English)

Award-winning chef Michael Solomonov goes on a journey *In Search of Israeli Cuisine*. Profiling chefs, home cooks, farmers, vintners, and cheese makers drawn from the multitude of cultures that make up Israel today—Jewish, Arab, Muslim, Christian, Druze—a rich, complex, and human story emerges.—Amazon

Special! Israeli cuisine potluck, beginning with hors d'oeuvres from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, the movie starts at 7:00pm, to be followed by a group discussion. 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, i.e., salad with cheese or croutons, please keep separate). Due to space constraints, this event is for members and their families. Please let us know if you plan to come and what you're bringing (we can give you ideas and/or recipes). And, if you'd like to carpool to Acton, let us know that, too.

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.

## MEMBERS MEETING

*Sunday, May 19*

*5:30pm - Pizza Dinner*

*6:15pm-8:00pm - Meeting*

*60 Highland Street*

At the final Members Meeting of the year, we will get updates on CDT initiatives, elect a new Board slate, discuss and pass a budget for the coming year, and thank all those who have served CDT in a variety of capacities this year. We hope that at least one representative of each CDT household is able to come. Stay tuned for an e-vite; childcare will be provided.



Photo: Mara Gibbs

## New Photographic Exhibit in CDT Gallery

Come view the photography of Mara Gibbs, on display in the CDT Gallery through Labor Day. Please join us after services on May 11th for the opening.

# Nediv Lev

## CONTRIBUTIONS

The Nediv Lev campaign is CDT's only fundraiser of the year. This year, we have increased our target to \$85,000, about 15% of our annual budget. It is a way for each of us to give back to our community with voluntary gifts "from the heart," to show appreciation for the role that CDT plays in our lives.

We are pleased to report that as of April 15, Nediv Lev has already collected over \$60,000, well on our way to our goal! We expect to wrap up the campaign in time for our final members meeting of the

year on May 19, so we ask that you consider making your donation in the next few weeks if you have not already done so.

Also, we want to remind everyone that starting this year you can donate online. Just log in to the [dorsheitzedek.org](http://dorsheitzedek.org) website and find Nediv Lev under the "Giving" tab. Of course, we still appreciate paper checks (especially for larger donations)! If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact the Nediv Lev Co-Chairs, **John Carroll** ([jcarroll@mit.edu](mailto:jcarroll@mit.edu)) and **Debbie Waber** ([dpwaber@gmail.com](mailto:dpwaber@gmail.com)).

*Nediv Lev continued on next page*

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*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

Karen & Jeff Arnold—*In honor of Terry Denny*  
Ellie Baron and Kate De Bethune  
Diane Becker—*In memory of my husband, Alvin Becker*  
Robin Bernstein and Maya Townsend  
Susan Bernstein  
Elaine Bresnick  
Joann Breuer  
Miriam Bronstein—*In memory of Jill Volk*  
Janice Cole—*In memory of Ina Schwartz*  
Amy Dain and Misha Dudnik  
Rachel Davenport and Mark Paley  
Louise Enoch and Alan Epstein  
Carolyn Fine and Jerry Friedman—*In memory of Milton Fine*  
Diana and Richard Fisher Gomberg—*In honor of our wonderful Rabbi Toba*  
Jackie and Stan Fleischman  
Ora Gladstone—*In appreciation of this wonderful community of which I'm so lucky to be a part!*  
Ellie Goldberg—*In memory of my father, Emanuel Koenigsberg*  
Lynda Goldberg and Joseph Bayes  
Tessa Goldsmith  
Beth and Jeffrey Green—*In honor of our new granddaughter Ella Josephine Silver, daughter of Elana and Jason Silver and sister to Evie Adira Silver*

Rebecca Gutman  
Doug Hersh—*In memory of Marilyn & Michael Hersh*  
John Holohan—*In honor of Marla Lichtman, for her help with the newsletter each month. Her eagle-eye proofreading will be missed.*  
Steffi and Eric Karp—*In honor of Marla Lichtman, for years of service to our community*  
Linda and Peter Katz—*In memory of Lina Weiss*  
Jeff Kichen  
Dianne Lior  
Alison and David Lobron—*In honor of Valerie Graf and Doron Gan*  
Ellen Lubell and David Nathan  
Fran Malino—*In memory of Eugene C. Black*  
Alice Markowitz and Rick Glassman  
Amy Mazur—*In honor of Lissy Medvedow & Cliff Cohen's new grandchild*  
Carla Naumburg and Josh Herzig-Marx  
Sami O'Reilly and Robert Imperato  
Kathy Pillsbury and Cindy Marshall  
Mona Pollack  
Barbara Shatkin and Andrew Littman  
Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome—*In memory of Sandra Gertz, mother of Nancy Gertz; in memory of Gerry Cohen, mother of Abby Cohen; in honor of the naming and welcoming of Ezra Roberts to the Dorshei Tzedek community*  
Jodie Siegel—*In memory of my aunt, Marjorie Goldberg*  
Carol Sklar—*With much gratitude for the loving support I have been receiving from friends in the Wise Aging group, the Chesed committee, and other CDTers*  
Emily Sper—*In memory of Rose Sper*  
Nessa Spitzer—*In memory of Gina Fried*  
Theresa St. John-Siegel and Steve Siegel  
Chagit Steiner and Tom Brown  
Debbie Waber—*In loving memory of my father, Isadore Waber, on the occasion of his 5th yahrzeit*  
Sue Weil and Sandy Goodman  
Jonathan Weisberg

## CAMP HAVAYA FUND

Carla Naumburg and Josh Herzig-Marx

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Carolyn Fine and Jerry Friedman—*With gratitude to Rabbi Toba for the shiva evening for my dad, Milton Fine*

## SCHOOL FUND

## RETREAT FUND

## HOLY BOOKS FUND

## JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Carole Slipowitz and Dan Halbert—*In memory of Gina Fried*

## BUILDING FUND

## 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](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!

# CDT Calendar

# May 2019

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday                                   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| 28   | 29  | 30   | 1<br>Reconstructionist<br>Intro to Judaism<br>7:30pm to<br>9:00pm<br><br>Yom Hashoah<br>Program<br>7:30pm to<br>9:00pm | 2<br>Mindful Mornings<br>8:30am to 9:15am  | 3<br>All-Ages Erev<br>Shabbat Service/<br>Potluck & Kitah<br>Dalet Siyyum<br>6:00 pm | 4<br>Shabbat Morning Service &<br>Kitah Vav Siyyum<br>9:45am to 12:00pm   |
| 5<br>Religious School<br>Gr. 1-7<br>9:30am to 12:00pm<br><br>CDT Men's Softball<br>Game<br>10:00am to 12:00pm  | 6   | 7<br>Religious School<br>Gr. 3-6<br>3:45pm to<br>5:45pm  | 8  | 9<br>Mindful Mornings<br>8:30am to 9:15am  | 10<br>Erev Shabbat<br>Community<br>Potlucks<br>7:00pm                                | 11<br>Shabbat Morning Torah Study<br>with Rabbi Toba Spitzer<br>8:45am to 9:40am<br><br>Shabbat Morning Service &<br>Kitah Hay Siyyum<br>9:45am to 12:00pm<br><br>Tot Shabbat<br>10:45am to 12:00pm<br>CDT Film Club 6:00pm<br>Shabbat Community Potlucks<br>7:00pm |
| 12<br>Mother's Day Walk<br>for Peace<br>8:00am to 12:00pm  | 13  | 14<br>Religious School<br>Gr. 3-6<br>3:45pm to<br>5:45pm | 15<br>Reconstructionist<br>Intro to Judaism<br>7:30pm to<br>9:00pm   | 16<br>Mindful Mornings<br>8:30am to 9:15am | 17   | 18<br>Shabbat Morning Service<br>9:45am to 12:00pm  |
| 19<br>Religious School<br>Gr. 1-7<br>9:30am to 12:00pm<br><br>CDT Men's Softball<br>Game<br>10:00am to 12:00pm<br><br>Members' Meeting<br>& Dinner<br>5:30pm to 8:00pm | 20  | 21<br>Jericho Walk in<br>Burlington, MA<br>1:00pm        | 22<br>Reconstructionist<br>Intro to Judaism<br>7:30pm to<br>9:00pm   | 23<br>Mindful Mornings<br>8:30am to 9:15am | 24   | 25<br>Shabbat Morning Service<br>& Bat Mitzvah of Celia<br>Gilbert-Sartori<br>9:45am to 12:00pm   |
| 26   | 27<br>Office Closed<br><br>Wise Aging<br>Meeting<br>7:00pm to<br>9:00pm | 28   | 29<br>Reconstructionist<br>Intro to Judaism<br>7:30pm to<br>9:00pm   | 30<br>Mindful Mornings<br>8:30am to 9:15am | 31   | June 1<br>Shabbat Morning Torah<br>Study with Rabbi Toba<br>Spitzer<br>8:45am to 9:40am<br><br>Shabbat Morning Service<br>9:45am to 12:00pm<br><br>Tot Shabbat<br>10:45am to 12:00pm  |

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

### MAY 3, EREV SHABBAT:

Doug Hersh (Captain) / Peter Shapiro / Denise Yurkofsky / Ellie Axe

### MAY 4, SHABBAT:

Marcia Okun (Captain) & Joshua Lieberman / Gail Pressberg / Max Roberts

### MAY 11, SHABBAT:

Alice Markowitz (Captain) & Rick Glassman / Ilana Streit / Mona Pollack

### MAY 18, SHABBAT:

Allison Andrews & Arthur Lent (Captain) / Rebecca Byard / Vilunya Diskin

### MAY 19, MEMBERS MEETING & DINNER:

Nancy Gertz (Captain), *in memory of Julius Gertz* / Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome / Diane Becker

### MAY 25, SHABBAT:

Sanctuary Cleanup: Jodi & Alex Sugeran-Brozan  
Ushers: Stephanie & Nem Hackett  
Kiddush Setup: Arthur Len

**More setup and cleanup helpers are needed** to support the Gilbert/Sartori family on the occasion of Celia's bat mitzvah. If you can help, please be in touch with **Jennifer Sartori** at **jenny-sartori@hotmail.com**. THANK YOU.

**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.

# Shabbat & Holidays

*Shabbat continued from page 3*

## BAT MITZVAH OF CELIA GILBERT-SARTORI

*Saturday, May 25, 9:45am-noon*

We invite the CDT community to celebrate with us as our daughter, Celia Gilbert-Sartori, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Celia is a busy seventh grader at Watertown Middle School. She plays volleyball and soccer, enjoys pottery and piano, is a panda-phile, and loves spending time with her friends and her crazy dog Addie. Following the service, please join us for a kiddush lunch! – Jenny Sartori and Barry Gilbert

## CHANTING & MEDITATION SERVICE

*Saturday, June 1, 9:45am-Noon*

This contemplative service features song, silent and guided meditation, as well as Torah study. No meditation experience necessary! If possible, please arrive no later than 10:00am so as not to interrupt the meditation; Torah discussion will begin at 11:15am (and it is fine to just come for the first or second part of the morning!).

## SHAVUOT

### TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT - A NIGHT OF LEARNING - SAVE THE DATE!

*Saturday evening, June 8, 8pm-midnight*

*60 Highland Street, West Newton*

This year, as we celebrate the mythic moment of receiving Torah on Mount Sinai, we will dedicate our learning to the memory of rebbetzin Gina Fried, zichronah l'vracha. It is traditional to usher in the holiday of Shavuot with all-night Torah study, and we will honor Torah and Gina's memory with an evening of learning with and from CDT members and a special guest. So come learn with us, whether the whole evening or just as long as you can stay awake!

The evening will begin at 8pm with a musical workshop featuring Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell. Twelve years after making his professional operatic debut in the world premiere of Philip Glass's *Appomattox* with the San Francisco Opera Company, Anthony Russell is now a vocalist, composer and arranger specializing in Yiddish song. Anthony's work in traditional Ashkenazi musical forms led to a musical exploration of his own roots through the research, arrangement and performance of a hundred years of African American traditional music. The result is an amazing integration of African American spirituals and Yiddish music, sung in Anthony's gorgeous bass. He will



share about both forms of music, and the connections he sees between them.

The evening will continue at 9pm with havdallah and more workshops, including Torah study, blintz-making, yoga, and more! We will end with a meditation as the heavens open at midnight. Come for all or part of the evening! Stay tuned for more details.



**Congregation Dorshei Tzedek**

60 Highland St.  
West Newton, MA 02465



Address correction requested

## CDT RETREAT REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

*June 14-June 16 (Everyone is invited!)*

*Camp Yavneh, Northwood, New Hampshire*

Sign up for the CDT Members Retreat  
Go to the Members Sign-up page on the CDT website, <https://www.dorsheitzedek.org/signups>

Don't miss your chance—this only happens every two years! Join fellow CDT members at Camp Yavneh in New Hampshire from Friday afternoon, June 14, to Sunday, June 16, for a weekend of kehillah (community). Join friends and family for Shabbat and much more in an absolutely lovely summer New England setting. Camp Yavneh is outside Concord, New Hampshire (about 90 minutes from Boston).

The Dorshei Tzedek members' retreat is a time to create new ties and strengthen existing connections within our wonderful community. Unplug for the weekend in this beautiful setting with a range of activities for ages 0-99+—including swimming and boating at the lake, davening in the outdoor



amphitheater, singing, arts and crafts, softball, soccer, or just hanging out.

At previous retreats, we had a talent show and games for all ages. Delicious, kosher food is included, starting with Friday dinner and ending Sunday at lunch. We hope you can join us.

CDT members and staff are committed to making the retreat as accessible as possible

for all of our members. We have included a sliding scale for anyone for whom the full cost is prohibitive. Also, for families with children who have special needs, we will have dedicated staff on hand.

Whether you sit in the sun, hike in the woods, sing around the campfire or pray and do yoga, you are welcome. Sign up is on the CDT website under Members Area and "Sign-ups".