



## The Mishkan as Beloved Community

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer



As I write this column, we are reading from the Torah portion where God tells Moses to instruct the Israelites to build a mikdash, a “holy place, so that I may dwell among them” (Exodus

25:8). Most of the remainder of the book of Exodus—15 chapters in all, over 1/3 of the entire book—are devoted to the detailed instructions for the building of this “holy place,” also called the Mishkan. The text does NOT have God say, “build me a holy place so that I dwell in it,” but rather, “that I may dwell among them.” This portable sanctuary in the wilderness was not like other Near Eastern temples, with a bed inside for the local god to sleep in. Rather, it was a structure that allowed the Divine Presence to become manifest amidst the Israelite community. In the innermost part of the Mishkan, the Holy of Holies, Moses would encounter the Divine Voice, and the Israelites outside would witness God’s Presence as a Cloud hovering over the sanctuary.

Why is so much attention paid to the construction of the Mishkan? I believe it’s because this “holy place” was a physical symbol of the social structure the Israelites were called on to build. If constructed properly, this holy society would allow the Godly qualities of justice and love to become manifest in the human realm. This social structure was made up of mutual obligations that connected the freed slaves to one another, and to the Divine. The many mitzvot laid out in the Torah—from treating workers fairly to prohibitions on eating the blood of animals to leaving the corners of the field for the poor to not gossiping or dealing deceitfully to ritual obligations



*Pride Day, by Tal Cohen-Weinberg. For more information about “CDT Youth Spread Message of Inclusion”, see page 9.*

and, of course the famous commandment to love both the “neighbor” and the “stranger” as ourselves—these are the building blocks of that sacred social structure.

When I think about what we are trying to do here at Dorshei Tzedek, I imagine us engaged in the task of building our own, scale-model version of the Mishkan, and in so doing, helping to create a much larger structure: a society—and a world—in which Godliness can dwell. At the CDT Board retreat this past September, the phrase “Beloved Community” was used to describe this project. This phrase was coined by the founder of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the religious theologian Josiah Royce, in the late 19th century. I love this quote of Royce’s: “My life means nothing, either theoretically or practically, unless I am a member of a community.”

In the 20th century, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. popularized the concept of the “Beloved Community,” and linked it to his and others’ work for equality and justice by means of nonviolence. In the words of Rev. Shirley Strong: “I understand the term Beloved Community to mean an inclusive, interrelated society based on love, justice, compassion, responsibility, shared power and a respect for all people, places, and things—a society that radically transforms individuals and restructures institutions.”

To achieve this transformative vision, we will need to radically rethink all components of our society, from the economy to our concept of “national security” to our relationship to the land on which we live. We will need to transform everything from our educational systems to policing and prisons to the energy grid. The work is social, political, and

economic. Yet the transformation necessary to create the Beloved Community makes this ultimately a spiritual task. Without personal transformation, we can't make the necessary collective change. The scars and traumas inflicted on all of us by racism, antisemitism, and sexism, the violence done to our souls and to the earth by materialism and capitalism, are ongoing obstacles to the building of the "holy place." Without expanding our individual and collective capacities to overcome our fears, to ground ourselves in compassion for self and others, to have the strength and courage to live our values, we simply will not be up to the task of building the Beloved Community.

When we are doing our best at CDT, I believe we are engaged in this transformational work. It is all connected—singing in our

Zoom rooms at Shabbat morning services, going to a GBIO action, supporting mourners, studying holy texts, sitting quietly at Mindful Mornings, paying dues based on our household income, unlearning racism, connecting through the arts. These are all practices that can help us foster the qualities needed for the work of holy construction, and diminish the obstacles to that work. As we mark one year of living with the pandemic, I hope we can all appreciate the ways we have nurtured and supported one another through these difficult months. The simple fact that our community has grown and in many ways gotten stronger during this time is a victory of Beloved Community. May we take these lessons with us, as we continue the holy and difficult work of creating a structure in which Godliness dwells.

## From the Board

### MEMBERS MEETING

*Sunday morning, March 21, 10:30am-Noon*

We hope that at least one adult member from each CDT household will join us for the second Members Meeting of the year. In addition to congregational updates, we will be taking the next step in our Mental Health Initiative launched a few years ago. This will be an opportunity to connect around the mental health challenges we are all facing as a result of the pandemic, and to learn more about how to deepen our commitment to being a more inclusive and supportive community for those dealing with psychiatric illness.

## Office News

2020 tax letters have all been mailed out by post. Please let Melissa know if you did not receive yours, and she can email it to you.

## Rabbinic Liaison

**Rabbinic Liaisons:** While congregants are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns directly with **Rabbi Toba**, 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 **cbsrome@comcast.net**.

## Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and photos to **dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org**. Usually the deadline is the 10th of the month for the following month's issue. **Volunteer Staff:** Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Barbara Pittel, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Amy Westebbe.

## 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.

## Staff & Board

### Staff:

Rabbi Toba Spitzer, [t.spitzer@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:t.spitzer@dorsheitzedek.org)  
Executive Director: Melissa Colten,  
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### Executive Committee:

President: Bob Warren  
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VP Finance: Ezra Hausman  
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VP Membership: Debby Saltzman  
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Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome  
Executive Director Liaison: Linette Liebling  
DCL Liaison: Lissy Medvedow  
Space: Steve Siegel  
Website: Dan Halbert  
Welcoming: Debbie Saltzman (Acting)

# Shabbat, Holidays & Spiritual Practice

As Dorshei Tzedek takes precautions during the Covid-19 pandemic, all of our programs have been moved to a “virtual” format for the time being. Like the Israelites in the wilderness, challenged by the Power that liberated them from slavery to create a new kind of society, we too are on a journey to foster our community connections, spiritual practice, Jewish learning, and social justice work in new ways. Please read on for descriptions of our on-line programs; information for logging onto any specific program can be found on the CDT website, [dorsheitzedek.org](http://dorsheitzedek.org).

## ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

*Friday evenings, March 5, April 2, 6:00-6:45pm*

All are welcome to join Rabbi Toba for this musical Kabbalat Shabbat service, friendly to kids but meaningful for all! Have your candles ready to light and a kiddush cup ready to bless. Zoom info is available on the CDT website.

## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

All are welcome to join us every Saturday morning for prayer, song, and Torah, beginning at 10:00am. Zoom info for each service can be found that week on the CDT website; just click on the calendar link on the right side of the homepage. Services are followed by virtual “Kiddush” chat rooms, for anyone who’d like to connect with CDT members and guests.

**Shabbat morning, Ki Tisa, March 6:** We join with Temple Hillel Bnai Torah for Refugee Shabbat, a project of HIAS ([www.hias.org](http://www.hias.org)), lifting up the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers. All are invited to join Rabbi Toba and Rabbi Barbara Penzner for the morning service beginning at 10am, and then at 11am we will hear from our very own CDT President, Bob Warren, who will share about the current status of refugee and immigration policy in the U.S. Bob is an immigration attorney in the Greater Boston area, working primarily with the Latino immigrant community on deportation defense, asylum representation, family processing and visa processing. He has a long-standing involvement in matters related to human rights and International Law throughout Latin America.

**Shabbat HaChodesh, March 13:** Join Rabbi Toba for the morning service beginning at 10am. During the Torah service beginning at 11am, we will remember Rebbetzin Gina Fried on the occasion of her 5th *yahrzeit*, and our Torah study will be dedicated to her memory.

And all are invited to stay on after services to learn about Earnest’s April class, Talmud for the 99%, and the SVARA-method pedagogy that Earnest uses to make Talmud accessible to everyone who wants to learn (see page 11 for more about the class).

**Shabbat morning, Vayikra, March 20:** All are welcome to join Sue Lanser and Jo Radner for mornings songs and blessings beginning at 10am, and Dan Rome at 10:30am for the Shahrar service. The Torah discussion will be led by Jonathan Rosenthal beginning at 11am, with closing prayers and Mourners Kaddish at approximately 11:30am.

**SPECIAL GUEST! Shabbat Hagadol, March 27:** All are invited to join Rabbi Toba at 10am for song and prayer, as we prepare for the beginning of Passover that evening. We will also remember beloved CDT teacher Lesley Chapman, on the occasion of her 12th *yahrzeit*. At 11am, we are thrilled to welcome Dr. Joy Ladin, who will offer a teaching in honor of Pesach and Trans Day of Visibility: “Kitniyot and Twilight: What Passover Teaches Us about Binary and Non-Binary Identities.” Passover defines Jewish identity in binary terms, distinguishing in seemingly absolute terms between non-Jews, who are permitted to eat leaven, and Jews, who aren’t. That binary depends on other, equally absolute binaries, such as the difference between what is and isn’t leavened, and days that are and days that aren’t Passover. We will look at Passover’s identity-defining binaries from a transgender perspective, and consider how Passover can help non-trans Jews understand the experience of not fitting the binary of male and female identity.

**Joy Ladin**, Gottesman Chair in English at Yeshiva University, the first (and still only) openly transgender employee of an Orthodox Jewish institution, has published nine books of poetry; a memoir of gender



transition, National Jewish Book Award finalist *Through the Door of Life*; and Lambda Literary and Triangle Award finalist, *The Soul of the Stranger: Reading God and Torah from a Transgender Perspective*. Episodes of her online conversation series, “Containing Multitudes,” are available at [JewishLive.org/multitudes](http://JewishLive.org/multitudes); her writing is available at [joyladin.wordpress.com](http://joyladin.wordpress.com). She serves on the Board of Keshet, an organization devoted to full LGBTQ inclusion in the Jewish world.

## MINDFUL MORNINGS

*Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 8:30am-9:15am*

This twice-weekly session of guided and silent meditation is open to all, regardless of level of meditation experience. Led by experienced CDT members and Rabbi Toba, Mindful Mornings is an opportunity to cultivate qualities of patience, equanimity, compassion, and resilience. Drop in is welcome! For those in mourning or observing a *yahrzeit*, Kaddish is recited at the end of the sit. Zoom info is available on the CDT website (for non-members, please email [office@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:office@dorsheitzedek.org) for the Zoom info).

## MINCHA MOMENTS

*with Rabbi Toba*

*Wednesday evenings, 5:30pm-5:45pm*

All are welcome to join Rabbi Toba for a moment of calm each week. The content will vary - a brief teaching, a meditative moment, some music, or another contemplative practice. We will start promptly at 5:30pm each Wednesday, but feel free to drop in at any time. Each session will end with an opportunity for those in mourning or observing a *yahrzeit* to recite Mourners Kaddish. And all are welcome to stay and shmooze for a few minutes afterwards!

*continued on page 4*



## Shabbat, Holidays & Spiritual Practice



### PESACH/PASSOVER

Passover is called “the season of our freedom,” and it begins this year on **Saturday evening, March 27**. We will have a few opportunities to celebrate the holiday together as a community, experiencing liberation even as we continue to experience the Mitzrayim, the constricted space, of our pandemic reality.

#### THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH SPIRITUALITY PRESENTS: THE JOURNEY TO INNER LIBERATION: SPIRITUAL PREPARATION FOR PASSOVER

Sunday, March 14 (Rosh Chodesh Nisan),  
12 noon-3:30pm

*Half price for CDT members!*

**Rabbi Toba** will be a featured teacher for this special half-day Jewish mindfulness retreat presented by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. This will be a half day of learning and practice focusing on liberation from the inner Egypts (constrictions and obstacles) that prevent us from expressing our most authentic and loving selves. It will feature whole group practice together with self-selected practice tracks linked to a particular element of Passover: hametz (leaven), matzah, maggid (narrative), and pesach (the Paschal lamb). Stay tuned for details – visit the IJS website at [www.jewishspirituality.org/](http://www.jewishspirituality.org/).

#### FIRST NIGHT SEDER CONNECTIONS

Saturday evening, March 27

If you do not have a seder that you are attending either in person or via Zoom and would like to connect with other CDT members for a first night seder, please go to the sign-up form on the CDT website (under the “Spiritual Life” heading on the home page). Participants will help shape and lead the seder.

#### SECOND NIGHT COMMUNITY SEDER

Sunday, March 28, 5:30pm-6:30pm

All are invited to join **Rabbi Toba** and other CDT members for a pre-dinner Zoom seder. Have your seder plate and ritual foods ready to go! We will join together for songs, readings, and reflection. The seder will be both kid- and adult-friendly, and pre-registration will be required. See the CDT website for details!

#### 7TH DAY OF PASSOVER SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

Saturday, April 3, 10am-noon

Tradition has it that on the 7th day after leaving Egypt, the Israelites crossed through the Reed Sea to freedom. In Reconstructionist practice, following the Israeli calendar, the seventh day is also the final day of the Passover week. We will celebrate this day with the singing of Hallel, and an opportunity to remember loved ones during the Yizkor service.

## 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

Joan Meier and Jerry Silverman—*In thanks for the wonderful Shabbat morning services that have kept us going through the pandemic, and kept us more connected with our dear cousins Lisa and DB*

#### NEDIV LEV DONATIONS

Stacey Chacker—*In honor of CDT’s wonderful Rabbi and staff who have gone above and beyond to keep our community vital and engaged. And another shout out to Melissa for your help to David and me in January!*

Ellie Goldberg—*In loving memory of her father-in-law Sampson Goldberg and her aunt, Leola Michaels; in loving memory of her father, Emanuel Koenigsberg*

Diana and Richard Gomberg  
Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan  
Ora Grosky and Jonathan Rosenthal  
Allison and Ezra Hausman

Jennifer Kaplan and Susie Tanchel  
Lissy Medvedow and Cliff Cohen  
Marion and Robert Ross—*With gratitude to Earnest Vener for enlivening our learning*  
Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome—*In honor of community solidarity and support during this pandemic*

Deborah and John Saltzman  
Deborah Waber  
Bob Warren

Ro Weichman and Jo Ann Share—*In memory of all our family and friends we’ve loved and lost*

# Community

## MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to **Judah Axe** for being promoted to full professor at Simmons University.

## YAHREIT

This month we remember CDT rebbetzin **Gina Fried**, whose 5th yahrzeit falls on March 10, may her memory be for a blessing. We will be remembering Gina at Shabbat morning services on March 13. We also remember CDT teacher **Lesley Chapman**, whose 12th yahrzeit falls on March 26, may her memory be for a blessing. We will be remembering Lesley at Shabbat morning services on March 27.

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to **Mark Schafer**, and to **Marjorie Salvodon** and **Marie-Carmel Schafer**, on the death of Mark's mother and first cousin of **Rachel** and **Steve Adler-Golden**, Alice Schafer. 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 at <https://www.dorsheitzedek.org/mourning>.

## AVELUT: SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN MOURNING

Because of the Marking the First Year of Mourning program with **Rabbi Toba** on March 18, Avelut will not be meeting in March. The Avelut program typically meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

## MARKING THE FIRST YEAR OF MOURNING

Thursday, March 18, 7:30-8:30pm

With **Rabbi Toba**

All members of CDT are invited to join the ongoing Avelut group to learn about Jewish rituals associated with the first year of mourning, as well as alternatives in these pandemic times. What are traditions associated with the unveiling? When do I stop saying Kaddish? What alternative rituals are available if a traditional one is not possible? Bring your questions!

## REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to **Alex Sugerman-Brozan**, **Eric Karp**, **Jacqui Bloomberg**, **Bill Gamson**, **Al Glazerman**, and **Alan Epstein**.

## TODAH RABAH

Member-led services present an opportunity for us to appreciate the skill and devotion of many people in our community. The Ritual Committee wants to thank all those who led and participated in Shabbat morning service in recent months:

In December, **Karen Arnold** led Morning Blessings and Songs of Praise with a theme of unity and gratitude. **Miriam Bronstein** led the Morning Service with a theme of Oneness. **Laurie Goldman** offered thoughts on the week's Parsha, *Vayigash*--"And He Approached"--and invited us to consider being in a place of refuge with security and abundance and preparing for the next step.

In January, **Ben Newman**, leading Morning Blessings and Songs of Praise, invited congregants to participate by reciting verses from Marge Piercy's Interpretive Nishmat Kol Hay. **Rachel** and **Steven Adler-Golden** joined voices to lead us in the Morning Service and **Rabbi Elaine Pollack** brought Parsha Bo, about Moses and Aaron going to Pharaoh, into the present moment.

A big Todah RabaH to our Torah leyners in recent months: **Melanie Adler**, **Miriam Bronstein**, **Laurie Goldman**, **Chayim Herzog-Marx**, **Reva Kasman**, **Elaine Pollack**, **Cindy Shulak-Rome**, and **Scott Tepper**.

## Nediv Lev (continued)

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rabbi Michael Luckens and Sharon Schumack—*In memory of Stan Fleischman; in memory of Gina Fried*

### YAHREIT DONATIONS

Janet Boguslaw & Howard Kaufman—*In memory of Janet's beloved sister, Lisa Faith Boguslaw*

Lauren Gibbs—*In memory of Mara*

Fran Malino—*In memory of her father Jerome R. Malino; in memory her mother Rhoda Malino*

Melissa Spatz—*In memory of Gerald Spatz*

Marianka Zadikow May and Lori Zadikow

May—*In loving memory of Eda (Edgar) Krasa*

### 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 online shopping you were planning to do anyway.

### LIVE CAPTIONING ON ZOOM!

CDT's Zoom accounts now have free automatic live captioning available. All hosts will now enable this service by pressing the "Live Transcript" button and then the "Enable Auto-Transcription" button in their Zoom control bars. All attendees can use or hide the closed captions according to their preference by looking for the same in their Zoom control bars next to the mute and video icons. Please take advantage of this great service!

# CDT Events

## VIM ROUND 2: MARCH VIRTUAL INTEREST MEET-UPS

Wednesday March 3 through Tuesday March 9

Debbie Saltzman

### The CDT Welcoming Committee Invites You to: Virtual Interest Meet-Ups (VIMS).

Our next round of VIM meetings is from Wednesday, March 3rd - Tuesday, March 9th. We have a wide variety of topics to choose from, listed below, and hope to see you there.

**For more information about the VIMs, and to sign up, go to the Members Section of the CDT website.** The host will get back to you with details and a Zoom link for the VIM.

## CHALLAH BAKING

with Steffi Aronson Karp

Wednesday, March 3, 10:00-11:00am

Shabbat tastes even better when you've made your own challah, so join Steffi for a no-knead challah lesson.

## GETTING INVOLVED AT CDT: NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS

with Deb Saltzman

Wednesday, March 3, 7:30-8:30pm

Join a discussion about ways to participate in committees and other congregational activities. (Adults only)

## MYOFASCIAL RELEASE 101

with Diana Fisher-Gomberg

Wednesday, March 3, 8:00-9:00pm

Join Diana to loosen up tight muscles with a set of 2 tennis balls or a foam roller.

## GLUTEN-FREE BAKING

with Rachele Rosi-Kessel

Thursday, March 4, 4:00-5:00pm

Gluten-free baking is one of the most difficult types of baking to do well. Let's gather in our kitchens on zoom and discuss ideas about gluten-free baking and share knowledge with each other.

## CONSIDERING BEGINNING A MEDITATION PRACTICE

with Trish Nuzzola

Thursday, March 4, 7:00-8:00pm

Give meditation a try! Meeting includes instruction, a brief practice, and review of the experience.

## HEBREW CHIT-CHAT

with Emily Sper

Thursday, March 4, 8:00-9:00pm

Conversational Hebrew for Israelis, American-Israelis, and other Hebrew speakers

## LOOK UNTIL YOU SEE

with Thea Breite

Friday, March 5, 9:00-10:00am

Use your camera phone to find beauty and interest in your home, outside your door and in your community

## LET'S TALK FOOD

with Melissa Colten

Friday, March 5, 12:30-1:30pm

Come talk about cooking technique, recipes and take-out.

## PLAY READING

with Sheree Galpert

Saturday, March 6, 1:00-4:00pm

Participate in a reading of a contemporary play that is relevant and provocative and then have time for a discussion. Additional sign-ups will be available for people who wish to be audience only. (Adults only)

## AMONG US (3RD-6TH GRADERS)

with Ruby Gan

Sunday, March 7, 4:00-5:00pm

Start a private game of Among Us while having a Zoom call at the same time where we can talk while playing. Experienced and new players welcome. Geared towards kids 3rd - 6th grade.

## AMONG US (7TH-12TH GRADES)

with Samantha Lent

Saturday, March 6, 2:00-4:00pm

Start a private game of Among Us while having a zoom call at the same time where we can talk while playing. Experienced and new players welcome. Geared towards kids 7th -12th grade.

## NEED A LAUGH? CHAT ABOUT GREAT SITCOMS!

with Anna Kaplan, Eleanor Kaplan, and Erica Streit-Kaplan

Saturday, March 6, 4:00-5:00pm

Let's talk about favorite sitcoms such as *Parks and Recreation*, *The Good Place*, *New Girl*, and *The Office*. Watch a few clips and dive deeper into key characters, plot points, and share commentary. For adults, adolescents, and older kids (approximately ages 9 and up).

## GAMES NIGHT

with Amy Brodesky

Saturday, March 6, 7:30-8:30pm

Let's play some fun online games, including Scattergories, Quplash, and others. No prior experience needed. (Adults only)

## MAYIM CHAYIM -- THE WATER OF LIFE -- WHISKEY?

with Scott Tepper and Pablo Goldbarg

Saturday, March 6, 8:00-9:30pm

Join Pablo and Scott for a discussion about whiskey -- what it is, varieties, considerations, preferences, trends, Jewish connections, etc.

## 3-D PRINTING AND MORE!

with Evan Gan and Elliot Shumsky

Sunday, March 7, 1:00-2:00pm

Learn how to design a 3-D object that could be 3-D printed.

## HOMEMADE PERSONAL CARE AND CLEANING PRODUCTS

with Sarah Birkeland

Sunday, March 7, 4:30-5:30pm

Reduce the plastic in your house and the chemicals in your bodies. Learn to make



your own cleaning supplies (e.g., laundry detergent, spray cleaner) and personal care products (e.g., shaving cream, deodorant, facial moisturizer) from scratch.

## PET SHOW-AND-TELL

with Cindy Rivka Marshall and Kathy Pillsbury

Sunday, March 7, 7:00-8:00pm

What creatures, large and small, live in your household? Show off and introduce your pets, tell a story about a past or present pet, and schmooze about our animal friends. Family friendly.

## HOME BREWING AT THE OKLIEB FERMENTARIUM

with Josh Lieberman and Marcia Okun

Sunday, March 7, 7:30-8:30pm

We will go over the steps of making beer and hard cider at home, the different styles of beers and ciders, what gives them their different tastes, and answer questions.

## CDT MEN'S AFFINITY GROUP

with Dan Rome

Monday, March 8, 8:00-9:00pm

Join a lightly structured conversation with other CDT men. How are these times affecting you, your family, your relationships? Challenges? Lessons learned?

## TOURING GREATER BOSTON: IDEAS FOR FUN EASY INTERESTING DAY TRIPS

with Amy Dain

Monday, March 8, 7:00-8:00pm

Learn about Amy's favorite places around Boston to visit. Off-the-beaten path stuff, including town centers, rail trails, nature reserves, historic sites, college campuses, and beaches. Share your own local favorites.

## CLIMATE AND ENERGY HOUR

with Ezra Hausman

Tuesday, March 9, 7:30-8:30pm

Ezra Hausman, climate scientist and energy markets expert, brings the facts and answers your questions on climate and energy issues.

## ISRAEL'S MANY CULTURES: TOGETHER OR APART?

ריבוי תרבויות בישראל: ביחד או לחוד ?

Wednesday evenings, March 10, 17, 24, 7:30 to 9:00pm

We are excited to welcome back **Dr. Irit Aharony**, who will offer to members of CDT a



three-session course on "Israel's Many Cultures: Together or Apart?" The course will explore the diversity of Israeli cultures, highlighting both commonalities and tensions among its

diverse communities. Each session will emphasize a different art form and explore a particular formation of Israeli voices. The classes will be conducted in English, and readings will be available in Hebrew and English. Advance reading will be necessary only for the final session.

**March 10:** "In many small windows, through side entrances" (Yehuda Amichai): Questions of immigration, otherness and belonging, "here" versus "there" in Israeli art, with an emphasis on Russian and Ethiopian new Israelis (עולים חדשים).

**March 17:** "In Ashkenaz State" (Roy Hasan): Israeli spoken word poetry, the Ars poetica (ערס-פואטיקה) movement, and the Mizrahi voice.

**March 24:** Israelis Here and There: Identities, differences, and relationships between Israelis at home and abroad—in Haaretz and in the Diaspora, explored through Maya Arad's widely acclaimed 2018 novella *The Hebrew Teacher* (המורה לעברית)

**Irit Aharony** is Senior Preceptor in Hebrew at Harvard University, where she teaches courses in Hebrew language, culture, and literature. She holds a PhD in Hebrew literature from Bar-Ilan University. She has taught classes at CDT in the past, to great acclaim.

## TORAH STUDY WITH EARNEST VENER

Wednesday mornings, 8am-8:45am

Start your Wednesday mornings with Torah Study! Join Earnest for a weekly 45-minute study session, focusing on the weekly Torah portion. You are welcome to drop-in or come every week. All are welcome and no prior knowledge is required. See the CDT website for Zoom information, and email Earnest at [e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org) with any questions.

## SAVE THE DATE! THE DISORDERED COSMOS: BOOK TALK WITH DR. CHANDA PRESCOD-WEINSTEIN

Thursday evening, April 22, 7:30pm-9:00pm

We are thrilled to be hosting CDT member **Chanda Prescod-Weinstein** as she reads from and shares about her new book, *The Disordered Cosmos: Dark Matter, Spacetime, and Dreams Deferred*. One of the leading physicists of her generation, Chanda is also one of fewer than one hundred Black American women to earn a PhD from a department of physics. In the book, she shares her love for physics, from the Standard Model of Particle Physics and what lies beyond it, to the physics of melanin in skin, to the latest theories of dark matter — all with a new spin informed by history, politics, and the wisdom of Star Trek. She urges us to recognize how science, like most fields, is rife with racism, sexism, and other dehumanizing systems. The book lays out a bold new approach to science and society that begins with the belief that we all have a fundamental right to know and love the night sky. The publication date is March 9 – to order *The Disordered Cosmos* and read it before the talk, go [www.boldtypebooks.com](http://www.boldtypebooks.com).

## 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 [t.spitzer@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:t.spitzer@dorsheitzedek.org). Rabbi Toba does not check email 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.

### MEET YOUR 2021 CDT CHESED COMMITTEE



Our congregation values Chesed, acts of loving-kindness. The Chesed Coordinators facilitate gestures of practical comfort and caring at times of each other's hardships, life transitions or stressful times to help build the type of caring community we want to live in.

The current members of the Chesed Committee are **Melanie Adler, Abby Cohen, Meryl Epstein, Beth Green, Valerie Graf, Judy Hersch, Lisa Hirsh, Lisa Keshet, Beth Green, Elaine Landes, Dianne Lior, Fran Malino, Gail Pressberg, Chad Pytel**, and **DB Reiff**. Missing from the Screenshot are **Ellen Pashall** and **Laura Katz**.

The Chesed Committee is currently managing Chesed meals by ordering from a local restaurant such as Inna's Kitchen. When a Chesed need arises, a Chesed Coordinator will contact the member to inquire about food preferences, order the meal, and send out a request for a volunteer to pick up and deliver the meal. Rabbi Toba uses the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund to buy the meals.

The Chesed Coordinators for March are **Abby Cohen, Judy Hersch**, and **Chad Pytel**. Please contact them if you have questions or a request for Chesed at [chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org).

### CHESED Q&A:

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

### LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS, AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS, ALL INSTRUMENTS, SOLOISTS AND GROUPS!

The CDT Virtual Art Shows have been a terrific success and brought great joy, particularly in this time of Coronavirus lock-down. At the last visual art show, Joe Bayes was kind enough to serenade us on the piano, which expanded our auditory pleasure and created the idea of having a CDT zoom musical event. This is your opportunity to perform for a loving, supportive, appreciative community in the comfort of your home or studio and have some fun. Please be in touch with **Melissa Colten**, [execdirector@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:execdirector@dorsheitzedek.org), if interested in helping design the evening and/or being a guest musician.

## Tikkun Olam

### GBIO REFOUNDING CONTINUES

*Refounding Event, March 16, 7pm*

**By Louise Enoch and Tony Broh**

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) "Refounding," which began in April, 2019, is an effort to expand its membership of congregations and organizations and to increase the engagement and participation among the member groups. The first phase has produced a 30-35% increase in membership, including congregations-of-color, labor unions, and coalition organizations consistent with the mission of GBIO. The second phase begins this month with an invitation to help set the GBIO policy agenda through House Meetings in each member organization.

Members of Dorshei Tzedek met on February 18 to review the GBIO accomplishments from the previous year in Healthcare, Housing, and Police Reform and to provide input about GBIO endeavors for the coming year. After short break-out sessions, the group discussed issues that were on their minds, including climate change, a fair living wage, and other topics. On March 7, GBIO Co-Liaisons Louise Enoch and Tony Broh conducted a similar meeting for Religious School parents that were unable to attend the evening meeting.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming GBIO Refounding Event on March 16. CDT attendees will have the opportunity to "meet" the new member organizations and hear about the ongoing phases of the Refounding, which includes house meetings for the identification of new issues and priorities for GBIO going forward in the coming year.



## Learning

### CDT SHABBAT AFTERNOON OUTDOORS

March 13, April 3, April 17, May 8, May 29,  
3:30-4:30pm

Kids aged 4-13, spend Shabbat afternoon outdoors with CDT! We will meet at Auburndale Cove, with masks and social distance protocols. Kids will be split into three groups based on age, with ten kids max per group. Parents must stay on site for the duration of the program. More details about safety protocols to come.



We hired the wonderful outdoor educator Allie Comet to organize our outdoor programming. Allie will be the main contact person, she will

lead our youngest learners, and work with the other educators.

**Allie Comet** (she/her): Allie joins Dorshei Tzedek with a diverse background in education and nature connection. Most recently, Allie graduated from Brandeis University with a Masters in Teaching in Elementary Education, with a focus on Jewish Day Schools. Prior to that, she worked on farms all around the Northeast and as a mentor with Vermont Wilderness School, facilitating nature connection experiences for children of all ages. She has also led a variety of Jewish experiential education programs, including cooking, gardening, and nature-based programs that connect to Jewish themes. Allie currently lives in Jamaica Plain, and is actively involved in the local Jewish community. Influenced by a variety of mentors and experiences, including her Jewish practice, Allie strives to keep social justice and equity at the center of her educational practice.

## Jewish Community Events

### UPCOMING SCREENING OF A FATHER'S KADDISH

March 3-9

CDT member **Jen Kaplan's** recent film *A Father's Kaddish* will be screened at the Judy Levis Krug Virtual Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival. Visit their website <https://brjff2021.eventive.org/welcome> for tickets and other information.

## CDT Artist Spotlight: CDT Youth Spread Message of Inclusion

I'm a boy. I'm a girl.



And I look the part.

*I'm a boy. I'm a girl, by Eva Pytel, 4th grade.*

*Do the Right Thing, by Shirel Breite Moser, 5th Grade*

by Earnest Vener

In December I hopped on the VIM train and hosted a VIM for Trans and Nonbinary CDT members and their families. Nine people came and we had a great time getting to know one another, sharing our favorite books that reflect gender diversity, and discussing some actions we might take as a group. One seven-year-old gave advice to a fifth grader about how to advocate for a gender neutral bathroom at their school. Kids ranged in age from five to eighteen! We met for a second time to discuss ways we might raise awareness within the broader community. Three members volunteered to make drawings to spread the message of inclusion, pride, and visibility at CDT. (Also, see drawings on pages 1 and 12).



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
		8:30a Mindful Mornings 3:30p Religious School Gr. 3 - Gr. 6 7:30p Telling Our Stories Part II	8:00a Torah Study 10:00a VIM: Challah Baking 5:30p Mincha Moment 7:30p VIM: New Member Schmooze 8:00p VIM: Myofascial Release 101	8:30a Mindful Mornings 1:30p Limpieza de Sangre and the "Clash of Civilizations"; Or, What Hath the Soul to Do with Racialized Bodies? 4:00p VIM: Gluten-Free Baking 7:00p VIM: Considering beginning a meditation practice 8:00p VIM: Hebrew Chit-chat	9:00a VIM: Look Until You See 12:30p VIM: Let's Talk Food 6:00p All Ages Erev Shabbat Service	10:00a Refugee Shabbat Morning Service 1:00p VIM: Play reading 2:00p VIM: Among Us (7th-12th graders) 4:00p VIM: Need a laugh? Chat about great sit-coms! 7:30p VIM: Games Night 8:00p VIM: Mayim Chayim – the Water of Life – Whiskey?
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00a Religious School Gr. 1 - Gr. 7 10:25a Kitah Hey B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Meeting with Rabbi Toba 10:30a Religious School Parent Meeting 10:30a Parenting in the Pandemic: A Support space 1:00p VIM: 3-D Printing and More! 4:00p VIM: Among Us (3rd-6th graders) 4:30p VIM: Homemade Personal Care & Cleaning Products 7:00p VIM: Pet Show & Tell 7:30p VIM: Home Brewing at the Oklieb Fermentarium	7:00p VIM: Touring Greater Boston: Ideas for fun easy interesting day trips 8:00p VIM: CDT Men's Affinity Group	8:30a Mindful Mornings 3:00p Golda - Israeli Leaders on Film Series 3:30p Religious School Gr. 3 - Gr. 6 7:30p VIM: Climate and Energy Hour 7:30p Telling Our Stories Part II	8:00a Torah Study 5:30p Mincha Moment 7:30p Israel's Many Cultures: Together Or Apart?	8:30a Mindful Mornings		10:00a Shabbat HaChodesh
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00a Nitzanim/Gan 10:00a Religious School Gr. 1 - Gr. 3 10:00a RS: Kitot Dalet-Zay-in Outdoors 10:30a Parenting in the Pandemic: A Support space 12:00p The Journey to Inner Liberation: Spiritual Preparation for Passover 5:00p Lieber-Man - Israeli Leaders on Film Series		8:30a Mindful Mornings 3:00p Menachem Begin: Peace and War - Israeli Leaders on Film Series 4:00p Religious School Gr. 3 - Gr. 6: Rosh Chodesh Nissan & Ma'ariv Program 7:00p GBIO Refounding Assembly	8:00a Torah Study 5:00p Honorable Men: The Rise and Fall of Ehud Olmert - Israeli Leaders on Film Series 5:30p Mincha Moment 7:00p Passover Learning - Hebrew Roots & Dictionary Skills Crash Course 7:30p Israel's Many Cultures: Together Or Apart? 7:30p Telling Our Stories Part II	8:30a Mindful Mornings 1:30p Race, Class and Privilege: How Latino Jews navigate life in the United States 7:30p Marking the First Year of Mourning	5:30p Tot Shabbat	10:00a Shabbat Morning, Vayikra
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00a Religious School Gr. 1 - Gr. 7 10:30a Parenting in the Pandemic: A Support space	3:00p Comrade Dov - Israeli Leaders on Film Series	8:30a Mindful Mornings 3:30p Religious School Gr. 3 - Gr. 6 7:30p Telling Our Stories Part II	8:00a Torah Study 5:30p Mincha Moment 7:30p Israel's Many Cultures: Together Or Apart?	8:30a Mindful Mornings 1:30p "We are the Ethiopian Hebrews, Brothers to the Fair White Jew": Race, Religion, and Jewish Identity in Harlem		10:00a Shabbat Hagadol 7:00p First Night Seder Connections
28	29	30	31	April 1	2	3
Pesach 5:30p Passover - Second Night Community Seder	Pesach 1st Day Omer	2nd Day Omer 8:30a Mindful Mornings 3:30p Religious School Gr. 3 - Gr. 6 7:30p Telling Our Stories Part II	3rd Day Omer 8:00a Torah Study 5:30p Mincha Moment 7:00p Leadership Workshop	4th Day Omer	5th Day Omer 6:00p All Ages Erev Shabbat Service	Pesach 6th Day Omer 10:00a 7th Day of Passover Shabbat Morning Service



## TALMUD FOR THE 99%

Sundays 4:30-6:30pm, April 11, April 18, April 25, May 2

## HEBREW ROOTS & DICTIONARY SKILLS CRASH COURSE

Wed. March 17th, 7-8pm.

Join Earnest for a four session Talmud class between Passover and Shavuot. In this class we will prepare for Shavuot, which commemorates the Jewish people entering into a covenantal relationship with God, by decoding a wild Talmudic story that completely reimagines the covenantal moment. We will explore the rabbis' motivation for their subversive reimagining, and their vision for a more liberatory relationship with the Divine.

Talmud study often feels intimidating and inaccessible. This Talmud class is Talmud for the 99%, and its four sessions seek to bring rigorous, joyful, and "traditionally radical" Talmud study to learners of all levels.

This is a SVARA Method class. The SVARA method is a three step process: *chevruta* (study pairs), *shiur* (group discussion), and *chazara* (review). Each session will begin with *chevruta* (study partner) learning. You and your *chevruta* will work with the text in the

original Hebrew and Aramaic, using dictionaries to decipher each word. All you need to begin learning is your alef-bet (the ability to sound out the Hebrew alphabet) and you're ready to go! StiContact **Earnest**, [e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org), for support.

**Questions?** Come to the Talmud for the 99% Info Session immediately following Shabbat morning services on **March 13th at 12pm**.

**Not sure if it is right for you?** Come to the *Hebrew Roots & Dictionary Skills Crash Course* on **Wednesday, March 17th from 7-8pm**. This session is open to the whole congregation. We will learn how to identify root letters and look them up in dictionaries. We will decode a text from the Passover Haggadah together and you will get a taste of SVARA method's joyful and rigorous pedagogy.

## SUPPORTING OUR TEENS THROUGH COVID-19, A FACILITATED PROGRAM FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Thursday, March 11, 5:30pm-6:30pm MST  
(7:30pm-8:30pm EST).

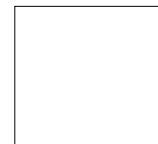
The COVID-19 pandemic has had an outsized impact on our teens. Soon, we will have spent an entire year in fear and isolation, working through personal and communal levels of grief and loss. We all - even the most resilient of us - feel the strain imposed by our current world. It is no wonder that our teens are struggling too! Join BaMidbar Wilderness Clinical Director, Nick Magle-Haberek, in this workshop with BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy. Parents will come together to ask the question: What can we do to better support our teens? As a group, we will explore three key basic psychological needs and unpack ways in which parents can use those needs to actively support their child's well-being.

**Nick Magle-Haberek** is the Clinical Director at BaMidbar. For the

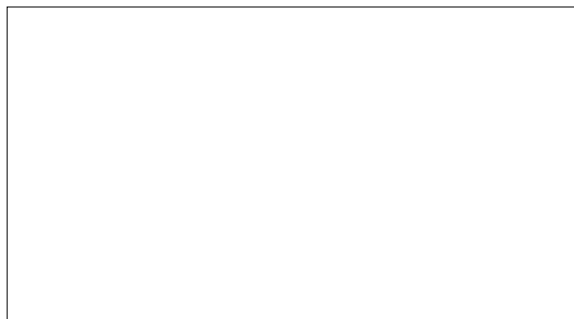


past twenty years, Nick has worked in a variety of roles in the field of wilderness therapy and adventure education, including field guide, individual therapist, clinical supervisor, program manager, family therapist and clinical director. After working as a wilderness therapy field guide, Nick earned masters degrees in both Social Work and Outdoor Education at the University of New Hampshire, and returned to wilderness therapy programs in a clinical role. Nick is also on the leadership committee for the Therapeutic Adventure Professional Group.





Address correction requested



## CDT Artist Spotlight: CDT Youth Spread Message of Inclusion



*Clothes don't have genders by Eva Pytel, 4th grade.*

*For more information about "CDT Youth Spread Message of Inclusion," see page 9.*