



# Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism

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Sivan/Tammuz 5781

June 2021



## On to the Summer

By Bob Warren, President

*Photo by Mark Farber*



As I write this, we are beginning to return to a somewhat normal life in the United States, and at the same time, I am confronted with the current heartbreaking violence and crisis in Israel and Palestine. I believe that as American Jews - and as members of "Dorshei Tzedek," "Seekers of Justice," we have a duty to learn as much as we can from a variety of sources to best understand

what the current crisis is about and how to encourage our government to support peace while opposing the growing violence. My heart goes out to both Palestinians and Israelis who are suffering through this conflict. My hope is that through compassion, we can show empathy to all who are suffering in this endless struggle.

As Jews we understand what it means to be uprooted from our homes and land and to seek a safe place to live. It is this historical memory that guides us in understanding the feelings and reactions of Palestinians in East Jerusalem who feel that they are being uprooted unjustifiably. At the same time, we understand that innocent Israeli civilians deserve to be able to live in safety and security as well. As Rabbi Toba commented prior to the reading of Parsha Bamidbar which told the story of the census in Numbers or "In the Wilderness", every life is sacred. And this is how we ought to commit ourselves in Israel and Palestine.



I commend the activities of our Israel-Palestine Peace working group and our newer Keshet Yisraeli/Israel Connection group for helping us have respectful and courageous conversations and education about what seems like a hopelessly complex situation. These two initiatives help our community dive deeper into understanding the Israel-Palestine conflict and also connect with individuals and organizations on the ground doing the work of peace and justice, while giving our Israeli and Israeli-identified members the opportunity and ability to share, unfettered, their deep love and care for a country that means so much to them. If you are interested in signing up for the I-PPeace listserv, please email Erin at the CDT office, [adminassistant@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:adminassistant@dorsheitzedek.org). If you would like to connect with Keshet Yisraeli, please email Ayelet Lipton, [ayeletlipton@gmail.com](mailto:ayeletlipton@gmail.com)

As we head into the summer, CDT has endured a stressful yet still amazing year. Under the leadership of Rabbi Toba, our Executive Director Melissa Colten, our new Director of Congregational Learning Earnest Vener, all of our paid staff, teachers, Board of Directors, off-Board leaders and our whole membership, we confronted the challenge of the pandemic, met it, and persevered in a healthy way. Many in our community have appreciated the virtual congregational experience.

More members and non-members attended Shabbat Services, B'nei Mitzvah ceremonies, educational events, social justice organizing, and funerals and shivah gatherings when otherwise they may not have been able to attend. I especially want to appreciate the appearance of two and soon a third round of VIMS (Virtual Interest Meetups - see page 3) that have been wildly successful under the leadership of our VP for Membership Debby Saltzman. In addition, we have actually grown slightly with a net increase in household membership as well as holding steady financially. As we move forward into the next year we will hold onto many of the changes we have learned during the pandemic while we begin to gather in person again.

In closing, I want to extend our fondest gratitude to those members of the Board of Directors who are leaving the CDT Board for their service during this trying year: VP for Education Diana Fisher Gombert, and at-large members Jonathan Rosenthal, Lisa Samelson and Ellie Axe. And I want to give tremendous gratitude to Lissy Medvedow, our past president who has been my mentor and has been a great leader of our congregation for many years.

Have a great summer.

## 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,

[m.colten@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:m.colten@dorsheitzedek.org)

Director of Congregational Learning: Earnest Vener,

[e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:e.vener@dorsheitzedek.org)

Administrative Assistant: Erin Dimson-Doyle,

[adminassistant@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:adminassistant@dorsheitzedek.org)

Inclusion Coordinator: Amira Shulman-Kumin,

[inclusion@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:inclusion@dorsheitzedek.org)

Technical Support Person: Dennis Maler

### Executive Committee:

President: Bob Warren

Past President: Lissy Medvedow

VP Finance: Ezra Hausman

Secretary: Ro Weichman

### Vice-Presidents:

VP Membership: Debby Saltzman

VP Education: Diana Fisher Gombert

VP Leadership: Sheree Galpert

VP Tikkun Olam: Stacey Chacker

### Board Members-at-Large:

Ellie Axe, Linda Kramer, Carla Naumburg, Dan Rome,

Jonathan Rosenthal & Lisa Samelson

### Off-Board Chairs:

Children's Education: Sarah Birkeland

Chesed: Gail Pressberg

Nediv Lev: Debbie Waber, Janice Cole

Newsletter: YOU?

Ritual: Marion Ross & Peter Katz

Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome

Executive Director Liaison: Linette Liebling

Space: Steve Siegel

Website: Dan Halbert

Welcoming: Debbie Saltzman (Acting)

## REGISTER FOR THE CDT MEMBERS MEETING

June 6, 4:30pm-6:00pm

At the final Members Meeting of 5781, we hope at least one representative of each CDT household will attend as we vote in new Board members and leadership, approve the 5782 budget, hear updates on CDT activities, and begin to imagine together our new CDT hybrid community. Zoom registration information is available on the CDT website.

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

## Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and photos to [dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org). 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.

## June VIMs

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

### LET'S LOOK AT PLANTS!

with Jamie Tessler

June 7, 6:00pm, Arnold Arboretum

The Arnold Arboretum's collection is a world famous collection of temperate woody plants, but in between the collections are open spaces providing a habitat for wild plants, both benevolent and invasive. This walk will focus on the low-to-the ground wild, non-cultivated plants both beloved and feared. You will perfect your poison-ivy identification skills, and maybe get to nibble on a thing or two! We'll only cancel for heavy rain. Light rain = bring a rain jacket!

## THE TORAH OF RUMI

with Elaine Pollack

June 9, 7:30-8:30pm, Zoom

RUMI was a 13th-century Persian poet, Islamic scholar, theologian, and Sufi mystic originally from Greater Khorasan in Greater Iran. Rumi's influence transcends national borders and ethnic divisions, and his poetry has been cherished for more than seven centuries. His poems have been widely translated into many of the world's languages and transposed into various formats. Rumi's appeal for me is the depth of the reflection, and the humor, in his spiritual philosophy. Rumi's poetry resonates strongly with values and beliefs that are both Jewish and universal.

Poems will be screen shared, but if you want to read them ahead of time, I would be happy to send them.

### HEBREW CHIT-CHAT TAKE 2

with Emily Sper

June 10, 8:00-9:00pm, Zoom

Hebrew Chit-chat for Israelis, American-Israelis and other Hebrew Speakers

## SACRED CIRCLE DANCE

with Evi Beck

June 13, 10:30am-12:00pm, Zoom

Sacred Circle Dance is a gentle dance practice with simple, repetitive steps and ancient roots in music and dance from around the world; it aims to integrate mind, body and spirit. The "sacred" signals the intention to focus energy on healing and wholeness. Dance themes include celebration of the seasons, life events, the oneness of all life, and prayers for peace. No previous dance experience or partners are needed. The philosophy of this form of dance is, "there are no mistakes, only variations."

### KAYAKING/CANOEING ON THE CHARLES RIVER

with Diana Fisher-Gomberg & Debby Saltzman

June 15, 7:00-8:00pm, Outdoors, Location TBD

Join us for a leisurely evening paddle on the Charles River. Kayaks and canoes provided (and paddles and life vests). Meeting place: Fisher-Gombergs or Saltzmans - we'll let you know where to go.

## From the Office

### STAFF VACATION SCHEDULE FOR THE SUMMER

Executive Director Melissa Colten will be on vacation May 28-June 3.

Rabbi Toba will be on vacation during the month of July. Details for whom to contact in her absence will appear in the July/August newsletter.

Director of Congregational Learning Earnest Vener will be on vacation June 25-July 2.

Administrative Assistant Erin Dimson-Doyle will be on vacation June 17-20.

CDT Listservs: Let the office know if you'd like to be a part of any of the following listservs! cdt-climate, cdt-criminal-justice-reform, cdt-east, cdt-immigration, cdt-inclusion, cdt-ip-peace, cdt-leyning, cdt-men's group, cdt-mind-ful-mornings, cdt-sings, cdt-southeast, cdt-tikkun-olam, cdt-understanding-racism

## CDT Events

### CDT MINI RETREAT 2021

June 12, 2021

Please join us for the 2021 CDT Mini-retreat on June 12! We will have a full day of activities for all ages including outdoor Shabbat, dancing, singing, art, sports, and just being together. Join us for part of the day or stay all the way through Havdalah and singing around the bonfire. Find more details and sign up at the CDT website!

COVID note: this is the first time we are gathering our whole congregation together, and we will be extra cautious in order to enable as many congregants as possible to participate. We are asking that masks be worn throughout the retreat, except during meals, regardless of vaccination status. For more COVID information please see the retreat FAQs and the COVID Resources and Updates page on the CDT website.



Camp Frank A Day

# Shabbat, Holidays & Spiritual Practice

## CELEBRATE PRIDE SHABBAT!

Friday evening, June 4

5:30pm Picnic Dinner, 6pm Service

Gann Academy (and on Zoom!)

For our all-ages service in June, we will celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride Month with an outdoor, in-person Kabbalat Shabbat service beginning at 6pm, at Gann Academy in Waltham. For families with younger kids who'd like to do an early picnic dinner at 5:30pm, Rabbi Toba, Earnest, and members of our Trans/Gender Nonconforming youth group will be leading some fun activities - bring a picnic dinner and a blanket! Or stay after the service for a picnic Shabbat dinner, beginning around 6:45pm (BYO food and blanket). Registration for the outdoor service is required, please see the link on the CDT calendar. Those who can't attend in person can Zoom in at 6pm per usual!

## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

All are welcome to join us every Saturday morning for prayer, song, and Torah, beginning at 10:00am. Zoom information for each service can be found on the CDT website; just click on the calendar link in purple writing on the upper right corner 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, June 5 Bat Mitzvah of Eleanor Kaplan** - We warmly invite the CDT community to join us as our daughter, Eleanor

Jane Kaplan, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on June 5, 2021 at 10am. Eleanor has been a passionate artist since toddlerhood, and is particularly interested in creative writing, drawing, and fashion design. She is a 7th grader at Day Middle School in Newton, and loves spending time reading, listening to podcasts, and jumping on trampolines with friends. For her tikkun olam project, Eleanor created a website to increase awareness about a little-known condition that she suffers from. You can learn more at: <https://eleanormisophonixiaexperience.godaddysites.com/> We look forward to seeing you all in the Zoomiverse to help us celebrate this special day!  
**-James Kaplan and Erica Streit-Kaplan**

We will also be remembering David Keimowitz Crozier, son of Polly Crozier and Jess Keimowitz, whose 9th yahrzeit fell this year on May 27.

**Shabbat Morning, June 12 - CDT Mini-retreat!** - We will be having in-person, outdoor services at the CDT Retreat (details are on page 3); there will be no Zoom option this morning. We will be remembering Noah Marcus, on the occasion of his 2nd yahrzeit.

**Shabbat Morning, June 19 Bat Mitzvah of Havi Rosi-Kessel** - Please join us for our daughter Sara Havah's bat mitzvah on June 19th on Zoom. We are so grateful to CDT during this difficult year for all the help in preparing for this special day. The zoom service will conclude with a slide show, so you all can see what an interesting person Havi has been for the last 13 years! We hope to see you there.  
**-Rachele and Adam Rosi-Kessel**

**Grateful Shabbat, June 26** - Shabbat service will be infused with music and words from the Grateful Dead tradition. Scott Tepper will be leading, with (most likely) other CDT Dead-heads. "People join in hand in hand!" (At your own location.) Tie-dye optional. We will be remembering Evelyn Felson, on the occasion of her 15th yahrzeit.

## 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, June 2, 9, and 16, 5:30pm-5:45pm

**Please note: June 16 will be the final Mincha Moment for the summer.**

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. Each session will end with an opportunity for those in mourning or observing a yahrzeit to recite Mourners Kaddish.

## CDT HISTORY PROJECT

Chayim Herzig-Marx

In 2021 Congregation Dorshei Tzedek will be 30 years old. To celebrate, a few of us old-timers are starting to put together the story of our congregation. We could use your help in any of several ways:

- Are there aspects of our history that would be meaningful to you? Are there parts of our community culture that are a bit mysterious to you, and you wonder where they came from?
- Do you have pictures or articles about CDT to share with us? Old issues of newsletters? News clippings from family events?
- One thought we have is to integrate bits of our history into holiday celebrations or other communal activities. Do you have ideas about how this might be done?
- Do you have time during the summer to help us go through archives, brainstorm ways to present the materials, do a little writing, make some phone calls?

Please send thoughts, comments, ideas, and offers to [history@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:history@dorsheitzedek.org). We appreciate your help!

## Community

### MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov and yasher koach to students in our Kitot Dalet, Hay & Vav classes, on their wonderful Shabbat Service Siyyum leading!

Mazel tov to **Evan Gan** and **Shai Lipton** and their families, on becoming bnei mitzvah!

Mazel tov to the **Demuth-Liebling** family on the wedding this month of Zachariah Demuth, performed by his uncle Rabbi Mordechai Liebling!

Mazel tov to **Mark Farber** and **Sherry Katz**, on the birth of their grandson, Cameron Arlo Farber, to Nate Farber and Aynsley Karpis.

### Yahrzeit

This month we remember **Noah Marcus**, whose second yahrzeit falls this year on June 10. We will be remembering Noah at Shabbat morning services on June 12. We also remember **Evelyn Felson**, whose 15th yahrzeit falls this year on June 25. We will be remembering Evelyn at Shabbat morning services on June 26.

### CONDOLANCES

We extend our condolences to **Susan Bernstein**, on the death of her mother, **Diane Bernstein**, grandmother of Sophie and Eli. May Diane's memory be for a blessing.

### MOURNING AT CDT

There are a number of opportunities each week to say kaddish in a (virtual) minyan at CDT, including: Tuesday & Thursday Mindful Mornings, Mincha Moments, and Shabbat morning services.

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

*Tuesdays, June 8, July 13, August 10, 7:30-9:15*  
A group of CDT members in various stages of the journey of mourning meets via Zoom

on the second Tuesday of each month to support one another, to reflect on loss on the occasion of a yahrzeit or other occasion, and to remember the legacies of the loved ones we carry with us. Any CDT member is welcome to drop in anytime. For more information, please contact Nancy Gertz, [Nancy.gertz@gmail.com](mailto:Nancy.gertz@gmail.com) or Dianne Lior, [Dianne.lior@gmail.com](mailto:Dianne.lior@gmail.com). The Avelut friends appreciate the help of Stacey Chacker who organized us over the past year as she mourned the loss of her beloved mother.

### REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to **Al Glazerman** and **Alan Epstein**.

### TODAH RABAH

A huge thank you to our service leaders **Elaine Pollack** and **Rachel & Steven Adler-Golden**, and to our D'var leaders **Esther Kohn** and **Henry Wasserman**.

### CDT WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Yes, Spring 2021 has finally arrived. And as we gladly begin to shed our extensive wardrobe of masks we welcome the many new households that have joined CDT this past year. Even after the very internal, inside last few months, the CDT Welcoming Committee is pleased to share that CDT has welcomed a dozen new households in the past year. Given how "bunkered down" everyone has been, this is wonderful news for the congregation. As families and individuals continue to look for community, CDT continues to meet that need. Due to our virtual ability to congregate, new members come from not only the Greater Boston area, but further away – ranging from New Hampshire, to the Washington D.C. area, and as far south as Louisiana.

We hope to continue welcoming additional families and individuals outside of the geographic area. CDT is committed to providing ongoing zoom access to congregational events for our remote members. Please encourage anyone you know who may be interested in zooming into our events to contact Debby Saltzman, VP of Membership, at [outreach@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:outreach@dorsheitzedek.org) for more information.

## Mazel Tov to the Class of 2021

To **Max Greenberg**, son of **Jennifer and David Greenberg**, on graduating from Newton North High School. Max will be attending the University of Rochester in the fall.

To **David Kramer-Fried**, son of **Linda Kramer** and **Stephen Zisk**, on graduating from the Grove School in CT. David will be attending American University in Washington, D.C. in the fall. He's not sure what he wants to study but he's excited about starting this next chapter.

To **Dalia Paris-Saper**, daughter of **Ruth Paris** and **Rob Saper**, on graduating from college this month.

To **Allison Robbins**, daughter of **Lisa Goodwin Robbins** and **Andrew Robbins**, on graduating from the George Washington University with a BA in computer science and a minor in graphic design/fine arts. She will work in Washington DC as a software engineer.

To **Nate Fox**, son of **Debbie Isenberg**, on his graduation. He will be attending Perdue University this autumn.

To **Rita Hackett**, daughter of **Stephanie and Nem Hackett**, on graduating from Watertown High School. She's then headed to UMass Amherst's Commonwealth Honors College to study political science and perhaps some other things too!

To **Eli Tarbox**, son of **Sarah and Ben Dash**, on graduating from Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall. He is heading to Wheaton College in the fall where he hopes to study marketing, political science and/or theater.

To **Simon Schwartz**, son of **Abby and Jordan Schwartz**, on graduating from Newton South High School. In the fall, he will be heading to Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. He is looking forward to studying Computer Science and becoming part of a new community.





Photos by Mark Farber

## 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.

### CHESED: A RECIPE FOR RESILIENCE

*Ellie Goldberg, June 2021*

A few years ago, in response to the threats of climate change such as excessive heat and intense storms, flooding, and power outages, many cities and towns developed a vulnerability assessment and an action plan to increase resiliency.

Re-sil-ience. The capacity or ability to recover from misfortune, change or stressful life events.

Most resiliency plans emphasize the importance of social connections. Getting to know your neighbors and sharing community activities fosters trust that enables people to reach out when they need help. It also encourages people to feel responsibility for each other and even to seek out neighbors who might need practical or emotional support.

Participating in CDT's Chesed community as a committee member, a volunteer or a recipient builds bonds that strengthen resilience. The

Chesed Committee thanks everyone whose acts of kindness manifest the spirit of Chesed in our community.

The Chesed Coordinators for June are Melanie Adler, Meryl Epstein and Gail Pressburg. Please contact them if you have questions or a request for Chesed at [chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org).

**COVID UPDATE:** As Covid continues to limit some of our options, we order Chesed meals from a local restaurant such as Inna's Kitchen, thanks to Rabbi Toba's Discretionary Fund. When a need arises, a Chesed Coordinator will contact the member to inquire about food preferences, order the meal, and send out a request from LotsaHelpingHands for a volunteer to pick up and deliver the meal.

When a member needs a ride, the Coordinator will discuss Covid precautions (masks, open windows, sitting in the back seat). And, for everyone's safety, the volunteer driver and recipient need to discuss their vaccination status and the status of people in their household when they confirm arrangements for the ride.

## Tikkun Olam

### CDT AND GBIO FOLLOW-UP TO LISTENING SESSIONS

*Louise Enoch, Tony Broh and Stacey Chacker*

Todah Roba to the nearly 60 members of CDT who attended a Listening Session in April and May. The purpose of the sessions were to share CDT's social justice activities, and to share stories to help set both CDT's and GBIO's priorities for the coming year.

We heard concerns about or interest in many important topics, including: 1) race relations, white privilege, diversity; 2) climate change and environmental concerns; 3) police reform; 4) voter suppression, politics, civics education; 5) health care affordability; long-term health, mental health; 6) food insecurity; 7) prison reform, prisoner re-entry; 8) education; 9) immigration justice and refugee resettlement; 10) gun violence; 11) housing; 12) domestic worker justice, fair wages; and 13) fire safety.

That's a lot to be concerned about - and without a doubt, there are other issues that CDT members worry about...and take action on! As a community, we already have many initiatives working to seek justice in these areas. For GBIO, our CDT co-liaisons Louise Enoch and Tony Broh are working with GBIO staff and other volunteers in planning a process for understanding the multi-faceted stories shared across all GBIO organizations and to sort the topics into actionable campaigns. We

## Tikkun Olam (cont)

will be sharing more information soon about the following upcoming events where CDT members can help turn their concerns into a GBIO commitment. Stay tuned for more information about a GBIO Assembly on June 29, where all of GBIO's member organizations and congregations will learn about priorities for further research over the summer and action campaigns in the fall.

For CDT, we will follow up with specific members. For those that are ready to take action or learn more about organizing and building strategies for confronting the climate crisis, you can sign up for a four-part training series. Focused with spiritual audacity, bold collective action, and winning systemic change, Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action is scheduled for 8, 15, 22, 29 | 8:00-9:45 pm EDT. Sign up at <https://dayenu.org/circles>. For more information, contact Stacey Chacker, [chacsjc@gmail.com](mailto:chacsjc@gmail.com)

As our name, Dorshei Tzedek, says, we are Seekers of Justice. We look forward to engaging/supporting you in our congregational efforts!

### MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

Abby Cohen

I am so grateful for all your many donations to the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute this year. Team Dorshei Tzedek raised \$4,439.78! Thank you for your continued support of this wonderful, important organization.

Here is a note from founder, Chaplain Clementina Chery:

*Dear Peace Friends,*

*Thank You! I speak for the entire staff at the LDBPI when I write that I am blessed and grateful for all your support at this year's 25th Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace. From the friends that have been Walking with me since 1996 to all the new ones I have met along the way, thank you for enriching my life and joining with me in unity to celebrate and remember*

*the lives of our loved ones who have been murdered.*

*Twenty five years ago, when I started this Walk with a small number of courageous mothers, elected leaders, law enforcement and community leaders, I could never have imagined that we would grow and reach 10,000+ people this year. I still remember your tears, love, energy and determination to be seen and heard during our first Walk and although this year we were virtual, your energy and commitment to Peace was as strong as ever!*

*From your kind and encouraging messages, to the generous gifts you made, to the fun emojis that you posted, you made a huge impact during our virtual Walk for Peace.*

*Over the past 25 years through your generous gifts, you have made it possible for us to provide on-going groups, offer educational training and advocacy, and ensure that survivors are treated with dignity and compassion regardless of their circumstances.*

*As I spoke about during the broadcast, our work is far from over and I am committed to my son Louis's vision to create and sustain an environment where all families can live in peace and all people are valued.*

*I am grateful to announce that as of May 14th, we only have \$150,840 to raise towards our Walk goal of \$600,000 and the fundraising continues until Sunday, June 20, Father's Day. Homicides continue to happen, families need our assistance and children get to grow up in a world that teaches social emotional learning through our Peace Curricula and Peace Play in Urban Settings healing modality.*

### LET'S WAGE SOME REAL CHANGE! - FOLLOW UP

Ora Gladstone and Amy Mazur

Thank you to all CDT members and supporters who came to the Let's Wage Some Real Change/One Fair Wage Information Session on Monday, May 10.

It was exciting to learn together, hear everyone's stories and questions, and start planning ways we can take action together. Thank you

especially to Leena M, Aradhna J, and Selene C for sharing their stories and motivating us to work toward ending the tipped subminimum wage. As the One Fair Wage bill goes to committee, we want to collect legislative cosponsors, talk to our communities about the campaign and hold and attend in-district meetings with key lawmakers.

If you haven't yet gotten involved or want to know more, check out the Tikkun Olam page on the CDT website for more info.

Thank you and let's continue to Wage Some Real Change!

(Special thanks to Emma Rose Borzekowski of the New England Jewish Labor Committee)

### PRISON BOOK PROGRAM

The Prison Book Program In Quincy has resumed regular volunteer hours, but volunteers must now sign up in advance (no drop-ins) and only seven volunteers per session are permitted. Volunteer slots go very quickly. For the foreseeable future, CDT will not be volunteering as a group. If anyone wants to volunteer individually, the signup site is : <https://signup.com/go/ZeaXPfL>.

Anyone interested in supporting the PBP during their temporary closure due to COVID-19 can order books from the PBP's wish list on Amazon. Books ordered from this list are being sent to a PBP volunteer staffer, who is sending out individual, specially requested books to prisoners from her home. Other books that come off the wish list will be set aside until the PBP is reopened. The link for the PBP wishlist is: <http://a.co/iYr7TkV>.

Books can also be donated directly to the PBP by dropping them off during regular volunteer hours at the door to the PBP (back door of church), Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30-9 pm and alternate Saturdays 1-4 pm.



## 5782 Religious School Year

We are excited to share our vision for the 5782 Religious School year with the CDT community. At every step we will consult with our reentry protocol committee and base our decisions on CDC and state guidelines, and the Newton public schools. As new information arises, we will adapt our program as needed.

### SUNDAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 9:30AM-12PM

Our intention is to be in-person on Sundays from 9:30am-12pm for Kitot Alef (1st grade) - Zayin (7th grade), with Nitzanim (age 3-preK) and Gan (K) meeting in-person once per month. We hope to be back at JCDS and will confirm as soon as possible.

Each week we will begin together as a community and then students will split up by Kitah (grade level) to explore Jewish holidays, Torah, Jewish culture, and Jewish history. There will be opportunities for family and parent learning throughout the year.

### TUESDAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FOR KITOT GIMEL, DALET, HEY, AND VAV

We are excited to continue our small group and one-on-one approach to Hebrew and Tefillah (prayer) learning. Once a month students will come together on-site for a Rosh Hodesh (new Hebrew month) celebration that will include a student-led Maariv (evening service) and electives.

Kitah Gimel (3rd grade) students will meet in small groups at FUSN (in Newton) for a one hour Hebrew class on Tuesdays. In this class students will learn the Hebrew alphabet and decoding.

Kitot Dalet, Hey, and Vav (4th-6th grade) students will have a choice between in-person small group Tefillah (prayer) class at FUSN (in Newton) or one-on-one virtual tutoring.

### 8TH AND 9TH GRADE PROGRAM - ONE SUNDAY AND ONE TUESDAY PER MONTH

We are excited to launch a CDT 8th and 9th grade program in collaboration with Kids4Peace Boston. One Sunday afternoon a month, the 8th/9th graders will participate in a Kids4Peace Boston program with local Boston teens for interfaith and social justice programming. One Tuesday a month, the 8th/9th graders will come back together at CDT to discuss their experience and deepen

their relationship to Jewish tradition and culture.

**Please visit the Religious School webpage to register and learn more about our wonderful program!**

We need your help to grow our school! Please tell your friends about Dorshei Tzedek's Religious School, and help spread the word by posting on neighborhood facebook groups and listservs. You can simply repost or copy the post about registration on the CDT facebook page. We are especially trying to reach families with children in 3rd grade and younger.

*Photo by Mark Farber*





## 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:**

### ADULT EDUCATION

Susan Nitkin & Jeff Marcus — *in honor of the congregation, with heartfelt thanks from the Nitkin-Marcus family for the support you have given us*

### COVID-19 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Madeline Steinberg & Mitchell Feuer — *in memory of Diane Bernstein*

### JILL VOLK TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Judy & Chayim Herzig-Marx — *in honor of Earnest Vener and Talmud for the 99%*

### NEDIV LEV

Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen  
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Emily & David Shumsky — *in honor of Rabbi Toba, CDT Staff and Congregants' hard work and dedication to helping one another*  
Rabbi Toba Spitzer — *in honor of our fabulous staff - Melissa, Earnest and Erin - and CDT leadership - Bob Warren and the CDT Board*  
Bonnie Tenneriello & Andrew Sofer — *in honor of Melissa Colten*  
Scott Tepper

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joseph Diamond — *in thanks for a beautiful shiva for his sister, Diane Berstein*  
Danielle Klainberg

Susan Nitkin & Jeff Marcus — *in honor of Rabbi Toba, from the Nitkin-Marcus family, with appreciation for your guidance and care, and with deep gratitude and respect*

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Michelle Aghassi & Kim Springer  
Susan Nitkin & Jeff Marcus — *in honor of Rabbi Shahrar, for your presence during difficult times, from the Nitkin-Marcus family*

## FRIENDLY PEOPLE WANTED!

The Welcoming Committee is looking for people to help welcome new members to CDT. We deliver welcoming bags to new members and help them find their niche in the community. We meet three or four times a year and plan periodic gatherings for new members to meet each other and learn about the congregation. If you like the idea of being the first to meet new CDT members, please consider joining the Welcoming Committee! Contact Debby Saltzman for more information. (debbysaltzman@gmail.com)

## Learning

### TORAH STUDY WITH EARNEST VENER

*Wednesday mornings, 8-8:45am*

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.

# JUNE 2021 • SIVAN/TAMMUZ 5781

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>30</b> <i>Sivan 19</i>	<b>31</b> <i>Sivan 20</i> Memorial Day	<b>1</b> <i>Sivan 21</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>2</b> <i>Sivan 22</i> 8:00am Torah Study 5:30pm Mincha Moment	<b>3</b> <i>Sivan 23</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>4</b> <i>Sivan 24</i> 6:00pm Celebrate Pride Shabbat!	<b>5</b> <i>Sivan 25</i> Sh'lach 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Eleanor Kaplan
<b>6</b> <i>Sivan 26</i> 10:00am CDT Men's Softball 4:30pm CDT Members Meeting	<b>7</b> <i>Sivan 27</i>	<b>8</b> <i>Sivan 28</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:30pm Avelut: Support for Those in Mourning	<b>9</b> <i>Sivan 29</i> 8:00am Torah Study 5:30pm Mincha Moment	<b>10</b> <i>Sivan 30</i> Rosh Chodesh Tammuz 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>11</b> <i>Tammuz 1</i> Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	<b>12</b> <i>Tammuz 2</i> Korach CDT All-Day Retreat
<b>13</b> <i>Tammuz 3</i> 10:00am CDT Men's Softball	<b>14</b> <i>Tammuz 4</i>	<b>15</b> <i>Tammuz 5</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>16</b> <i>Tammuz 6</i> 8:00am Torah Study 5:00pm Last Mincha Moment	<b>17</b> <i>Tammuz 7</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>18</b> <i>Tammuz 8</i>	<b>19</b> <i>Tammuz 9</i> Chukat 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Havi Rosi-Kessel
<b>20</b> <i>Tammuz 10</i> Father's Day 10:00am CDT Men's Softball	<b>21</b> <i>Tammuz 11</i>	<b>22</b> <i>Tammuz 12</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>23</b> <i>Tammuz 13</i> 8:00am Torah Study	<b>24</b> <i>Tammuz 14</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>25</b> <i>Tammuz 15</i>	<b>26</b> <i>Tammuz 16</i> Balak 10:00am Shabbat Service
<b>27</b> <i>Tammuz 17</i> 10:00am CDT Men's Softball	<b>28</b> <i>Tammuz 18</i>	<b>29</b> <i>Tammuz 19</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>30</b> <i>Tammuz 20</i> 8:00am Torah Study	<b>1</b> <i>Tammuz 21</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	<b>2</b> <i>Tammuz 22</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Tammuz 23</i> Pinchas No CDT Shabbat Morning Service





### MARK FARBER PHOTOGRAPHY

Mark Farber's work is about place, as inhabited, shaped, or perceived by people. His contemporary landscape photographs examine the built with the natural environment. He works in collections and finishes each project with a hand-made artist book and/or cased Portfolio.

Recent work includes:

- Sea Horizons (currently on display in the CDT sanctuary gallery): a series of seascapes showing simply water and sky with varied light, weather, and time of day; intended to be displayed either individually or in series
- Water's Edge: portraying infrastructure and other urban scenes at the intersection of land and water in and around Boston
- Cape landscapes: more conventional views of outer Cape Cod

Mark has studied at the New England School of Photography, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Griffin Museum of Photography, Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, and Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill. His work has been included in juried exhibits at Davis Orton Gallery (NY), Perspective Gallery (IL), Plymouth Center for the Arts (MA), PhotoPlace Gallery (VT), and Chatham Creative Arts Center (MA).

See Mark's photographs in this issue on pages 1, 7, 8, and 11!

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Address correction requested



## Sharing Prayers and Songs for Hope and Healing in the Holy Land

