



# Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism

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Adar II/Nisan 5782

April 2022



## PASSOVER 5782: TO TELL A STORY

Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor



A few years ago, when I was working as a community organizer in Maryland, I found myself sitting in the balcony of the State Senate. It was late at night, a few days before Passover. I had gathered with fellow organizers to watch the final hours of the legislative session, the last chance to pass the bills we had been advocating for that year.

The Trust Act was one of these bills. As immigrant deportations and family separations raged, the Trust Act sought to protect immigrant Marylanders from being turned over to ICE. Yet as the clock struck midnight, the Trust Act remained held up by the opposition. We had lost.

"This is terrible," I remember a veteran organizer saying as we walked down the statehouse steps, disappointed and tired. "But remember how it was with the paid sick leave bill? For a few years, we thought it would never pass. Then we had a glimmer of hope, but still nothing. It got real close for a bit. And finally, last year, we won. We can do the same again."

Haggadah means "a telling," and at the seder we tell stories. But not any stories. We, like that veteran organizer, tell stories of success, of transformation. "In every generation a person must see (*lirot*) themselves as having been liberated from Egypt," records the Haggadah. Maimonides goes further, offering that "a person must show (*le'harot*) themselves that they have been liberated from Egypt." We tell stories about ourselves as people who have faced real challenges — and overcome them.

Passover can be a time for reflection and commitment-making. I might ask: what is my *chametz*, the "leavened stuff" I ought to clear away? Where is my *mitzrayim*, Egypt, the narrow place I long to leave? What is *cherut*, freedom, and how can I be in solidarity with those denied it?

Perhaps these questions may ring a little like New Year's resolutions. There is a strong precedent for Passover New Year's resolutions. With the renewal of spring, the ancient Israelites marked Passover's Hebrew month of Nisan as the New Year, not Rosh Hashana's Tishrei. Harnessing concepts like *chametz*, *mitzrayim*, and *cherut* as springboards for contemplation and action has deep roots in the rabbinic and mystical traditions.

Looking ahead is vital, but these days I also feel pulled to reach back. At a tense and tender time, both internationally and closer to home, I'm inspired knowing that others have overcome similar hardships before.

So, this year, I'm inviting my seder to share our personal "in every generation" moments, our own stories of overcoming challenge. These stories will be different for each of us. They may be stories of reconciliation after a conflict with a friend or family member. They may be stories of recovery after illness. They may be stories of professional achievement, or artistic breakthrough. They may, like that veteran organizer, be stories of bringing more justice to the world. We might share gratitude for those who supported us along the way, as the Israelites sang upon reaching the safe side of the sea.

No matter the story, it is hard to anticipate the impact on those listening. Thanks to a story, I walked down the last of those statehouse steps more hopeful about our capacity to bring about the collective changes we so desperately need. The Maryland Trust Act still hasn't passed, but last year a related piece of immigration justice legislation did. Another chapter in an unfolding story.

May the stories we tell this Passover show us, in the words of Maimonides, that we are people who have faced hardship and overcome. And that we can do so again.

## From the Board

### BOARD NOMINATIONS

CDT needs you! The nomination process for the CDT Board of Directors is now open. You can find the Board Nomination Form at [dorsheitzedek.org/form/board-nomination-form.html](https://dorsheitzedek.org/form/board-nomination-form.html). The nominations will be open until May 25, 2022. You can also use that form to indicate your interest in becoming involved on a committee or other leadership positions.

Please contact Stacey Chacker at [chacsjc@gmail.com](mailto:chacsjc@gmail.com) for more information.

## CDT Celebrates 30 Years

### CDT GALA AND CELEBRATION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2022!

*Saturday, November 5, 6:00 - 10:00 pm  
The Windsor Club (1601 Beacon St, Waban, Newton, MA 02468)*

We hope that many of you will be able to join us for this very special event! One of the activities as part of the program we will have is a CDT Trivia game, created by and emceed by none other than our own Sheree Galpert!

#### CDT Trivia Question #4: In which of the following Purim spiels did Vashti come back at the end?

- a) Shushan Idol
- b) Occupy Shushan
- c) Return of the Jew-di
- d) Queen
- e) An Inconvenient Trayf
- f) Desperate Harems



## Rabbinic Liaison

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 Rabbinic Liaison Chair Cindy Shulak-Rome at [bsrome@comcast.net](mailto:bsrome@comcast.net).

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: Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Barbara Pittel, Vivienne Shein (photographer), Haralie Alpert (interviewer). Let us know if you'd like to join the team - we especially need photographers!!

## 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: Lise Webbe,  
[l.webbe@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:l.webbe@dorsheitzedek.org)  
Inclusion Coordinator: Jess Green,  
[j.green@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:j.green@dorsheitzedek.org)  
Rabbinic Intern: Emmanuel Cantor,  
[e.cantor@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:e.cantor@dorsheitzedek.org)  
Technical Support Person: Dennis Maler

### Executive Committee:

President: Bob Warren  
1st VP: Stacey Chacker  
VP Finance: Ezra Hausman  
Secretary: Dan Rome

### Vice-Presidents:

VP Membership: Debby Saltzman  
VP Education: David Rhodes  
VP Tikkun Olam: Tony Broh

### Board Members—at-Large:

Sheree Galpert, Melody Komarov, Linda Kramer, Ayelet Lipton, Carla Naumburg, Jenny Sartori, Ro Weichman

### Off-Board Chairs:

Children's Education: Rebecca O'Murchadha  
Chesed: Gail Pressberg  
Nediv Lev: Janice Cole & it could be you!  
Newsletter: Vacant - could be you!  
Ritual: Marion Ross & Peter Katz  
Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome  
Executive Director Liaison: Linette Liebling  
DCL Liaison: Lissy Medvedow  
Space: Steve Siegel  
Website: Dan Halbert  
Welcoming: Debbie Saltzman (Acting)



# From the Reconstructing Judaism Convention

## B'YACHAD: INSPIRING COMMITMENT FOR THE FUTURE OF RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM

Bob Warren



Attending my first Reconstructing Judaism Convention in suburban Washington and coming together after two years of the pandemic to be in community with members of our entire movement was a spiritual uplift for me and all who participated. Approximately 10 CDT members and staff attended the 5-day Convention in person with over 520 RJ movement folks, and another handful of us attended virtually with the 200+ nationwide.

Rabbis Mordechai Liebling and Nancy Fuchs Kreimer set the tone at the first plenary session, invoking the wisdom of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan with such words as “we will see the unraveling of society if we don’t make change.” “We come together to experience how holiness and justice intersect.” “We engage with faith, courage, joy and love.” Sue Lanser recalls that Rabbi Kreimer said in the opening plenary, “The most important thing about our movement is courage.”

Many of our members, including board member-at-large, Linda Kramer, participated in the Racial Justice Intensive, which was led by Rabbi Sandra Lawson who had given such a wonderful D’var at CDT’s March 19 Shabbat

service. Linda recalls Rabbi Sandra saying, “We’re at the beginning of the beginning (of this work), there is no finish line in my lifetime ...Racism thrives in isolation.” The Convention Plenum issued a proposed resolution on Reparations, deepening our commitment to our racial justice work while rooting the process in Torah, Jewish values, and Reconstructionist principles. Together, in our home congregations, we will unpack and discuss how our country was built on the labor of slaves stolen from their homes and how we atone for slavery; engaging in discussions of our responsibility for the sins of our ancestors; and making the case for reparations.

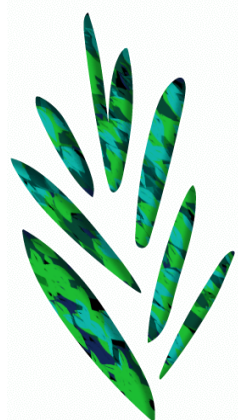
Ruth Messinger spoke of bringing justice to an unjust world. As privileged people we must learn to give something up in order to work towards equity. She emphasized learning and encouraging our youth to ask why certain problems, such as racism and economic inequality, exist. While service is admirable, service without advocacy is limited. It is vital to couple our material aid with political advocacy.

And the music program! “Boy, can Reconstructionists sing,” says Sue Lanser, having watched Rabbi Toba sing with her RRC graduating class celebrating its 25th anniversary. Linda Kramer wrote “And rock star she was.”

The Convention closed with a thrilling final plenary “We the People: Reconstructing Civic Engagement” led by RJ member and U.S. Representative Andy Levin of Detroit,

Representative Jaimie Raskin, the second Impeachment manager and member of the January 6 committee, and Sheila Katz, the President of the National Council of Jewish Women. The three speakers encouraged us all to participate in this life-affirming cause of social justice work at any level possible, each speaking from their own experience showing success emerging out of despair and doubt. Katz taught us how the cause of reproductive choice is a Jewish value and each speaker emphasized that openly acting as Jews and with Jewish values strengthens our advocacy and how we can ultimately win our political struggles.

A beautiful Minkah service was offered as a way to heal the losses of two years of pandemic, the devastation faced by the people of Ukraine, and the effects of climate change. Gathering together for this healing was transformative, and we would like to find ways to do the same at CDT in the coming months. According to Kaplan, as we learned from several workshops unpacking Mordechai Kaplan’s teachings on this 100th anniversary of his daughter’s Bat Mitzvah, in becoming one’s authentic self, salvation is not limited to just ourselves as individuals. Rather, we attain our higher self through community. I return from the Convention inspired and hoping that each of those in attendance will spread these lessons to all of you, so that our community of individuals will grow and strengthen.



# B'YACHAD

## RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM TOGETHER

## Interview of the Month

### INTERVIEW WITH ABBY COHEN, COORDINATOR OF CDT'S ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

Haralie Alpert



This month's interview celebrates all the efforts put forth by one of our esteemed members-ABBY COHEN! And to thank Abby for all her hard work. She had a personal friend lose a loved one to violence and Abby DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

For over 15 years, Abby has been coordinating the group of CDT members that participates in the Mother's Day Walk for Peace in Mattapan, Dorchester and Roxbury. The walk generates donations for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. In 1996, Tina Chery founded the institute because her son, Louis, was murdered. This organization provides healing for friends and families of murdered children and also advocates for social change. This year the walk is on Sunday, May 8th.

#### Abby, where do you currently work and what is your background?

I am the director of The Watertown Cooperative Day Nursery School. I started out as a kindergarten teacher in the Newton Public Schools.

**How long have you been a member of CDT?**  
For over 23 years.

#### How did your involvement in the Mother's Day Walk for Peace get started?

I got involved through a friend of mine whose father was a victim of gun violence...I started going with my friends and saw CDT people there...Then we just sort of merged into this big CDT group.

#### Why do you do the walk?

For a number of reasons. One is the organization itself, which I firmly believe in and Tina Chery, the director, is doing wonderful things... It's a little bit selfish but the thing I really appreciate is walking around. I like being there during the walk and walking around the neighborhoods and walking downtown and be surrounded by all these people and show support. I feel like it's a community-building event in many ways. It connects the CDT community to our neighbors in Boston. The walk supports victims of gun violence and families of the victim and (provides) restorative justice!

#### What are your favorite aspects of the march?

Now both the (CDT) children and adults come to the march – there is a midpoint to join where the children can come later in the day... Afterwards, they've been doing a rally

at the State House and different people have told their stories...(it's) been very powerful. To hear someone who's gone through restorative justice, someone whose family member is a victim of gun violence, it humanizes it.

#### Why do you want people at CDT to be involved in the annual Walk for Peace?

I feel that the work of the Louis D. Brown Institute reflects the goals of social justice that are fundamental to CDT. There is a lot of joy-it is a joyous event...like when we're chanting out together...when we meet each other and wish each other a Happy Mother's Day!

#### Do you have any suggestions for a gift that our congregants can give to their moms this Mother's Day?

Yes, donate to the Mother's Day Walk for Peace!! ([mothersdaywalk4peace.org](https://mothersdaywalk4peace.org))



## Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice

**Vaccination/booster shots and KN95 masks are required of all persons aged 2 and older in order to attend in person. A Zoom option will always be available as an alternative; links can be found on the individual event listing on the CDT calendar.**

### SPRING FAMILY PROGRAMMING

We are so excited that this Spring will be a time of in-person family programming at CDT! We can't wait to welcome you back into the building with our All Ages Erev Shabbat Services, end of the year Siyummim (ceremonies) for our older Religious School students, and fun outdoor activities for our youngest learners. Come join us and bring your friends!

Our programming requires masking indoors and vaccinations for all those who are eligible.

Family programs are boxed in green.

### SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

All are welcome to join us every Saturday morning for prayer, song, and Torah beginning at 10 am. 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. For the time being, we will not be sharing Kiddush lunch together.

#### Shabbat Tazria Morning Services with Rabbi Shoshana Friedman

April 2, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

All are invited to join special guest Rabbi Shoshana Friedman for a musical Shabbat morning service, including the celebration of Rosh Chodesh Nisan with the singing of Hallel. The d'var Torah this morning will be shared by CDT's own Dr. Susie Tanchel, Biblical scholar and teacher extraordinaire.



**Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman** is a writer, mother, and climate activist in Boston. She serves as the Director of Professional Development at Hebrew College where she was ordained and is a rabbinic ambassador



# Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice (cont.)

for Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action. Rabbi Shoshana is an alumna of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship, JOIN For Justice, and Oberlin College.

## Shabbat Metzora Morning Services and Bat Mitzvah of Lucy Caputo

April 9, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

All are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom as we call Lucy to the Torah as a bat mitzvah! We will also be remembering Bill Gamson on the occasion of his 1st yahrzeit.

*We invite the CDT community to celebrate with us as our daughter, Lucy Jane Caputo, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. A Kiddush lunch will follow the service. Lucy is a 7th grader at F.A. Day Middle School in Newton. Lucy spends her free time swimming on two different swim teams and coaching 8-and-under swimmers on the Newton Bluefish. Lucy also uses her aquatic talents to coach swimmers in the Athletes Unlimited program at Newton North High School on Sunday mornings. Lucy wants to be a nurse when she grows up, loves doing ceramics and all animals, and - the minute school is over - she heads to Camp Eisner for the whole summer. We are very excited about this occasion!*

- Marni & Tim Caputo

## Shabbat Morning Services and First Day of Pesach

April 16, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba as we celebrate the first day of Passover with a special Torah reading and the singing of Hallel. Mask-optional in-person CDT-supplemented BYOF (bring your own food) Kiddush in Fellowship Hall and simultaneous masked gathering in the parlour to follow.

## Shabbat Morning Services and Final Day of Pesach

April 23, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

As we mark the end of the week of Passover, our service will include both Hallel and the Yizkor service, as we remember loved ones who are no longer alive. All are invited to join Rabbi Toba as we celebrate the first day of Passover with a special Torah reading and the

singing of Hallel. We will also be remembering CDT member Stan Fleischman on the occasion of his second yahrzeit.

Mask-optional in-person CDT-supplemented BYOF (bring your own food) Kiddush in Fellowship Hall and simultaneous masked gathering in the parlour to follow.

## Shabbat Achrei Mot Morning Service and Bar Mitzvah of Noah Pytel

April 30, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

All are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom as we call Noah to the Torah as a bar mitzvah!

*Noah is a 7th grader at Brown Middle School in Newton. He enjoys building models and playing piano, basketball, and ultimate frisbee. He is passionate about FIRST LEGO Robotics and his team has gone to the MA state championships three times. For his tikkun olam project, Noah is serving as a peer buddy for two students in special education programs at Brown. We are excited to celebrate this simcha with you!*

-Rachel & Chad Pytel

## Shabbat Kedoshim Morning Services and Siyyumim Lead by Kitah Hey and Kitah Vav

May 7, 10 am-noon  
CDT Sanctuary & Zoom

All are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom for youth services lead by our fifth and sixth graders!

Mask-optional in-person CDT-supplemented BYOF (bring your own food) Kiddush in Fellowship Hall and simultaneous masked gathering in the parlour to follow.

## ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, April 8 & May 6, 6:00-7:30 pm  
CDT Sanctuary

Kids and adults are invited to join Rabbi Toba in the CDT Sanctuary for a fun, musical erev Shabbat service and BYOF (bring your own food) picnic supplemented by CDT!

Candlelighting and dinner will start at 6:00 followed by services at 6:45. The April service will feature some of our teen musicians, and in May the students of Kitah Dalet (4th grade) will lead a Siyyumim with Rabbi Toba. All who are vaccinated are welcome to attend!

## PASSOVER

Passover is called "the season of our freedom," and it begins this year on Friday evening, April 15. This holiday marks the Biblical journey out of slavery in *Mitzrayim*, the "Narrow Place," into freedom, and invites us to retell and re-experience that peak moment in our people's narrative.

We will have a few opportunities to celebrate the holiday together as a community, experiencing liberation even as we continue to experience *Mitzrayim*, the constricted space, of our pandemic reality.

### Seder Matchmaking

*There is a midrash, I've been told, that says that when Paul Revere made his famous midnight ride, he was not only shouting "Pesach is coming! Pesach is coming!" to remind the revolutionary Jews of the upcoming date, but he was also inquiring with each family he encountered as he rode to make sure that everyone who wanted to celebrate at a Seder would have one to attend.*

In keeping with this story, please fill out this brief survey regarding your plans:

[tinyurl.com/pesach-poll](https://tinyurl.com/pesach-poll)

We will not be hosting a communal Zoom seder this year, but do want to be sure that every CDT member who would like to attend a seder is able to do so. If you are a member of Dorshei Tzedek and in need of a Passover seder to attend, or if you have room at your table for another person or a few, or if you'd like to get together with others to create a seder, please contact our lead Seder Matchmaker Bill Shorr ([bill.shorr@gmail.com](mailto:bill.shorr@gmail.com)). We appreciate all those who are able to do the mitzvah of inviting others to your seder table!

### Passover Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor

Monday, April 4, 8:00-9:00 am  
Zoom

### Preparing for Passover – Adult Learning with Rabbi Shahar Colt

Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am-12:30 pm  
JCDS (57 Stanley Ave, Watertown, MA)

### Shorashim Shabbat afternoon Passover & Play @ the Cove

Saturday, April 23, 3:30-4:30 pm  
Auburndale Cove, West Pine Street

# CDT Groups and Events

## CDT MEN'S SOFTBALL

### DORSHEI TZEDEK SOFTBALL

Our active recruitment of new players has begun! Don't miss out on any of the action this season. For more information, contact head coach Elliot Pittel at [epittel@comcast.net](mailto:epittel@comcast.net) and check out the team's Facebook page at [facebook.com/CongregationDorsheiTzedek-MensSoftballTeam](https://facebook.com/CongregationDorsheiTzedek-MensSoftballTeam).

## HAVDALAH FOR CISN'T (I.E. "NOT CIS") GROWNUPS, KIDS, AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM!

*Saturday, April 2, 6:30-7:30 pm*  
*Earnest's home in Cambridge (address provided with registration)*

Join DCL Earnest Vener and other members of the trans/nonbinary community for a family friendly havdalah event! All CDT members who identify within the trans/nonbinary/gender-nonconforming umbrella are welcome to join, as well as their loved ones. We will do some activities, celebrate havdalah, and get to know one another!

## CDT MEMBERS MEETING

*Sunday, April 3, 4:30-6:00 pm*  
*Fellowship Hall & Zoom*

Celebrate CDT's years 1 through 30 as well as Rabbi Toba's 25 years as our Rabbi! Come be together with our strong, caring, active, justice seeking, and vibrant community.

## TORAH STUDY WITH RABBINIC INTERN EMMANUEL CANTOR

*Mondays, April 4 & 18, 8:00-9:00 am*

All are welcome to join Emmanuel for a Passover-themed Torah study as we explore its connections to our lives and to the social, emotional, and spiritual questions of our day. Participants are welcome to drop in or come every week. No prior knowledge is required, and learners of all backgrounds are welcome.

## SEGREGATED BY DESIGN

### A Newton Housing Project Program

*Monday, April 11, 7:00-8:30 pm*  
*Fellowship Hall & Zoom*

All are welcome to join our discussion about the racial implications of Federal, state, and local housing policies over the past 150 years with a focus on Newton as a case for local action.

To register to participate on Zoom or reserve an in-person seat, please visit [dorsheitzedek.org/nhp-registration.html](https://dorsheitzedek.org/nhp-registration.html) after carefully reviewing CDT's current COVID safety guidelines at [dorsheitzedek.org/covid-19-resources](https://dorsheitzedek.org/covid-19-resources).

## AVELUT: SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN MOURNING

*Tuesday, April 12, 7:30-9:15 pm*  
*Zoom*

All CDT members who are in the various stages of mourning are welcome to attend. Our monthly gathering meets via Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month to support one another, reflect on loss on the occasion of a *yahrzeit*, and remember the legacies of the loved ones we carry with us. Drop-ins are always welcome anytime. For more information, please contact Nancy Gertz at [nancy.gertz@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.gertz@gmail.com) or Dianne Lior at [dianne.lior@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.lior@gmail.com).

## CDT MEN'S GROUP

*Monday, April 18, 8:00-9:00 pm*  
*Zoom*

The CDT Men's Group meets on the third Monday of each month and is open to anyone who identifies with manhood.

## CDT FILM CLUB

*Saturday, April 30, 8:00-9:00 pm*  
*Zoom*

The CDT Film Club is back! We'll watch films on our own and discuss them on Zoom (check the CDT calendar for the link). No commitment is necessary - feel free drop in only once or come every time! Watch the film on Kanopy (free with a local library card) anytime before the discussion.

Contact Emily Sper at [emily@emilysper.com](mailto:emily@emilysper.com) with questions, film suggestions, or if you'd like to lead a discussion about a particular film.

*Write Down, I am an Arab* (2014, 73 min.): This film tells the story of Mahmoud Darwish, the Palestinian national poet and one of the most influential writers of the Arab world.

## 26TH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

*Sunday, May 8, 8:00 am*  
*Town Field Park (1565 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA 02122)*

The Mother's Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P) is a beloved 26-year-long Boston tradition and celebration of our potential to create more peaceful communities. It is the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's (LDBPI) largest fundraising event to grow and sustain our services, advocacy, and training. Our goal is to equip survivors with the tools, resources and opportunities that they need to become architects of their own healing and advocates for social change.



After two years of connecting virtually, we are excited to be walking in person again! Sunday, May 8, 2022, at 8:00 AM at Town Field Park in Dorchester, MA 02122. Walk with us as we honor the lives of loved ones who have been murdered and build together for Generation Peace.

For those that can't make it in person, we will have a virtual live broadcast that you can tune into (details will be posted soon).

## MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to the Hausman family on the marriage of CDT "graduate" Julia Hausman to Patrick McCaffrey!

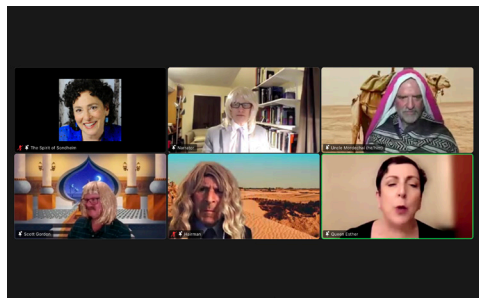
Mazel tov to Jen Kaplan on her film "A Father's Kaddish" receiving the Audience Award for Best Documentary Short at the Denver Jewish Film Festival! For more information, please visit [afatherskaddish.com](http://afatherskaddish.com).

Mazel tov to Emily Sper on her book *My Passover Seder*, a coloring and activity book for kids and adults alike! It is a much expanded reboot of *The Passover Seder: Touch, Turn, Open, and Learn!*. Fun, in a completely different way. Learn more at [emilysper.com/mypassoverseder.html](http://emilysper.com/mypassoverseder.html).

## TODAH RABAH

Yasher Koach and a huge Todah Rabah to the cast and crew of "Send in the Blondes", this year's Purim spiel:

Scott Gordon, Ezra Hausman, Doug Hersh, Margo Michaels, Andrew Sofer, Evelyn Albenberg, Ila Albenberg, Mia Auslander, Keith Cushman, Ruby Gan, Diana Gomberg, Audra Karp, Almog Keshet, Joshua Komyerov, Dani Krasa, Liam Opher-Michaels, P.S. Pytel, Ilana Galpert, Earnest Vener, Melissa Colten, Lise Webbe, Sheree Galpert, and last but not least, Rav Tiffany. Mazel Tov!



And to all the amazing bakers:

Hali Diecidue & Emily Mathis, Lynda Goldberg, Jenny Leopold, Debby Saltzman, Reva Kasman, Helaine Carroll, Linda Kramer, Amy Pollack-Howard, Amy Brodesky, Becky Cohen, Mark & Carmel Schafer & Marjorie Salvodon, Lauren Stefano, Ruth Paris, Rebecca Bact, Valerie Graf, Cindy, Kathy, & Mikayla Marshall, Rachele, Esther, & Havi Rosi-Kessel, the Rumpf/Leitner family, Allison & Ezra Hausman, the Engels Family, Audra Karp, Allison Andrews,

Ayelet Lipton, Tal Shalom-Kobi, Sue Weil & Sandy Goodman, and Ami Gordon

And to the incredibly speedy and efficient baggers:

Peter Katz, Erica & Anna Streit-Kaplan, Sheree Galpert, Liz Reisberg, Corinne Lofchie, Jake Weinberg, Melissa Colten, and Emily Shumsky

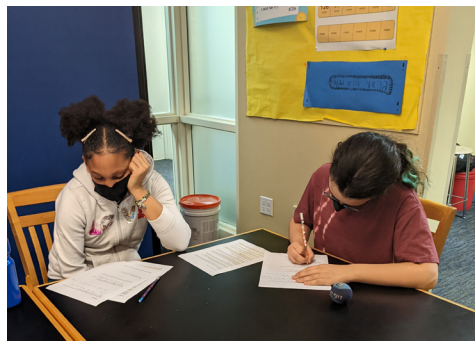


And to all of our timely delivery volunteers: Janet Rickles, Lidia Prunte, Judy Hersh, Dianne Lior & Susan Bernstein, Ari Daniel Shapiro, Rachel Davenport & Mark Paley, Steven Katz, Carol Sklar & Diana Peretta, Nina Cohen, John Holohan & Sharon Gorberg, Chagit Steiner, Beth Brooks, Abby Cohen, and Kevin McCarthy.

Thank you to Nina Cohen and Sara Ulanet for covering the front door at JCDS!

Thank you to Debby Saltzman, Meryl Epstein, and Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein for leading Shabbat morning services/giving divrei Torah while Toba was on Sabbatical!

And thank you to the CDT Re-entry Protocol Committee and the Religious School Physicians Advisory Group for all of their expertise, input, and time to keep our community safe: Bob Warren, Barbara Beck, David Felson, Paul Hattis, Linette Liebling, Gail Pressberg, Lauren



Stefano, Melissa Colten, Earnest Vener, Ellie Baron, Phoebe Cushman, Elizabeth Ferrenz, Jenny Siegel, and Karen Leitner.

## REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings for complete healing to Rachel Ross, Anya Rhodes, Elaine Pollack, Ellie Goldberg, Steve Adler-Golden, Linda Kramer, Jaime Wurzel, Nicci Meadow, Geraldine Weichman, Emelia Webbe, Gail Pressberg, Joyce Traister, Harriet Budd, Ellen Pashall, and Earnest Vener.

## YAHREZIT

This month we remember CDT member Bill Gamson, whose first yahrzeit falls on April 11. We will remember Bill at Shabbat morning services on April 9. May his memory be for a blessing.

We also remember longtime CDT teacher Lesley Chapman, whose 13th yahrzeit falls on April 14. May her memory be for a blessing.

And we remember CDT member Stan Fleischman, whose second yahrzeit falls on April 15. We will remember Stan at Shabbat morning services on April 23. May his memory be for a blessing.

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to Phyllis Glazerman on the death of her husband, Al Glazerman. May his memory be for a blessing.

We extend our condolences to David Rhodes on the death of his father, Dr. Jonathan Rhodes, father-in-law of Jenni Rhodes and grandfather of Nadav, Anya, and Seylan. 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 at [dorsheitzedek.org/mourning](http://dorsheitzedek.org/mourning).



## Jewish Community Events

### JCRC YOM HASHOAH COMMUNITY GATHERING

Sunday, May 1, 2:00 pm  
Virtual broadcast

Join JCRC for our annual community Holocaust commemoration of Yom HaShoah. Register here: [www.jcrcboston.org/yh2022/](http://www.jcrcboston.org/yh2022/)  
We live in a time when there are many who distort the facts of the Holocaust. Survivors have fought these distortions by preserving the truth of their lived experiences. This year, we will hear from community leaders throughout Greater Boston and local Holocaust survivor Freida Grayzel who will share her story with the winners of this year's Israel Arbeiter Essay Contest.

Virtual COMMUNITY  
HOLOCAUST  
COMMEMORATION  
of YOM HASHOAH

SUNDAY, MAY 1  
2:00PM

AT A CROSSROADS:  
PRESERVING THE TRUTH

Join Us

THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN  
JOINT MEMORIAL DAY  
CEREMONY

Sharing Sorrow, Bringing Hope

May 3, 2022 / via web streaming / 1:30 PM EDT / 10:30 PM PDT

### ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN JOINT MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Tuesday, May 3, 1:30 pm  
Virtual broadcast

Join us as we honor the largest Israeli-Palestinian peace event in history. On May 3, Israeli Memorial Day, we will gather to call for peace, freedom, and human rights for all. The Joint Israeli-Palestinian Memorial Day Ceremony is hosted by Combatants for Peace and The Parents Circle-Families Forum, and co-sponsored by CDT.

Register here: [www.afcfp.org/memorial](http://www.afcfp.org/memorial)



Register online at  
[www.afcfp.org/memorial](http://www.afcfp.org/memorial)

## Tikkun Olam

### NEWTON HOUSING PROJECT

Tony Broh

1948-50, exclusionary housing in Oak Hill Park

Oak Hill Park was built on the site of the old Highland Sand & Gravel Pit. Neighbors had not only complained about the noise, dust, and traffic from this business but had also petitioned for rezoning to close it down.

A basic house in Oak Hill Park cost \$7,820 and required a downpayment of only \$100.

The federal mortgage programs behind the low downpayments also required that all homes in Oak Hill Park be sold only to white veterans.

Did you know that the planned community of Levittown, PA had provisions in the leases excluding anyone black from buying a home – and the Supreme Court said it was ok? Did you know that the term “redlining” comes from the maps drawn by banks to set FHA-backed mortgages higher for black residents? Both are Federally subsidized programs! These and other policies have forced the Black population into designated areas that typically have poorly funded schools, fewer parks and trees, more pavement, large deposits of toxic waste, and greater levels of nitrous oxide in the air. The practices also restrain building the same home equity that has allowed the white

population to move from low-income families to middle and upper-class residents and then to pass their wealth to the next generation.

According to the Federal Reserve in 2019, White families have eight times the wealth of Black families. Most of the White wealth – 85 percent for those over the age of 55 – comes from home ownership. And guess what? Almost one-third of white families will give their wealth to the next generation, perpetuating the inequality that laws created.

But these are national policies and figures. Most towns in Massachusetts, including



Newton, adopted the same housing and redlining policies that excluded immigrants and people of color from areas that were designated as the “best” areas of the community. Zoning requirements for single-family homes with minimum sized lots make almost all houses out of the reach of low- or moderate-income families in Newton. Indeed, a 2020 zoning report indicated that less than six-percent of the households are above low- or moderate-income levels. Consequently, Newton is four-percent Black and five-percent Latine compared to twelve-percent black and nine-percent Latine in the Commonwealth. But not everyone agrees this level of inequality requires attention.

### **An Interfaith Program hosted by CDT:**

On April 11, Congregation Dorshei Tzedek will host an interfaith program with the showing “Segregated by Design,” a documentary about national housing policies followed by speakers with knowledge and engagement. Renowned housing expert Henry Korman will describe how housing policies in the Greater Boston area, including Newton, follow the national patterns.

Two interfaith organizations will describe their involvement in addressing exclusionary housing policies. Housing is a priority issue for the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO), growing out of the “listening sessions” among its membership over the past two years. The Newton Interfaith Housing Coalition (NIHC) is a newly formed coalition of clergy and lay members from the churches, parishes, and synagogues in Newton.

The April 11 meeting is a hybrid event with registration required; to register on Zoom or reserve an in-person seat, please visit [dorsheitzedek.org/nhp-registration.html](https://dorsheitzedek.org/nhp-registration.html).

For more information about the Newton Housing Project, please visit [dorsheitzedek.org/newton-housing-project](https://dorsheitzedek.org/newton-housing-project).

### **ISRAEL/PALESTINE PEACE**

CDT is cosponsoring a free series about Israel/Palestine led by Reconstructionist rabbis over 9 sessions between January and May. Zionists, non-Zionists, anti-Zionists, and those unsure of how to define themselves are all welcome to participate as the meanings

of these terms are explored. Each 90-minute session includes a lecture and discussion. Details and registration can be found on the CDT calendar.

### **History and Challenge: The Two-State Solution with Rabbi David Teutsch**

*Tuesday, April 12, 8:00-9:30 pm, Zoom*

### **Nakba Denial and Teshuva (Reparations) with Rabbi Brian Walt**

*Tuesday, April 26, 8:00-9:30 pm, Zoom*

## **AFGHAN FAMILY RESETTLEMENT UPDATE**

*Meryl Epstein & Annette Jacobs*

*This article is an excerpt from the Afghan Family Resettlement blog; to read the full update, please visit [dorsheitzedek.org/afghan-family-assistance-blog.html](https://dorsheitzedek.org/afghan-family-assistance-blog.html).*

March saw many changes for the Afghan family and CDT's Resettlement Project. The family has now been here three months and is settling into life in the US. The father is looking hard for a part-time job. With COVID numbers reducing, we hope to be introducing the family to other Afghans in the area, as well as young Cambridge families with children who belong to one of our sister congregations, Reservoir Church, this spring.

these four dedicated individuals will maintain a social relationship with the family, new family liaisons - Susan Nitkin, Pam Katz, and JoAnn and Michael Feldstein - took over in March. They and the family are getting along well, and with the support of the original greeters, the transition happened seamlessly. Myra Schwartz and Alex Sugarman-Brozán add new depth and breadth to the team by providing for complex issues that arise. When asked why they volunteered for this important and time-consuming task, JoAnn and Michael responded,

“With all of the upheaval and devastation in the world, it’s important for us to be able to help one of the families whose lives have been upended.”

Last month, some of you were able to attend the zoom session moderated by Susannah Sirkin of Hillel B’nai Torah. She worked for 35 years with Physicians for Human Rights on many human rights issues, including projects to advocate for women’s rights under the Taliban and justice in the aftermath of decades of massacres across Afghanistan. She introduced Dr. Barnett Rubin, an Afghan expert, who has been a human rights advocate, leading academic, and specialist advisor to both the State Department as well as the United Nations since the 1970s. Dr. Rubin gave a brief talk and then answered the many questions posed by the audience.

*“With all of the upheaval and devastation in the world, it’s important for us to be able to help one of the families whose lives have been upended.”*

The family’s ability to settle quickly was, in large part, due to the many hours of constant support provided by the original greeters/family liaisons: Beth and Jeff Green, Alice Markowitz, and Rick Glassman. They met the family at the airport the third week of December and provided constant companionship, advice, guidance, and assistance to the family in navigating these crucial early, confusing months of life in the United States. While

If you missed this talk and would like to see it, it is available on the CDT website along with the report that was given at March 5’s Refugee Shabbat morning service by Meryl Epstein of the Afghan Resettlement Leadership Team. If there is anyone who hasn’t volunteered and would be interested in helping the family with last-minute transportation or technical support, please get in touch with family liaison Pam Katz at [pamstevkatz@gmail.com](mailto:pamstevkatz@gmail.com).

# Chesed

## CHESED Q&A

Ellie Goldberg

Chesed (Loving-Kindness) is an important CDT community value. The members of the Chesed Committee coordinate volunteers who provide a meal or other acts of support and comfort when our members have a major life event such as a new baby, illness or death in the family. We post Chesed tasks online on the LotsaHelpingHands (LHH) calendar.

**QUESTION:** I want to provide a meal but I'm not a big cook. What should I do?

**ANSWER:** No worries. Consider the option of bringing prepared foods from a market or restaurant. You can also share a task to provide part of a meal or deliver a meal.

While Covid continues, members can provide a home cooked meal or order a meal from a local restaurant such as Inna's Kitchen, thanks to Rabbi Toba's Discretionary Fund. A Chesed Coordinator will contact the member to

inquire about preferences, order the meal, and send out a request from LotsaHelpingHands for a volunteer to prepare or pick up and deliver the meal.

The Chesed Committee thanks everyone whose acts of kindness manifest the spirit of Chesed in our community. Please contact the Chesed Coordinators at [chesed@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:chesed@dorsheitzedek.org) with any questions or Chesed requests.

## Nediv Lev

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, including contributions to the General Fund or to targeted funds. The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund is not part of the congregation's operating expenses; monies in this fund are used for *tzedakah* in the greater community, for special needs of the congregation (e.g., to buy books or help pay for an adult education program) and, most importantly, to help out congregants in need. **We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:**

### ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Audrey Hoffman — *In memory of Alvin Glazerman, from Audrey & Harvey Hoffman*  
*Sending our sincere condolences*

### AFGHAN ASSISTANCE FUND

Tony Broh & Jennifer Hirschfeld - *With thanks to Jeff & Beth Green, Rick Glassman, and Alice Markowitz for the warmth, dedication, and commitment to the Afghan family that CDT is helping resettle in the United States*  
Nancy Gertz  
Denise & Mark Yurkofsky

### CAMP HAVAYA FUND

Hope Kellman - *With thanks to Jordan Namerow and Idit Klein*

### GENERAL FUND

Sharon Gorberg — *In memory of my beloved father George L. Gorberg, who lives forever in my heart*  
Thea Breite — *In memory of Susan Moser*  
Helaine & John Carroll — *In memory of Alvin Glazerman*  
Polly Crozier & Jessica Keimowitz  
Marilyn & Charles Fuller — *In memory of "Gladiator" Alvin Glazerman*  
Sheree Galpert — *In honor of James Kaplan, CDT's other fabulous spielmeister*  
Lauren Gibbs

Sharon Gorberg — *In memory of her beloved father, George L. Gorberg*

Eric & Steffi Karp — *In memory of the 50th yearzeit of his paternal grandmother, Gussie (Gitel Shimmelman) Karp, born in Busk, Ukraine, 1911, the only member of her family to survive the Holocaust*

Bernard Pemstein — *In memory of Alvin Glazerman*

Ruth Shepard — *In memory of Alvin Glazerman*

Suzy and Mitch Scherr — *In memory of Alvin Glazerman with great love and affection*

### NEDIV LEV

Karen & Jeffrey Arnold  
Steffi Aronson-Karp & Eric Karp  
Miriam Bronstein  
Pauline Coderre

Cohen-Gertz Family Fund of the Foundation for MetroWest — *In memory of Nancy Gertz's parents, Babe and Sandra, and her sister, Betsy Gertz*

Meryl Epstein and Trish Nuzzola — *In honor of Jeff Green, Beth Green, Rick Glassman, and Alice Markowitz*

Jackie Fleischman — *In memory of Stan Fleischman*

Sheree Galpert — *With thanks to the CDT Board for all they do*

Lauren Gibbs

Ellie Goldberg — *In loving memory of her father Emanuel Koenigsberg and her brother Jesse Koenigsberg*

Lynda Goldberg & Joseph Bayes

Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb

Reesa & Irving Gottschalk

Beth & Jeff Green

Carol & Robert Hausman

Judy Hersh

Ilene Lerner

Linette Liebling & Peter Demuth

Amy Mazur — *In memory of her parents, Rhoda Himmel Mazur & Marvin Irwin Mazur*

Tania Mireles & Bill Shorr

Carla Naumburg & Joshua Herzig-Marx

Gertrude Nemeth

Janet Penn

Marion Ross

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks — *In honor of Toba's leadership and family support*

Jennifer Sartori & Barry Gilbert

Jodie Siegel — *With thanks to Janice Cole*

Carole Slipowitz & Dan Halbert

Emily Sper — *In memory of her cousin, Kay Chernush*

Chagit Steiner & Tom Brown

Jonathan Weisberg

Ellen White

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Pauline Coderre

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Tony Broh — *In memory of Dr. Jonathan Rhodes*



# April 2022 • Adar II/Nisan 5782

| Sun   | Mon  | Tues   | Wed   | Thu  | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| 27 <i>Adar II 24</i>  | 28 <i>Adar II 25</i>   | 29 <i>Adar II 26</i><br>8:30am Mindful Mornings<br>3:00pm Tuesday Religious School<br>7:00pm GBIO's Affordable Housing ACTION Team Meeting   | 30 <i>Adar II 27</i><br>7:00pm Mussar (applied Jewish ethics) Practice Group with CDT Member Ora Grodsky and Earnest Vener<br>8:00pm Becoming an Abolitionist: Antiracism and Antizionism, with Rabbi Ari Lev Fornari | 31 <i>Adar II 28</i><br>8:30am Mindful Mornings    | 1 <i>Adar II 29</i>                              | 2 <i>Nisan 1</i><br>Rosh Chodesh Nisan Tazria<br>8:45am Mindful Mornings In-Person Socializing<br>10:00am Shabbat Morning Service with Rabbi Shoshana Friedman<br>6:30pm Havdalah for Trans/Nonbinary/GNC+ grownups, kids, and the people who love them! |
| 3 <i>Nisan 2</i><br>9:30am Sunday Religious School<br>11:00am A Deep Dive into Antisemitism for Jewish Teens: Histories, Realities, and Responses<br>12:00pm Bandits (Vav-Zayin)<br>4:30pm CDT Members Meeting<br>7:00pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class with Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor | 4 <i>Nisan 3</i><br>8:00am Passover Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor | 5 <i>Nisan 4</i><br>3:00pm Tuesday Religious School<br>4:00pm Rosh Hodesh Tuesday RS<br>5:30pm GBIO's Reentry ACTION Team Meeting<br>7:00pm GBIO's Mental Health ACTION Team Meeting | 6 <i>Nisan 5</i>  | 7 <i>Nisan 6</i>                                   | 8 <i>Nisan 7</i><br>6:00pm All Ages Erev Shabbat | 9 <i>Nisan 8</i><br>Metzora<br>10:00am Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Lucy Caputo  |
| 10 <i>Nisan 9</i><br>9:30am Kitah Vav Family Ed<br>9:30am Sunday Religious School<br>10:00am Passover Learning<br>3:00pm Exploring Aging through Literature<br>7:00pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class with Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor  | 11 <i>Nisan 10</i><br>7:00pm Segregated by Design                                    | 12 <i>Nisan 11</i><br>3:00pm Tuesday Religious School<br>8:00pm History and Challenge: Reconstructionism, Zionism, and the Two-State Solution, with Rabbi David Teutsch              | 13 <i>Nisan 12</i>  | 14 <i>Nisan 13</i>                                 | 15 <i>Nisan 14</i><br>Taanit Bechorot            | 16 <i>Nisan 15</i><br>Pesach<br>10:00am Shabbat Morning & First Day of Pesach  |
| 17 <i>Nisan 16</i><br>Pesach<br>1st Day Omer  | 18 <i>Nisan 17</i><br>8:00am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Emmanuel Cantor        | 19 <i>Nisan 18</i>   | 20 <i>Nisan 19</i><br>7:00pm Mussar (applied Jewish ethics) Practice Group with CDT Member Ora Grodsky and Earnest Vener  | 21 <i>Nisan 20</i>                                 | 22 <i>Nisan 21</i>                               | 23 <i>Nisan 22</i><br>Pesach<br>Yizkor<br>7th Day Omer<br>10:00am Shabbat Morning & Final Day of Pesach<br>3:30pm Shorashim Shabbat afternoon Passover & Play @ the Cove   |
| 24 <i>Nisan 23</i><br>8th Day Omer  | 25 <i>Nisan 24</i><br>9th Day Omer   | 26 <i>Nisan 25</i><br>10th Day Omer<br>3:00pm Tuesday Religious School<br>8:00pm Nakba Denial and Teshuva/ Reparations, with Rabbi Brian Walt  | 27 <i>Nisan 26</i><br>11th Day Omer   | 28 <i>Nisan 27</i><br>Yom HaShoah<br>12th Day Omer | 29 <i>Nisan 28</i><br>13th Day Omer              | 30 <i>Nisan 29</i><br>14th Day Omer<br>Achrei Mot<br>10:00am Shabbat Morning Service & B Mitzvah of Noah Pytel<br>8:00pm CDT Film Club: "Write Down, I am an Arab"   |



**Congregation Dorshei Tzedek**

60 Highland St.  
West Newton, MA 02465



Address correction requested



Do you need a large print version of the newsletter?  
Contact the office at [office@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:office@dorsheitzedek.org)

### **Current guidelines for in-person CDT events and gatherings:**

- » Pre-registration for indoor gatherings is suggested but not required, and **seating is now back to 100% capacity!**
- » **(K)N-95 masks are still required** to be worn by all persons aged 2 and older for the duration of the program/service. CDT will always have masks on hand in case of need.
- » Vaccination and booster shots are required for all that are eligible (we are maintaining the honor system).
- » Please stay home and take advantage of our Zoom option if you are experiencing elevated temperature, sore throat, nausea, muscle aches, cough, respiratory symptoms, unexplained rash, and loss of smell or taste, or have been in contact with someone with COVID.

**Please review the full update at**

**<https://www.dorsheitzedek.org/covid-19-resources>**