



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism

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Sivan/Tammuz 5783

June 2023



Be kind, for everyone you
meet is fighting a battle
you know nothing about.

YOUR HAPPINESS, AND MINE

Rabbi Toba Spitzer



A number of years ago I saw a sign in a doctor's office that said: "Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind!" According to Wikipedia, the most likely author of this sentiment was a Scottish minister named John Watson (1850-1907), who wrote something like this under the pen name Ian Maclaren: "Be pitiful, for every man is fighting a hard battle." What I like about the doctor's office version is the notion that not only are the people around us facing their own challenges, but

that these battles are mostly hidden from us. We really have no idea what is going on for other folks at any given moment.

I often think of this teaching when I reflect on the diversity of our CDT community, and the complexities of all of our lives. Our Economic Disparity Group has explored together – and shared with the

congregation – the challenges that arise when people of different class backgrounds and income levels share a community. A topic that is delightful for one person – like planning an overseas vacation, or buying a house – can be painful to someone whose financial circumstances do not allow for such pleasures and privileges.

Over the years, I have become aware of a wide variety of situations where one household's happiness is a potential cause of sadness for another. The announcement of a birth for a couple dealing with infertility; a "mazel tov" on a college graduation for a family whose child will never be able to achieve such a milestone; the celebration of professional achievement for someone who is unhappily unemployed. And the list goes on.

Complicating things further is that most of us have no idea of the "battles others are fighting" behind the mazel tov's. How many miscarriages were suffered before a hoped-for baby arrived? What obstacles did a young person overcome to be able to graduate from high school or college? What difficulties and indignities has someone had to endure on the road to professional success?

The spiritual challenge for us as a community seems to be: how can we celebrate another's moment of joy, even as we acknowledge the "happiness gap" that exists in so many realms of our lives? A few years ago, as part of a Buddhist mindfulness retreat, I learned about a mind-state called "*mudita*," meaning sympathetic or vicarious joy. In Buddhist teaching, it is one of the four Brahmaviharas, or "divine abodes" — virtuous mind-states that, if one is able to achieve them, signal the highest level of spiritual attainment (the other three are *metta* – lovingkindness; *karuna* – compassion; and *upekkha* – equanimity).

If compassion (*karuna*) means identifying with and extending well-wishes to someone who is suffering, then *mudita* – sympathetic joy – is the pleasure that comes from delighting in other people's well-being. It is the opposite of jealousy, and stems from the understanding that, when another person's joy causes me pain, the only one who suffers is me. My own joy will be increased if I am able to sincerely rejoice when another is happy. The practice of fostering *mudita* is a wonderful component of living in sacred community with others, all of whom are both "fighting battles" we cannot see as well as celebrating joys that might be more visible. As we read or hear of others' moments of *simcha* (joy), we might take it as an opportunity to practice *mudita*. Instead of comparing that person's situation to my own, perhaps I can simply offer them a blessing: "May your happiness deepen, and your good fortune continue." And when I experience happiness, instead of feeling badly that others do not share my good fortune, I can send a similar blessing to myself: "May I dwell in happiness; may my happiness not leave me." These *mudita* practice phrases are one way to foster our own happiness.

My blessing for all of us is that we know that we all have sorrows as well as joys, moments of sadness along with moments of delight. May we be there for one another in all of these moments and know that we can sincerely rejoice together, just as we are there for one another to offer support. May we together deepen in gladness and foster hearts and minds filled with true happiness. May it be so!

From the Board

FINAL CDT MEMBERS MEETING OF 5783

Sunday, June 11, 4:30-6:30 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

We hope that at least one adult member of each CDT household will join us for this important Members Meeting, where we will vote on a new Board slate and budget for 5784, thank outgoing Board members, and hear important updates! We will meet in the CDT sanctuary, and child care will be provided.

From the Office

JUNE OFFICE HOURS AND CLOSURES

The administrative offices at CDT are open Monday-Friday 10:00 am-6:00 pm.

The office will be closed on Monday, June 19 in honor of Juneteenth.

Margaret will be out of the office from June 12-16 and working remotely from June 20-23.

The CDT Newsletter is produced by the office and published monthly (with a July/August summer issue). Email articles, events, photos, and questions to dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org by the 10th of the month for the following month's issue. Volunteer Staff for this issue: Viv Shein (photographer). Please let us know if you'd like to join the team!

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
Executive Director of Operations: Margaret Farmer,
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Education Director: Earnest Arky Solomon,
e.arkysolomon@dorsheitzedek.org
Administrative Assistant: Alistaire Webbe,
a.webbe@dorsheitzedek.org
Inclusion Coordinator: Jess Green,
j.green@dorsheitzedek.org
Rabbinic Intern: Akiva Nelson,
a.nelson@dorsheitzedek.org

Executive Committee:

President: Stacey Chacker
Immediate Past President: Bob Warren
VP Finance: Jen Levine-Fried
Secretary: Dan Rome

Vice-Presidents:

VP Membership: Carole Slipowitz and
Marjorie Salvodon
VP Tikkun Olam: Tony Broh

Board Members—at-Large:

Sheree Galpert, Melody Komyerov, Ayelet Lipton, Jenny Sartori, Meryl Epstein, and Rebecca Byard

Off-Board Chairs:

Children's Education: Becca O'Murchadha
Chesed: Gail Pressberg
Nediv Lev: Janice Cole & Ezra Hausman
Ritual: Marion Ross & Peter Katz
Rabbinic Liaison: Cindy Shulak-Rome
Executive Director Liaison: Linette Liebling
Education Director Liaison: Lissy Medvedow
Space: Steve Siegel
Website: Dan Halbert
Welcoming: **Vacant — nominate yourself or a friend!**

Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice

We are excited to be gathering again in person for Shabbat services and holiday programs, most of which are also available on Zoom!

WE HAVE UPDATED OUR COVID PROTOCOLS: We strongly encourage those attending our services and programs to be fully vaccinated, and we are "mask friendly." Masks are not required, but all should feel comfortable wearing a mask at our programs; we will continue to have masks available, and there will be a mask-only section reserved in the CDT sanctuary. We ask that anyone exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 please refrain from attending, even if testing negative, and that CDC guidelines be followed for those who have tested positive in recent days. For our current COVID policy, please go to www.dorsheitzedek.org/covid-19-resources.

We are fragrance-free: For the health of our community, we also ask that all those attending programs in person refrain from wearing fragrances, including perfume, hair and body sprays, and other scented products. These cause illness for some of our members, and we appreciate all of our members' and guests' efforts to keep our space fragrance-free.

ALL-AGES EREV SHABBAT

Fridays, June 9, 6:00-8:00 pm
CDT (60 Highland St)

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba at 6 pm for candle lighting and the other Shabbat blessings, followed by a potluck vegetarian Shabbat dinner. Please bring a veggie main dish or salad to share (enough for 6-8 people); drinks and dessert will be provided. A musical Kabbalat Shabbat service begins at 6:45 pm, and we will be unveiling the beautiful new Kabbalat Shabbat All-Ages Siddur featuring art work by this year's Kitah Vav class (see page 5 for a sneak preview of some included pieces)! Oneg Shabbat follows the service at approximately 7:30 pm.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Shabbat Naso — No services at CDT!

Saturday, June 3

There will be no Shabbat morning services either in the CDT Sanctuary or on Zoom, because of the CDT retreat.

Shabbat Beha'alotecha & Bat Mitzvah of Abby Edelstein

Saturday, June 10, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

All are invited to join the celebration in the CDT sanctuary or on Zoom as we call Abby Edelstein to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah!

We invite the CDT community to celebrate with us as our daughter, Abigail Rina Birkeland Edelstein, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah, followed by a kiddush lunch. Abby is a 7th grader at Brown Middle School in

Newton. She enjoys Ninja Warrior, basketball and soccer, spending time with her friends, and snuggling with our dog Hazel.

— Sarah Birkeland & Roy Edelstein

Shabbat Shelach Lecha

Saturday, June 17, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

At this special Shabbat service, Rabbi Toba will be joined by alumni of the JOI/JOIN Jewish Organizing Fellowship. Since 1999, what was originally called the Jewish Organizing Initiative has trained young Jewish organizers, grounding them not just in the craft of social justice organizing, but also in Jewish text and tradition. Rabbi Toba has been a mentor and trainer for JOI/JOIN since its inception, and a number of CDT members participated in the JOI/JOIN program over the years. At this service, alumni who are CDT members will join Rabbi Toba for a morning of song, prayer, reflection, and study as we celebrate our shared commitment to creating a society that manifests the godly qualities of justice and love. We will also be remembering Noah Marcus on the occasion of his 4th yahrzeit, and celebrating the aufruf of CDT members Zoe Stark and Jenn Guptill in anticipation of their upcoming wedding!

Shabbat Korach

Saturday, June 24, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

All are invited to join member-leaders for Shabbat morning services both in-person and on Zoom.

NOTE: Beginning in July, we go onto a special summer schedule, beginning with a Zoom Shabbat morning service on July 8.

MINDFUL MORNINGS

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30-9:15 am
Zoom

We invite CDT members and guests to join us for guided and silent meditation, twice a week or whenever you can! Mindful Mornings meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-9:15 am on Zoom, and we close each sit with Mourners Kaddish for anyone observing a yahrzeit or in mourning. Sessions are led by CDT members, and Rabbi Toba joins us the second Thursday of each month. No meditation experience or regular commitment required. For questions or to find out more, please contact Karen Arnold and Carole Slipowitz at mindful-mornings@dorsheitzedek.org. The Zoom link can be found on the CDT calendar.

THOUGHTS ON PARTICIPATING IN CDT'S FIRST LEARNER'S MINYAN

Mark Schafer

This is an excerpt from a D'var Torah given on April 22, 2023; read the full D'var on the CDT website.

As someone who liked school, books, and talking about texts and ideas, Torah study came easy to me. But when we started attending services at CDT, I found the Saturday Shabbat Service persistently opaque, like letters I'd found from my great-grandparents, written in a language I didn't know and couldn't read. I felt I had a "birthright" to be in this ritual space and to participate in this ritual. But what were the rules and how did one learn them? The Shabbat service must *inherently* be mysterious, I thought, except, perhaps, to the high priests and their modern descendants.

When I showed up for the first session of the

Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice (cont.)

Learner's Minyan in late January, led by CDT's Rabbinic Intern, Akiva Nelson, I discovered that I was one of nearly *twenty* people: young and old, new members and those who had been at CDT for decades, people who had led services and those of us who knew little or no Hebrew. I sensed something bigger and deeper was going on than that we were simply "improving our understanding of the Shabbat morning service." And when the class began and Akiva made it clear that everyone

was welcome in this space, no matter what our relationship was to Judaism or to Jewish practice, knowledge, or experience, and that all our questions were welcome, he opened the floodgate. There was a palpable hunger for understanding, knowledge, and explanation, but also for *the space in which to ask these questions*.

I think that many of us longed to know that we weren't the only ones who had these questions,

the only ones who didn't understand what was going on or why — in parts of the service or throughout. And perhaps I wasn't alone either in feeling discomfort, embarrassment, or even shame that I, one of the People of the Book, couldn't really even read the book. As we began to ask our questions together, my feelings of isolation, embarrassment, and shame for not understanding or knowing began to dissolve.

CDT Groups and Events

A FATHER'S KADDISH POST-SCREENING UPDATE

On May 7, a group of CDT members and guests came together in person and on Zoom to watch *A Father's Kaddish*, a powerful and moving film that was directed by CDT's very own Jen Kaplan. Jen was joined for a post-screening discussion and reflection by the film's subject, Steven Branfman. We thank Jen and Steven for sharing their work and their stories with the greater community!

If you would like to view a recording of the evening, please visit www.dorsheitzedek.org/event/afatherskaddish.



CDT FILM CLUB

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

Please join us for a discussion of *The Art of Silence*! Watch the film on your own on Prime Video any time before the discussion, and look for the Zoom link on the CDT Calendar. Contact filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org with questions and film suggestions, if you'd like to lead the discussion about a particular film, or to be put on our mailing list.

The Art of Silence (1 hr 21 min, 2023): The first feature documentary about the legendary pantomime Marcel Marceau. He inspires several generations of artists and people around the world. But the tragic background behind his work has remained hidden for a long time. *The Art of Silence* sheds new light on his life and unique art

form, which his family and companions keep alive to this day.

Visit www.dorsheitzedek.org/film-club to learn more about the CDT Film Club and to see future movies and dates.

AVELUT: SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN MOURNING

Tuesday, June 13, 7:30-9:15 pm
Zoom

All CDT members who are in the various stages of mourning are welcome to attend as we 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 or Dianne Lior at dianne.lior@gmail.com.

CDT MEN'S GROUP

Monday, June 19, 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. Contact Dan Rome at dan.rome.md@gmail.com for more information.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CONVERSATION

Wednesday, June 21, 7:00-8:15 pm
Zoom

Join the CDT Ritual Committee for a conversation about energizing our community's spiritual life and broadening the ways that members can engage meaningfully in spiritual and ritual practices at CDT. We will discuss ideas for new ways of approaching Shabbat and holiday services, incorporating the arts, contemplation, nature, and more.

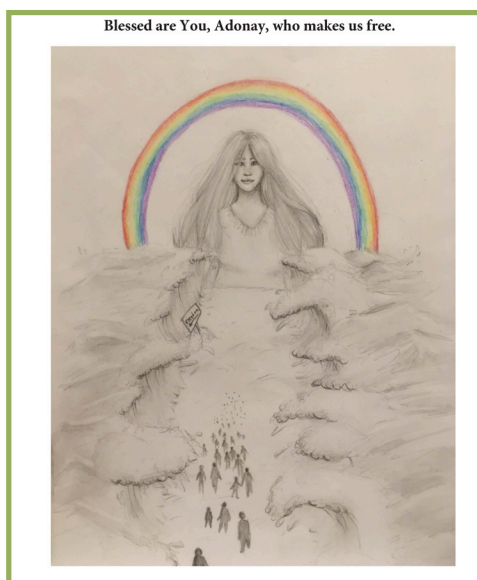
Youth and Family Programming

NEW KABBALAT SHABBAT SIDDUR

Earnest Arky Solomon



We can't wait for you to see the new All-Ages Shabbat siddur at services on June 9th! This year at Religious School, Kitah Vav (6th grade) spent the year creating artwork for a new Friday night siddur. This wonderful project was led by Kitah Vav teacher Joanna Marcus and assistants Izzy Feinfeld, Ayla Kobi, and Alvan Rhoden. CDT member and former art teacher Sharon Gorberg donated supplies and her time by coming into the class to work with the students.



The students began the year by doing emulation art projects. Each student picked a Jewish artist to learn about, explore their artwork, and create a piece that emulated that artist's style. Then they began to work on the siddur. They explored the Friday evening service and the liturgy by creating found poems and drafts of artwork inspired by the prayers. The final pieces are beautiful and reflect the deep digging into the liturgy that the students did. You can view a slideshow presentation that shows their process and see the siddur on the Religious School homepage on the Dorshei Tzedek website.

If you would like to contribute to the printing of the siddur and make a dedication in someone's honor or memory, please use the QR code to the right.



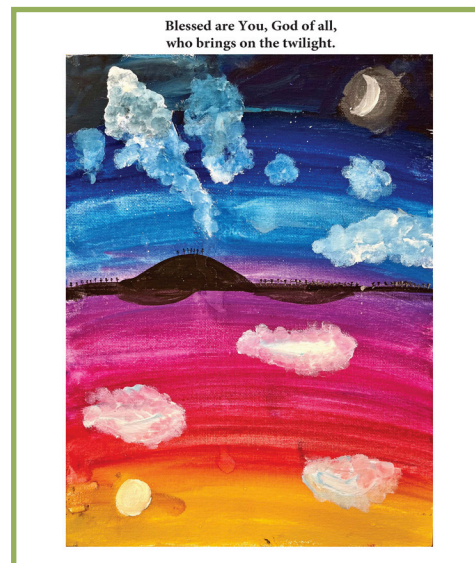
You can also find the form on the Religious School homepage on the CDT website.

CAMP HAVAYA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



I am happy to share that five families have received scholarships from CDT to attend Camp Havaya, the Reconstructionist summer camp in Pennsylvania. Through the generosity of members and supporters, CDT maintains a scholarship fund to support families sending kids to Havaya. The fund was large enough that everyone who applied was able to receive a scholarship and all five students will join other CDT teens and kids from around the country this summer.

We look forward to hearing from all of the kids about their wonderful experiences when they return home this fall. If you would like to support the Camp Havaya Scholarship Fund, please write Camp Havaya in the memo section of your check, or choose Camp Havaya when making the donation online.



FRIDAY NIGHT SHORASHIM SHABBAT AND DINNER

For families with children 5 and younger

Friday, June 9, 5:30-6:45 pm

CDT (60 Highland St)

Shorashim families are invited to join Morah Devora for a young children oriented Shabbat service at 5:30 pm. Afterwards, Shorashim will come together with the rest of the community for a Shabbat potluck at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to stay for All-Ages Erev Shabbat services at 6:45 pm, but we understand it may be bedtime! This is a great opportunity for families considering the Religious School to connect with CDT members and meet our wonderful Shorashim leader, Morah (teacher) Devora Rohr. For more information, please contact Education Director Earnest Arky Solomon: e.arkysolomon@dorsheitzedek.org.

PRIDE IN THE PARK SHABBAT CELEBRATION

Saturday, June 17, 4:00-5:30 pm

Cabot Elementary Park (229 Cabot St, Newton)

Celebrate Pride with Dorshei Tzedek! Current and prospective Religious School families and CDT members of all ages are invited to gather for Pride-themed activities at Cabot park. We will celebrate our LGBTQ+ inclusive and affirming synagogue with games, stories, activities, and community! This is a great opportunity for families considering the Religious School to connect with CDT members and meet our Education Director, Earnest Arky Solomon.

MAZEL TOV TO THE CLASS OF 2023!

Mazel tov to Leah Coen-Tarbox for graduating from Clark University with a degree in Community, Youth, & Education Studies and entering the human services/social work field!

Mazel tov to Lucy Engels for graduating from the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and for being accepted into Wellesley College!

Mazel tov to Izzy Feinfeld for graduating from Westwood High School and

being accepted into the University of Pennsylvania's anthropology program!

Mazel tov to Spencer Goldman for graduating from Newton South High School and being accepted into Penn State to study meteorology!

Mazel tov to Anna Kaplan for graduating from Newton North High School and being accepted into the University of Connecticut!

Mazel tov to Maayan Magaziner for graduating from Boston Latin School and being accepted into the University of

Wisconsin-Madison where she will study Psychology and Spanish!

Mazel tov to Malka Pomerantz for graduating from Bedford High School and being accepted into UMass Boston's Biology and Business programs!

Mazel tov to Sophie Siegel-Bernstein for graduating from American University with a BSBA in Marketing!

Mazel tov to Theo Tessler Shapiro for graduating from Northeastern University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and entering the green energy start-up field!

MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to Ruby Gan and her family on becoming Bat Mitzvah!

Mazel tov to the Religious School students of Kitot Gimmel-Vav on their Siyyumim!

TODAH RABAH

Thank you to Abby Cohen for once again organizing the Team Dorshei Tzedek's participation in the Mother's Day Walk for Peace!

Thank you to our Community Shabbat Potluck Dinner hosts:

Debby & John Saltzman, Stacey Chacker & David Schatz, Becky Cohen & Jacob Weinberg, and Judy Hersh.

Thank you to those who provided Kiddush in May:

Michele Arons & Michael Brann, Liz Reisberg, Lauren & Andrew Stefano, Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen, Amy Brodesky, Eileen Morrison (in memory of Catherine Sgroi) & Michael Jablon, Rachel Adler-Golden, Zoe Stark, David Shumsky, Debby Saltzman, Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Joan Autio & Steve Gomperts, Thea Breite, Audra Karp, Doug Hersh, Corinne Lofchie, Rick Glassman & Alice Markowitz, Emily Sper, Janet Rickles, and Rebecca Waber.

REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to Erica Streit-Kaplan, Ellen Pashall, Susan Nitkin, Anya

Rhodes, Jaime Wurzel, Emelia Webbe, Gail Pressberg, and Harriet Budd.

Yahrzeit

This month, we remember David Keimowitz Crozier, son of Polly Crozier and Jessica Keimowitz, on the occasion of his 11th yahrzeit. We remembered David at Shabbat morning service on May 27; may his memory be for a blessing.

We remember Noah Marcus, son of Susan Nitkin and Jeffrey Marcus, brother of Caleb and Joanna Marcus, on the occasion of his 4th yahrzeit. We will remember Noah at Shabbat morning services on June 17; may his memory be for a blessing.

CONDOLENCES

CDT mourns the death of CDT member Robert Hausman, who passed away on May 26 at the age of 91. Bob and Carol moved up to the Boston area in 2020, and after many years as members of Reconstructionist congregation Adat Shalom in Bethesda, MD, joined their son Ezra and his family as members of Dorshei Tzedek. We send our condolences to Carol, and to Ezra & Allison Hausman, Martha Hausman & Rabbi Andy Vogel, and Bob's grandchildren, Shana, Julia, Elise, Rosa, and Hallel. May Bob's memory always be for a blessing.

We extend our condolences to David and Joel Reider on the death of their mother, Freda Reider, mother-in-law of Gail Harris and

Pamela Schoenberg Reider, grandmother of Livia, Ben, Jonah, and Nathan. May her memory be for a blessing.

We also extend our condolences to Ora Grodsky on the death of her mother, Phyllis Grodsky, mother-in-law of Jonathan Rosenthal, grandmother of Sasha and Zoe. May her memory be for a blessing.



Art work by Eden Pytel (see page 7)

Artist of the Month

EDEN PYTEL



Eden Pytel is a non-binary 6th grader at Charles E. Brown middle school in Newton, MA. They like exploring all types of media in their art, and have loved the opportunity to explore ceramics in the arts program at Camp Havaya in recent summers.

Eden is always making something, from jewelry to videos to a giant mushroom hat. In addition to their art, they perform in the Brown Working Theater productions and enjoy playing soccer and rock climbing.



CDT Look-back

CDT'S SECOND ADULT GROUP BAT MITZVAH

Karen Arnold

November 18, 2000 marked the second time a group of adult women celebrated as b'not mitzvah at Dorshei Tzedek. Sherry Katz, Cheryl Sacks, Lisa Port White, Dinah Moeller, Linette Liebling, and Karen Arnold made it to that date after 4 years of every-other-Friday mornings studying Torah with our teacher, Leslie Chapman z"l. Meeting in each other's homes, we also worked on our own, muddling through texts and topics and deciding (over and over again) whether/if/how/when we wanted to have a bat mitzvah ceremony. We digressed endlessly and ate magnificently. Our members came to the group with wildly different Jewish educations and Hebrew proficiency. Some of us took a separate class with one of our CDT founders, Chayim Herzig Marx, who taught us how to *leyn* (chant) from the Torah.

The six of us planned the service and wrote the d'var Torah together. We took turns leading the sections of the service. Karen sang

the opening songs. Lisa and Cheryl led the Shema and the Amidah with dazzling stereo Hebrew chanting. Sherry and Linette fluently orchestrated the choreography, text, and parading of the Torah service. Dinah shared a teaching and the other five chanted from the Torah scroll (some for the first time). A series of toasts capped the party at Cheryl's home that night. (Lisa's dad said, "The best part of this bat mitzvah is that I didn't have to pay for it.") The day – like the period of preparation – was all about learning as adults, achieving goals, composing busy lives, deepening Judaism, finding inspiration from other women, and weaving community.

The group as 13-year-olds, pictured on the cover of the service guide booklet handed out at the Celebration

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

A Bat Mitzvah Celebration

Karen Levine Arnold
Sherry Katz
Linette Liebling

Dinah Moeller
Cheryl Weiner Sacks
Lisa Port White



"And God opened her eyes
and she saw ... " *Genesis 21:19*



Shabbat Va-Yera
Genesis 18:1 - 19:20



November 18, 2000

Heshvan 20, 5761

MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE: POST-WALK UPDATE

Abby Cohen

CDT showed up in full force to support the Mother's Day Walk for Peace in Dorchester. This year we quickly reached our initial fundraising goal of \$5,000 and increased our goal to \$8,000. Team Dorshei Tzedek included over 30 members and friends who joined the walk to be in community with our neighbors and make visible our support of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. There is still time to make a donation; please go to <https://tinyurl.com/mdw4p-cdt>.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS AND MEANINGFUL YEARLY PART OF OUR CONGREGATION!



GBIO UPDATE

Louise Enoch

GBIO continues its intense focus on the MA budget in an attempt to raise this year's amount for public housing to at least \$184 million. The Governor had allocated about \$92 million (a woefully inadequate figure) and efforts in the MA House, which started with Governor Healey's figure, have brought the figure to \$105 million. This is still short of the \$112 million we had hoped for from the House. GBIO members made phone calls, wrote to their legislators to support an amendment that would have raised the amount, and attended two events held at two public housing sites in South Boston and Brookline. Thanks, if you were involved in any of those

efforts. The focus has now shifted to the Senate and its determination of a figure for this item. GBIO has been applying pressure there as well. Hopefully by the time you will read this, a figure closer to what is needed will have been decided upon by the Senate and eventually the Conference Committee.

Efforts to address reentry housing, mental health housing, the implementation of the MBTA Communities Act, and the passage of the Transfer Fees bill continue. Anyone with interest in these areas is encouraged to get involved.

Stay tuned for a possible large action sometime in June where we hope to turn out a large number of people to address

these issues with the Governor. If you have any questions, contact Louise at lpnoch@gmail.com.



Art work by Eden Pytel
(see page 7)

AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON JUNE 4!

Tony Broh

Since December 2021, Dorshei Tzedek has helped resettle a family from Afghanistan. Many of you may have met them during a Kiddush following Shabbat services a few months ago. They are very appreciative of help from the Congregation.

The family is moving in June. The apartment offers lower rent than their current quarters, is close to the school that the children will attend in the fall, and provides a more stable living environment for the next few years.

The Leadership Team and other volunteers who have supported the family need help on June 4 to paint the family's new apartment in Cambridge.

Do you have experience and like to paint? Do you have some time? We will also need some drop cloths, paint rollers, and paint pans, if you have any of those items gathering dust in your basement or storage area.

Contact Tony Broh at tonybroh@gmail.com for more information if you can help paint the family's apartment on June 4 or if you have some paint supplies that you might donate to the effort.

Jewish Community Events

75 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE: ISRAEL AT A CROSSROADS

Sunday, June 11, 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Temple Israel of Boston (477 Longwood Ave, Boston)

Last month, we marked Israel's 75th anniversary on Israeli Independence Day, and it was like none other. How do we commemorate Israel's independence a time when its government is promoting ethnonationalist, autocratic, religiously coercive, and annexationist policies? And yet, the energy, creativity, and resilience of Israeli activists demonstrating week after week for Israel's democracy has been a true inspiration.

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek is very happy to cosponsor this event presented by Temple Israel of Boston, New Israel Fund (NIF) and J Street at such a critical moment in Israel's

history. At this special gathering, we will reaffirm our deep caring and concern for Israel as well as our commitment to equality and democracy. The event will open with Nadav Tamir, J Street's Israel Director, in conversation with Representatives Jim McGovern (D-MA-2) and Lori Trahan (D-MA-3) about their time on J Street's recent congressional delegation to Israel and the West Bank, and their wider work to support democracy in Israel through US diplomacy. Then, NIF VP for Public Engagement, Libby Lenkinski, will join Executive Director of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, Noa Sattath, in a discussion highlighting the Israeli struggle on the ground for a more inclusive, just, and democratic future for Israel. After the two conversations, we will have the chance to mingle, share a meal, get connected to a myriad of ways to support true democracy in Israel, and then join



in small discussion groups led by the Temple Israel Progressive Israel Caucus. You can visit the CDT calendar or the J Street website to see more details and to register for the event. We hope to see you there!

We are living through a historic moment in Israel's story. J Street hopes you will join us to show your support for those fighting to make Israel more just and democratic. Please reach out to boston@nif.org if you have any questions about the event.

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. For congregants experiencing financial difficulties, help is available through the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. This fund is completely confidential. For pastoral support while Rabbi Toba is away, please contact chesed@dorsheitzedek.org to get in touch with "on call" rabbis.

CHESED PLUS

Ellie Goldberg

Our community values Chesed, acts of loving-kindness. When a member has a life event such as a birth or adoption, an injury or illness, or death in the family, CDT members volunteer to provide a Shabbat dinner, a weekday meal or a food basket, a ride, an errand, or a visit. These gestures of practical comfort and caring acknowledge each other's life transitions or stressful times.

Sometimes, members also ask Chesed Coordinators about local resources such as, "Where can I borrow a wheelchair or a knee brace? Who has a recommendation for a physical therapist, transportation service, or a rehab center?"

Many communities' Senior Centers such as Brookline's have Equipment Loan Funds

for smaller, gently used durable medical equipment such as canes, walkers, shower chairs/benches, commodes, bed rails, and incontinence supplies such as chux, depends, and booster pads. Chesed team member Valerie Graf reports that they also may have wheelchairs and knee scooters. The H.E.L.P. line is 617.730.2752 for arranging donations or to inquire about our current inventory.

Jewish Family and Children's Service (www.jfcsboston.org) is another source of information, referral and support for a wide range of individual and family needs. The Access Team number is 781.647.JFCS (5327).

And CDT members can also rely on the CDT-Share list for solutions to many home and life management needs.

If you have a need for Chesed or are interested in joining the Chesed Committee, please

contact the Chesed Coordinators at chesed@dorsheitzedek.org. To get announcements of Chesed volunteer opportunities sign up for LotsaHelpingHands: <https://dorsheitzedek.org/chesed-signup>.



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:**

NEDIV LEV

Bonnie Tenneriello & Andrew Sofer — *In honor of Karen Arnold for her leadership of CDT Sings*
Janice Cole
Gertrude Nemeth
Jeffrey & Beth Green
Robin Bernstein
Rob Saper & Ruth Paris
Karen Wasserman
Richard Thal & Caroline Chauncey
Mathilda & Edward Bruckner
Emily Sper
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Katharine Pillsbury & Cindy Marshall
Frances Malino
Susan Weil
Bill Shorr
Eric Karp
Bill Kantor
Elaine Goldberg
Paul Hattis
Jeff & Cheryl Sacks
The Felson Family
Bob Warren
Corinne Lofchie & Noam Shore
Matthew Valleau & Michael Gnozzio
Mark Farber
Carolyn Fine & Jerry Friedman
Louise Enoch
Stephanie Hackett
Jennifer Levine-Fried & Matthew Fried
John & Debby Saltzman

Marion Ross — *In memory of my parents, Benjamin Levenson and Diana Levenson*
Polly Crozier & Jessica Keimowitz — *In memory of David Levi Keimowitz Crozier on the occasion of his 11th yahrzeit*
Ellie Goldberg — *In memory of my mother Theresa Koenigsberg, my brother Jesse Koenigsberg, and my aunt Pauline Fine*
Maurice Karpman
Larry Cohen
Audra Karp & Deb Albenberg
Emily Cowan
Valerie Graf & Doron Gan — *In honor of Alison Andrews and Arthur Lent*
Esther Kohn & Mary Hickie
Ro Weichman & Jo Ann Share — *With thanks to all CDT Board Members, past and present*
Ellen Lubell & David Nathan



GENERAL DONATIONS

Zelda Gamson — *In memory of Bill Gamson*
Eric Karp — *In honor of Steffi Karp's Birthday*
Linda & Peter Katz — *In memory of Lina & Saul Weiss*

Benis Bernstein — *In memory of Harry S. Bernstein*
Cheryl Weber — *With thanks to Akiva Nelson for offering the Learner's Minyan and doing such a great job*

CAMP HAVAYA FUND

Hazel Keimowitz — *In memory of David Levi Keimowitz Crozier*

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jodie Siegel — *In honor of our amazing Rabbi Toba*
Zoe Stark & Jenn Guptill — *In gratitude for Rabbi Toba's help with our wedding, and for the community at CDT*



*Jewelry and painting by Eden Pytel
(see page 7)*

June 2023 • Sivan/Tammuz 5783

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Sivan 8	29 Sivan 9 Office Closed for Memorial Day 10:30am Funeral Service for Robert Hausman 7:00pm Shivah Minyan in Memory of Robert Hausman	30 Sivan 10 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:30pm Poetry Reading & Poetry Open Mic	31 Sivan 11 7:00pm Shivah Minyan in Memory of Robert Hausman	1 Sivan 12 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:00pm Zoom Shivah Minyan in Memory of Robert Hausman	2 Sivan 13	3 Sivan 14 Naso 10:00am CDT Retreat!
4 Sivan 15 [Time TBD] Afghan Family Apartment Painting (Volunteers needed!) 10:00am CDT Men's Softball Game: Tzedekmen vs Temple Reyim 2:00pm Shivah Minyan in Memory of Phyllis Grodsky	5 Sivan 16	6 Sivan 17 8:30am Mindful Mornings	7 Sivan 18 7:00pm GBIO Core Team Meeting	8 Sivan 19 8:30am Mindful Mornings	9 Sivan 20 5:30pm Friday Night Shorashim Shabbat and Dinner 6:00pm All-Ages Erev Shabbat	10 Sivan 21 Beha'alotecha 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services and Bat Mitzvah of Abby Edelstein 8:00pm Film Club Discussion: <i>The Art of Silence</i>
11 Sivan 22 10:00am 75 Years of Independence: Israel at a Crossroads 10:00am CDT Men's Softball Game: Tzedekmen vs Beth Elohim 4:00pm Teen Youth Group: Bowling! 4:30pm CDT Members Meeting	12 Sivan 23	13 Sivan 24 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:30pm Avelut	14 Sivan 25	15 Sivan 26 8:30am Mindful Mornings	16 Sivan 27	17 Sivan 28 Sh'lach Lecha 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services 4:00pm Pride in the Park Shabbat Celebration
18 Sivan 29 10:00am CDT Men's Softball Game: Tzedekmen vs Beth Elohim	19 Sivan 30 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Office Closed for Juneteenth 8:00pm CDT Men's Group	20 Tammuz 1 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz 8:30am Mindful Mornings	21 Tammuz 2 7:00pm Spiritual Life Conversation	22 Tammuz 3 8:30am Mindful Mornings	23 Tammuz 4	24 Tammuz 5 Korach 10:00am Member-led Shabbat Morning Services
25 Tammuz 6	26 Tammuz 7	27 Tammuz 8 8:30am Mindful Mornings	28 Tammuz 9	29 Tammuz 10 8:30am Mindful Mornings	30 Tammuz 11	1 Tammuz 12 Chukat NO SHABBAT SERVICES



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

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West Newton, MA 02465

Address correction requested



Do you need a large print version of the newsletter?
Contact the office at office@dorsheitzedek.org

*Do you have any photos of a CDT
event or committee meeting?
We'd love to feature them! Email
us at dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org.*



*Kitah Zayin 5783
eating their own
homemade
matzah ball soup
on their very
last day as CDT
Religious School
students*