



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

An Affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism

60 Highland Street, West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
617.965.0330 | www.dorsheitzedek.org | info@dorsheitzedek.org

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5784

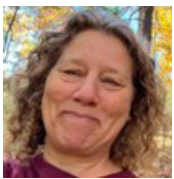
October 2023



Second Day Rosh Hashanah All-Ages Nature Walk Service at the Auburndale Cove

MOVING INTO 5784 TOGETHER

Stacey Chacker, CDT President



I am writing this article savoring the high from Rosh Hashanah — kvelling from the warmth and connection, reflection together, singing, dancing, and the guests joining us. What joy! Honestly, it was a recharge that I needed for the Fall. I am so grateful to our Ritual Committee, staff, leyners, service leaders, educators, musicians, and the countless others who make this a seamless experience for us all. We are blessed in so many ways.

My 5784 delight actually began at our All-Ages Erev Shabbat and Religious School Open House on September 8. Over ninety people were there — many prospective members — with lots of buzz from little kids! Yasher Koach to all who helped to spread the word about CDT and our Religious School. Please, keep it up!

That same weekend, the CDT Board met for a half-day retreat to focus on our "avodah" (work or service) for 5784 (see page 2 of any given newsletter for the Board list). As Rabbi Toba wrote in her September column, service is "inherently relational," each of us has something to contribute, and it "contains a sense of *kavanah* — of directing oneself,

pointing towards something important." As the CDT Board President, I think a lot about how to support and elevate Board members' and others' contributions, connect, and have fun, while serving our beloved community in our continued growth and evolution. At Board meetings, we build in time for learning and deepening relationships; we often have some laughs. This year, once again, we guessed "whodunnit" on fun facts shared about one another. If CDT ever decides to incorporate a cooking lesson for gravy and biscuits (and sausages, I am told are implied) — check, we got it! Just think... next year... *you* could be sharing in the fun and the service to CDT.

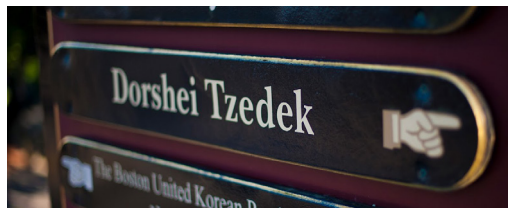
On a serious note, we also reviewed board responsibilities and had rich discussions (see Melanie Adler's article on page 3 for more details). One focus was our new system for *Creating/Sustaining a Safe and Welcoming Community*. On Shabbat, we now have a "Greeter" at the door in front of Fellowship Hall, in addition to our usher in the sanctuary. In order to keep an eye on who is coming in and out, we are now asking that people come in to services and programs only through the main door off of the Highland Street parking lot (or through the all accessible entrance off of the Chestnut Street parking lot, behind the building); we

will be keeping the Highland Street entrance will locked during Shabbat services. Melissa Colten (past CDT Executive Director), Meryl Epstein (Board Member), Margaret Farmer (Executive Director of Operations), and other volunteers researched, attended safety forums, organized trainings with Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Newton Police, and worked with the Second Church to leverage funding/make building updates. Board members (past and present) and past presidents attended at least one training and are serving as Greeters, downstairs, throughout the service. Thank you all! Our next step is training in CPR and how to use an AED (we have one on the stairs to the Sanctuary, and in the kitchen). We hope to never have to use them – but in the case that we do – we want to be prepared.

This fall, CDT will be kicking off a strategic planning process, led by Sheryl Koenigsberg, John Carroll, Linette Liebling, Richard Thal, and one to two more members TBD. They have considerable expertise with non-profits and strategic planning, and with the additional member(s) will represent a range of perspectives. CDT conducted our last Strategic Plan in 2007 — driven by the need for growth to support our community. We are excited to take a step back and focus on our programming, communications, and culture, as well as needs for space, staffing, and more. We anticipate this being the focus of our November 19 Member's Meeting and look forward to your thoughts and ideas!

I hope that 5784 brings much joy, growth, support, strength in community, and whatever else you are hoping for. It was so wonderful to celebrate the High Holydays and our first Sukkah 'Stravaganza with CDT members and guests. I look forward to being with you throughout the rest of the year.

From the Office



OCTOBER OFFICE HOURS AND CLOSURES

NEW OFFICE HOURS: The administrative offices at CDT are open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm. *Please note that the **building doors will be locked at 4:30 pm** by the Second Church office staff if there are no scheduled events for a given evening.*

Earnest's office hours are Monday-Friday, 10:30 am-4:30 pm.

Alistaire will be out of the office on Monday, October 9.

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.

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. 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,
m.farmer@dorsheitzedek.org
Education Director: Earnest Arky Solomon,
e.arkysolomon@dorsheitzedek.org
Administrative Assistant: Alistaire Webbe,
a.webbe@dorsheitzedek.org
Inclusion Director: Jess Green,
j.green@dorsheitzedek.org
Rabbinic Intern: Akiva Nelson,
a.nelson@dorsheitzedek.org

Executive Committee:

President: Stacey Chacker
First VP: **Vacant — nominate yourself or a friend!**
VP Finance: Jen Levine-Fried
Secretary: Dan Rome

Vice-Presidents:

VPs Membership: Carole Slipowitz and Marjorie Salvodon
VPs Engagement: Melanie Adler and Rebecca Byard
VP Tikkun Olam: Pam Katz

Board Members—at-Large:

Meryl Epstein, Abby Cohen, Esther Kohn, Jonathan Lewis, Tatjana Meschede, and Jennifer Nichols

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 of Operations Liaison: Linette Liebling
Education Director Liaison: Lissy Medvedow
Space: Steve Siegel
Welcoming: **Vacant — nominate yourself or a friend!**

From the Board

NEW CDT BOARD KICKS OFF \$794!

Melanie Adler

Last month, new and returning CDT Board members met at the annual CDT Board Kick-Off Retreat to connect, review their responsibilities, learn about recent CDT developments, and get psyched for the upcoming year! Rabbi Toba started the day off with a d'var about t'shuvah as a community practice and the responsibility we all had to help one another return to godliness. (Love that!) We then moved on to a discussion of what it means to be a Board member, heard updates about our new Second Church lease (more space!), learned about the summer's revamp of the CDT website (much more streamlined and user-friendly), heard a plea for more CDT photos (wherever you are, whatever you're doing, take a pic!), and got the latest membership stats — over 260 households with more on the way!

We also spent time talking about what it means to feel welcomed when joining a large group, and our responsibility as Board members to ensure that both members and guests feel welcome when they attend CDT events. Welcoming and engagement will be an ongoing theme for the year, personified



Board Retreat, September 2023

by the creation of a new Board position: VP of Engagement. These priorities also align with potential Tikkun Olam priorities that include supporting the influx of immigrants, both external and internal, to Massachusetts, and with the work of CDT's Safety Committee to ensure that people feel safe attending CDT services. The Board will be meeting again in

October to begin strategic planning for the year — details coming soon!

In the meantime, consider this teaching that Rabbi Toba shared during our meeting: "Greeting" is a mitzvah. When you don't warmly greet someone, you steal from them the pleasure of being greeted!"

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, November 3 & December 1

6:00 pm Candle-lighting & Dinner

6:45 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

CDT (60 Highland St)

Please note: There is no All-Ages service in October, but check out the Sukkot programs!

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba for a evening of good food, prayer, and community! We come together at 6 pm for candle-lighting and Shabbat blessings, followed by a vegetarian dinner, and a fun, musical Kabbalat Shabbat service beginning at 6:45 pm. We close the evening with a special Oneg Shabbat dessert

at approximately 7:30 pm. Come to all or part of the evening!

There will be a **potluck dinner on November 3** (please bring a salad or main dish to share; drinks and dessert will be provided) and a **catered dinner on December 1**.

Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice (cont.)

SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH

Sukkot is the "Festival of the Ingathering," the Biblical harvest holiday where we celebrate the abundance in our lives while remembering the precariousness of our ancestors' journey through the wilderness. The Sukkot week begins this year on Friday evening, September 29. During Sukkot, we build and eat our meals in the sukkah, wave the lulav and etrog at services, and are instructed to be joyous — here are some opportunities to do all three!

This year, our communal sukkah will be located near our Religious School space in Newton's Cabot Park and will be available for anyone who wants to use it during the holiday.

First Day of Sukkot Service

Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

At this special Shabbat service, we'll sing Hallel and *hoshanot* in honor of the Sukkot holiday! We will also be remembering CDT founder Efrem Goldberg on the occasion of his 21st yahrzeit and CDT member Marianka Zadikow May on the occasion of her 1st yahrzeit. Kiddush lunch follows services.

All-Ages Sukkot Celebration

Sunday, October 1, 9:30 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sukkah (Cabot Park, Newton)
[Rain plan: Cabot Elementary School]

Religious school families as well as kids and adults of all ages are invited to join us beginning at 9:30 am for coffee, hot chocolate, and bagels in the CDT Sukkah! At 10 am, we'll gather together for Sukkot songs and stories, followed by Sukkot activities for kids and adults, including sukkah decorating, nature walk, stories and

games, and adult learning from 10:30 am to noon. All are welcome!



Erev Shabbat in the Sukkah

Friday, October 6, 6:15-9:00 pm
CDT Sukkah (Cabot Park, Newton)
[Rain plan: CDT (60 Highland St)]

All are welcome to join Rabbinc Intern Akiva Nelson for a brief Shabbat evening service followed by a potluck veggie dinner and a Jewish song-share and sing along. This is an adult-oriented, all-ages-welcome gathering. Please bring a veggie main dish to share as well as your songful spirit!

Shemini Atzeret Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, October 7, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba in the CDT Sanctuary or on Zoom for this final service

of the Sukkot week, featuring Hallel, Yizkor, and an ancient prayer for rain. We will also be remembering CDT member Gordie Fellman on the occasion of his first yahrzeit, and CDT member Shari Zimble on the occasion of her 15th yahrzeit. Kiddush lunch follows services.

Simchat Torah

Saturday, October 7
CDT (60 Highland St)
5:30 pm Shorashim Celebration (families with children 5 and younger)
6:00 pm Candle-lighting and catered dinner
7:00 pm Simchat Torah celebration

Come celebrate as we close our year of Torah reading and re-roll the scroll to start again! Families with younger children are invited to begin the celebration of Torah at 5:30 pm, and then all are welcome for a special holiday dinner at 6. At 6:45 pm, we will honor our CDT Religious School students and their Torah learning. At 7 pm, we'll gather in the CDT sanctuary for a fun evening service including Torah Quiz (prizes for kids and adults!), followed by dancing with the Torah scrolls and unrolling the Torah! Join Rabbi Toba and CDT musicians for a fun, musical evening.



SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

On September 30 and October 7, we'll be celebrating special services for the week of Sukkot during our Shabbat morning services — please see above for details!



Shabbat Bereshit — Special Guest Rabbi Barbara Penzner!

Saturday, October 14,
10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

We are thrilled to welcome special guest Rabbi Barbara Penzner, who will join with CDT members to lead the Shabbat morning service, and then share words of Torah with us as we begin again with the book of Genesis/Bereshit! Kiddush lunch follows services.

Shabbat, Holidays, and Spiritual Practice (cont.)

Shabbat Noach

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

All are welcome to join Rabbi Toba in the CDT sanctuary or on Zoom for song, prayer, Torah reading and discussion as we revisit the Biblical story of the Great Flood and the Tower of Babel. Kiddush lunch follows services.

Shabbat Lech Lecha

Saturday, October 28, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba in the CDT sanctuary or on Zoom for song, prayer, and Torah reading and discussion as we begin the journey of Abraham and Sarah. We will also be remembering CDT member Eugene Black on the occasion of this 10th yahrzeit. Kiddush lunch follows services.

Shabbat Vayera — Special Guest Rabbi Deborah Waxman!

Saturday, November 4, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
CDT Sanctuary and Zoom



We are thrilled and delighted to welcome the President of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and CEO of Reconstructing Judaism, Rabbi Deborah Waxman, to this special Shabbat morning program. Rabbi Waxman will share words of Torah with us during Shabbat morning services and give us an update on happenings in our movement during Kiddush lunch.

Under Rabbi Deborah Waxman's direction, Reconstructing Judaism has been at the forefront of the Jewish community's efforts to expand diversity and inclusion, through Reconstructing Judaism's growing rabbinical student body, staff, and work in affiliated communities. Rabbi Waxman is a widely respected thought leader on issues related to congregational life, DEI, progressive Zionism, and the American Jewish experience. Please join us for her featured d'var torah and an update on the future of the Reconstructionist movement.

MINDFUL MORNINGS

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

All are welcome to join us for guided and silent meditation, twice a week or whenever you can! Contact Karen Arnold and Carole Slipowitz at mindful-mornings@dorsheitzedek.org.

Learning

SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

With Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturdays, October 21, November 11, & December 16, 9:00-9:45 am
CDT (60 Highland St); in-person only

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba for an exploration of the weekly Torah portion, through the lenses of commentary both ancient and modern. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

LEYNING REFRESHER CLASS

With Rabbi Elaine Pollack

Sunday OR Monday evenings, October 15/16, 29/30, November 5/6, & 19/20, 7:00-8:15 pm
[Format (in-person or Zoom) and meeting day will be determined with participants]

REGISTRATION REQUIRED — please email Rabbi Elaine at elainep@icloud.com if you are interested in this class

Chanting from the Torah scroll at Shabbat morning and holiday services is a wonderful

way to contribute to the community as well as a meaningful mitzvah. If you have leyned in the past but feel like you need a refresher or some additional support to do so again, this class is for you! Participants should have some past experience with leyning and ability to decode Hebrew; if you are not sure if this is for you, please contact Rabbi Elaine. Nourish your soul and do a good deed for CDT at the same time!

LUNCHTIME STUDY WITH RABBI TOBA

Wednesdays, October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 29, & December 6, 12:30-1:30 pm
Zoom

Our rabbinic forebears were no strangers to experiences of communal and individual crisis, and they turned to fasting, prayer, and other practices to get them through. In this weekly study, we will explore fascinating stories and discussions from the Talmudic tractate Taanit ("Fast") for wisdom about how we might respond to the times we find ourselves in. No experience with reading Talmud necessary! Come to one session or come to all.

D'VAR TORAH EXPLAINED — YOU CAN DO IT!

With Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday, October 28, 12:45-1:45 pm
CDT (60 Highland St); in-person only

Ever wondered how to make sense of the weekly Torah portion, or how to turn a mountain of material into an interesting question to explore? All are invited to join Rabbi Toba to learn some ways into offering insights and leading a discussion on the weekly Torah portion. And if you'd like to lead a d'var Torah at CDT, we will follow up with you and give support!



Learning (cont.)

REPARATIONS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

With Rabbi Toba and members of CDT's Undoing Racism group

*Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30, & December 14,
7:00-8:30 pm
Zoom*

In the wake of Reconstructing Judaism's adoption of a resolution supporting reparations for historical and ongoing

harms done to African Americans and Native Americans, we will review the case for reparations, and explore historical examples of reparations and current proposals and actions for reparations in the U.S. today. What in Jewish tradition supports the case for reparations? What are our personal connections to this issue? How might we as a congregation begin to take action in this realm? The class will combine reading, conversation, and

presentations from activists as we move from study to action on reparations.

We invite all who are interested in this topic to join us for exploration and conversation. We will assume some basic understanding of the issues; if this topic is new to you or you'd like more grounding, please visit www.dorsheitzedek.org/adult-education for a variety of resources that you are encouraged to explore before the class begins.

CDT Groups and Events

AVELUT: SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN MOURNING

*Tuesday, October 10, 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 and Dianne Lior at avelut@dorsheitzedek.org.

CDT FILM CLUB

Discussion of *Fire Birds*

*Saturday, October 14, 8:00-9:00 pm
Zoom*

Please join us for a discussion of *Fire Birds*! Watch the film on your own any time before the discussion, and look for the Zoom link on the CDT Calendar. Contact filmclub@dorsheitzedek.org to learn more and to sign up for our mailing list.

Fire Birds (105 Minutes, 2015, Israel Film Center): An eighty-year-old man's body is found with three stab wounds to the chest and a number tattooed along his forearm. Amnon, a police detective and second-generation Holocaust survivor, is reluctantly assigned to the case. As the plot weaves between the past and present, their stories unfold.

Pictured right: A tree from the Arnold Arboretum photographed by Kathy Pillsbury

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

CDT MEN'S GROUP: FAMILY ESTRANGEMENT AND RECONCILIATION IN BEREISHIT AND BEYOND

With Rabbinic Intern Akiva Nelson

*Mondays, October 16, 30, November 13, 27, & December 11, 8:00-9:00 pm
Zoom*

CDT Rabbinic Intern Akiva Nelson will be facilitating text study and discussion for the CDT Men's Group during the fall, focusing on the topics of family estrangement, conflict, and reconciliation. We'll look primarily at the stories of Jacob and Esau and Joseph and his brothers, while also reading and discussing contemporary texts about family estrangement and reconciliation (especially Fault Lines: Fractured Families and How to Mend Them, by Dr. Karl Pillemer). We will cap the sessions at 15-18 folks total.

Please let Akiva know if you have questions or if you'd like to take this class but don't regularly participate in the Men's Group; he can be reached at a.nelson@dorsheitzedek.org.

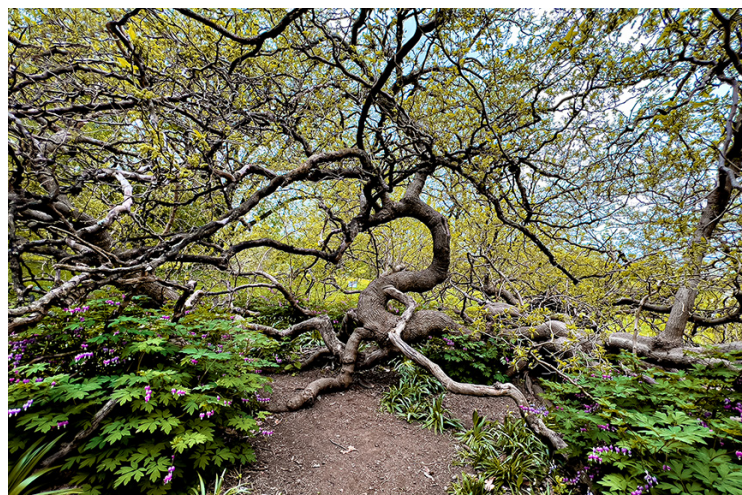
FOREST BATHING AT THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Saturday, October 21, 2:00-3:00 pm

[Rain date: Sunday, October 22]

Mendum Street Gate meeting point (on the corner of Fairview and Mendum Streets, Roslindale)

Building on the success of last year's forest bathing program, we are offering this opportunity again as part of CDT's Spiritual Life exploration. Join CDT members Andrew Sofer (sofer@bc.edu) and Lisa Hirsh (lisa@lisahirsh.com) for an hour of forest bathing, haiku writing, and nature drawing in the lovely Arnold Arboretum! We plan to meet at the Mendum Street Gate of the Arboretum. Please bring a pen and notebook (for haiku) and/or sketchpad and pencil or any other materials you'd like for drawing, as well as a blanket or chair if you would like to sit. Voluntary share at 3:00. *This gathering is recommended for ages 13 and up.*



Community

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to new members Michelle Gibson, Janell Rothenberg & Shawn Samuel, Jenny Miller, and Omer Mendelson!

MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to Chanda Hsu Prescod-Weinstein for being awarded tenure at the University of New Hampshire!

Mazel tov to Rebecca Gutman on her work towards a union victory for personal care attendants across Massachusetts!

TODAH RABAH

Thank you to all those who provided Kiddush, Ushered, and Zoom-Greeted in September: Rob Greenly, Jon Adler, Ami & Gordon, Becca & Joshua Matloff, Nathan Vierling-Claassen, StevenKatz, Barbara Beck (in memory of her brother, Stephen Beck), Robin, Bernstein, Tim Caputo & Marni Goldstein Caputo, Wendy & Charles Frankston, Kirsten M. Kuhn-Kutteh,

Bryn Austin, Liz Carver (in memory of Harold Carver), Lori Garg, Hilary Marcus, Chanda Hsu Prescod-Weinstein, Linda Kramer, Rick Glassman, Laurie Goldman, Phyllis Kirschner, Andrew Littman, Alice Markowitz, Erica Streit-Kaplan (in memory of her grandmothers, Blanche Streit & Ilse Weinberg), and Kevin Hsu-Weinstein.

REFUAH SHLEYMAH

We send blessings of healing to Jaime Wurzel, Emelia Webbe, Harriet Budd, and Jacqui Bloomberg.

YAHARZEIT

This month we remember CDT member Shari Zimble, whose 15th yahrzeit falls on October 9. We will be remembering Shari at Shabbat morning services on October 7. May her memory be for a blessing.

We remember CDT member Gordie Fellman, whose 1st yahrzeit falls on October 9. We will

be remembering Gordie at Shabbat morning services on October 7. May his memory be for a blessing.

We remember CDT member Eugene Black, whose 10th yahrzeit falls on October 29. We will be remembering Gene at Shabbat morning services on October 28.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to Larry Johnston on the death of his father, William Johnston, father-in-law of Marla Lichtman. May his memory be for a blessing.

MOURNING AT CDT

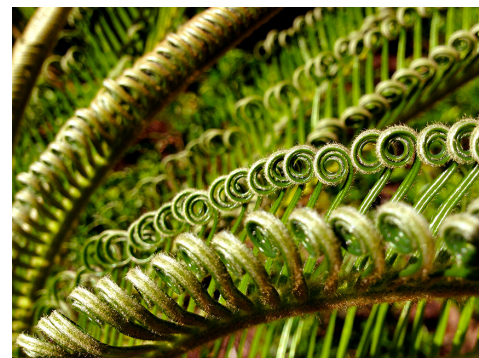
As a reference, CDT members have created the brochure "Finding Comfort, Giving Support: A Guide to Mourning at Congregation Dorshei Tzedek," available on the literature table in our sanctuary and on our website at dorsheitzedek.org/mourning.

Artist of the Month

KATHY PILLSBURY — A CLOSE LOOK EXHIBIT NOW ON VIEW IN THE CDT SANCTUARY GALLERY!



I love to closely observe the natural world and capture a perspective many may not see with my photographs of flowers, plants, and trees. As well as photographing flowers, I'm an avid gardener with a large perennial garden at my home. Many of my photos are taken there and during walks in the Boston area such as Cold Spring Park and the Arboretum. A few are from my travels to Joshua Tree National Park and cypress swamps near Savannah, Georgia. The photographs are printed on metal ChromaLuxe panels using a dye sublimation process. To see more of my work you can look at my website: kathypillsbury.com.



ISRAEL/PALESTINE PEACE

Beyond the Two-State Solution with Dr. Jonathan Kuttab

Co-sponsored by Boston Workers Circle, Temple Beth Zion, the Temple Sinai Brookline Israel Committee, Temple Israel of Boston, and Temple B'nai Brith of Somerville

Wednesday, October 4, 7:30-9:00 pm

CDT Sanctuary and Zoom

Human rights lawyer and peace activist Jonathan Kuttab will share with us his vision for peace in Israel-Palestine that he advances in his short book *Beyond the Two-State Solution*. Dr. Kuttab challenges the assumptions of both Zionism and Palestinian nationalism in his transformative vision of a homeland for both the Jewish and Palestinian peoples that meets the existential needs of both peoples. Please join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking conversation! *Beyond the Two-State Solution* is available to download for no charge; visit www.nonviolenceinternational.net/beyond2states.



Jonathan Kuttab is a renowned Palestinian human rights lawyer, cofounder of the independent NGO *Al Haq*, the premier human rights organization in the West Bank, and cofounder of *Nonviolence International*, which seeks to realize the worth and dignity of all people through the nonviolent resolution of conflicts around the globe.

THE IMMIGRATION CRISIS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

Thursday, October 12, 7:00-8:15 pm

Zoom

Massachusetts, like many states, is dealing with an overwhelming influx of people from around the globe seeking refuge from political oppression, economic crisis, and climate disasters. As part of our CDT Tikkun Olam efforts in 5784, we are gathering to consider ways that we might get involved in local initiatives to support newly arrived immigrants and refugees, whether trans people from the American South seeking safe haven, recent arrivals from Haiti and Afghanistan, or others seeking safety and shelter. Come and learn and help us decide what action, if any, we might take on as a congregation in the coming

months. If you are interested but unable to attend, please contact Pam Katz, VP of Tikkun Olam, at tikkunolam@dorsheitzedek.org.

AFGHAN FAMILY RESETTLEMENT UPDATE

One Congregation: One Family — What a Difference a Year Can Make!

Pam Katz

The Afghan Resettlement Team met in September to review all of the family's accomplishments in 5783 and plan for how we might support the family on their journey in 5784. There was a lot to celebrate: both children are enrolled in school for the upcoming school year. Meanwhile, both parents have moved up to the next level in their English learning. The family has stable and affordable housing! MW's (father) knee surgery and recovery were a success! The whole family is finally up to date on their dental care. MW earned his driver's license and continues to impress at Whole Foods. The family applied for asylum and is waiting to hear. Their parolee status was extended for 2 years. The family has an estate plan should anything happen to either parent. The entire CDT congregation welcomed the family to our congregational family at a



Kiddush lunch in honor of Refugee Shabbat. They are also making friends and connections in the Cambridge and Muslim communities which is especially gratifying! And the Big News: Kh (mother) is pregnant and expecting at the end of January!

Meanwhile, CDT has provided support at every step on the journey. Everything from helping the family research schools, to applying for benefits, to accessing health care, to learning how to take public transit, to filing their taxes: it has truly taken a village, or a Congregation, to make it all happen! Thank you to everyone

who contributed large or small — it all mattered! Onward to 5784, the big goals include helping the family take the next step toward financial resiliency through accessing appropriate education opportunities, supporting the family through the birth of the new baby, and helping the children thrive in school! For more details, check out the Afghan Resettlement blog on the CDT webpage. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Janet Penn or Meryl Epstein.



Youth and Families

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL KICKS OFF ON OCTOBER 1 AT OUR ALL-AGES SUKKOT CELEBRATION!

Religious school families are invited to join us at 9:30 am in the CDT Sukkah! See page 4 or visit dorsheitzedek.org/sukkot-5784 for more information.

HELP GROW OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL!

Do you know of anyone looking for an inclusive, dynamic community to help their children flourish as Jewish individuals? Put them in touch with Education Director Earnest Arky Solomon at e.arkysolomon@dorsheitzedek.org!

Pictured right: CDT member and Religious School teacher Rabbi Emily Mathis leading CDT's Rosh Hashanah Shorashim service



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.

KINDNESS IS CHESED

Ellie Goldberg

The Chesed Committee coordinates our congregation's response to a member's life cycle event such as a birth or adoption, illness, or death. A Coordinator facilitates acts of "loving kindness" such as preparing or buying meals, shopping, driving to medical

appointments, and visiting members who are ill.

Chesed Inspiration: The following articles from our Chesed webpage describe the feelings that sometimes get in the way of participating in Chesed, as a giver and as a receiver. We hope these articles will inspire you to participate in Chesed.

A Small Pot of Violets

"We've all felt it; that moment's hesitation before we ring the bell. Here's why you need to do it anyway," writes Dorshei Tzedek member Nancy Gertz. (LivFun, page 30, Autumn, 2015)

How Not to Say the Wrong Thing, Susan Silk and Barry Goldman (Los Angeles Times, 4/7/13). "It works in all kinds of crises — medical, legal, even existential. It's the

'Ring Theory' of kvetching. The first rule is comfort in, dump out."

Accepting Meals from Strangers as Caregivers

Linda Matchan describes how a health crisis brings donations of food that teach humility and gratitude — and provides a lesson for those who want to help others. (Boston Globe, 3/25/14)

To get announcements of Chesed volunteer opportunities sign up to join the CDT Chesed Caring Community volunteer list at dorsheitzedek.org/chesed-signup. If you have a need for Chesed or are interested in joining the Chesed Committee, please contact the Chesed Coordinators at chesed@dorsheitzedek.org.



October Kiddush Assignments

Kiddush Note: The complete Kiddush and holiday assignment schedule can be found on the Kiddush page of the website (under the Members section) or by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/KiddushTrackers5784>. When notified of your dates, please be sure to put them into your personal calendars. The whole congregation counts on your participation in Kiddush, and each assigned person is needed and expected to show up!

Parents of students in grades 5, 6, and 8, who primarily help out with B'nei Mitzvah Kiddushim, can typically find their names listed on B'nei Mitzvah dates.

OCTOBER 7 — SHABBAT MORNING/SHEMINI ATZERET

Usher: Nathan Vierling-Claassen

Kiddush Team: Janice Cole, Corinne Lofchie, Amy Mazur, Margo Michaels, Jacob Weinberg

Zoom Greeter: Susan Bernstein

OCTOBER 21 — SHABBAT MORNING

Usher: Judy Herzig-Marx

Kiddush Team: Allison Andrews, Matthew Friedman, Arthur Lent, Naomi Lev, Janet Penn, Janet Rickles

Zoom Greeter: Emily Cowan

OCTOBER 28 — SHABBAT MORNING

Usher: Chayim Herzig-Marx

Kiddush Team: Beth Brooks, Jo Ann Feldstein, Michael Feldstein, Stacie Garnett-Cook, Lisa Hirsh, DB Reiff

Zoom Greeter: Ricky Greenly

OCTOBER 7 — SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

Kiddush Team: A. David Brown, Sheryl Koenigsberg, Sue Lanser, Dianne Lior, Emily Sper

OCTOBER 14 — SHABBAT MORNING

Usher: Jonathan Rosenthal

Kiddush Team: Jeff Arnold, John Carroll, Jacqueline Fleischman, Dan Halbert, Leila Quinn

Zoom Greeter: Ricky Greenly



Blowing the Shofar at the Second Day Rosh Hashanah All-Ages Nature Walk Service

Nediv Lev

A huge todah rabah to Janice Cole and Ezra Hausman, our Nediv Lev co-chairs, for their work on the 5783 Nediv Lev Campaign — we achieved our goal of \$137,000! Thank you to all who contributed this past year.

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

Marla Lichtman

Bill Shorr

Steffi Aronson Karp & Eric Karp

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks — *In honor of Ezra Hausman's 60th birthday and his ongoing support of CDT*



October 2023 • Tishrei/Cheshvan 5784

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Tishrei 10</i> Sukkot 9:30am All-Ages Sukkot Program (Sunday Religious School Opening Day)	2 <i>Tishrei 11</i>	3 <i>Tishrei 12</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 4:00pm Tuesday Religious School 7:00pm Spiritual Life Committee	4 <i>Tishrei 13</i> 7:30pm Beyond the Two-State Solution with Dr. Jonathan Kuttab	5 <i>Tishrei 14</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	6 <i>Tishrei 15</i> 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Singing in the Sukkah	7 <i>Tishrei 16</i> Shmini Atzeret Yizkor 10:00am Shemini Atzeret Shabbat Morning Service 5:30pm Shorashim Simchat Torah Celebration 6:00pm Simchat Torah Dinner & Celebration
8 <i>Tishrei 17</i> Simchat Torah	9 <i>Tishrei 18</i>	10 <i>Tishrei 19</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 4:00pm Tuesday Religious School 7:30pm Avelut	11 <i>Tishrei 20</i>	12 <i>Tishrei 21</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:00pm The Immigration Crisis: Opportunities for Action	13 <i>Tishrei 22</i>	14 <i>Tishrei 23</i> Bereishit 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services with Special Guest Rabbi Barbara Penzner
15 <i>Tishrei 30</i> Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan 9:30am Sunday Religious School + Nitzanin 7:00pm Leyning Refresher Class (Timing Option 1)	16 <i>Cheshvan 1</i> Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan 7:00pm Leyning Refresher Class (Timing Option 2) 8:00pm CDT Men's Group: Family Estrangement and Reconciliation in <i>Bereishit</i> and Beyond	17 <i>Cheshvan 2</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 4:00pm Tuesday Religious School	18 <i>Cheshvan 3</i>	19 <i>Cheshvan 4</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	20 <i>Cheshvan 5</i>	21 <i>Cheshvan 6</i> Noach 9:00am Shabbat Morning Torah Study With Rabbi Toba Spitzer 9:30am Shorashim Shabbat & Shabbat Childcare 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services 2:00pm Forest Bathing at the Arnold Arboretum
22 <i>Cheshvan 7</i> 9:30am Sunday Religious School	23 <i>Cheshvan 8</i>	24 <i>Cheshvan 9</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 4:00pm Tuesday Religious School	25 <i>Cheshvan 10</i> 12:30pm Lunchtime Study with Rabbi Toba	26 <i>Cheshvan 11</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	27 <i>Cheshvan 12</i>	28 <i>Cheshvan 13</i> Lech Lecha 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services 12:45pm D'var Torah Explained – You Can Do It! With Rabbi Toba Spitzer
29 <i>Cheshvan 14</i> 9:30am Sunday Religious School 7:00pm Leyning Refresher Class (Timing Option 1)	30 <i>Cheshvan 15</i> 7:00pm Leyning Refresher Class (Timing Option 2) 8:00pm CDT Men's Group: Family Estrangement and Reconciliation in <i>Bereishit</i> and Beyond	31 <i>Cheshvan 16</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings	1 <i>Cheshvan 17</i> 12:30pm Lunchtime Study with Rabbi Toba	2 <i>Cheshvan 18</i> 8:30am Mindful Mornings 7:00pm Reparations: Where Do We Go From Here?	3 <i>Cheshvan 19</i> 6:00pm All-Ages Erev Shabbat	4 <i>Cheshvan 20</i> Vayera 10:00am Shabbat Morning Services with Special Guest Rabbi Deborah Waxman



Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
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Address correction requested



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

*Blowing the Shofar at the Second Day
Rosh Hashanah All-Ages Nature Walk
Service at the Auburndale Cove*

