



# Newsletter

February 2009 / Shevat 5769

## February Calendar

Date	Event
1	12 noon -6PM, New Song Art Co-op Show & Sale (26 Canterbury Road, Newton)
7	9:45 AM-2PM, Shabbat service with speaker Rabbi Natan Margalit, & Tu B'Shvat pot-luck lunch and study (Lutheran Church)
14	9:30 AM, Breakfast study with Rabbi Audrey Marcus-Berkman & service (Lutheran Church)
15	7:30-9:30PM, program on Jewish Medical Ethics, led by Michael Grodin, MD (location on members website)
20	6:30PM, Tzedakah Night, (at a member's home)
21	9:45 AM, Shabbat service (Lutheran Church)
27	7 PM, Joint Friday evening service with Sunday School for Jewish Studies (location on website)
28	No Saturday service

## Setup & Kiddush Schedule

Date	Setup/Cleanup	Kiddush
Feb 7	Handel	E Schwartz & Silverstein (potluck lunch—Salter)
14	Bridger	Spitz & Platt (breakfast TBD)
20	Hurwitz	Lindy & E Morris (Friday night service)
28	No Service	
Mar 7	Kaplan & Vidockler	Yospin
14	Carlen	Helft/Schwartz
21	Feldstein	TBD (breakfast Rose/Rosen)

## New Song Art Co-op: Pre-Valentine's Day Show & Sale

Sunday, February 1st, 12-6 p.m.

At the home of the Fishers: 26 Canterbury Road, Newton.

Drop by to schmooze, nosh, and maybe find a gift for someone special. See the wonderful and varied work of Havurah artists: Photography, jewelry, prints and monoprints, sumi-ink brush paintings, ceramics, felted and knit clothing and accessories, sculpture.

Following is the tentative list of participating artists -- If you'd like to show work (show or sell, up to you) contact Ellen Fisher at 617-964-1670, or [ellen@FisherMural.com](mailto:ellen@FisherMural.com).

Ellen Fisher  
Judith Hurwitz  
Naomi Lev  
Hal Lichtin  
Eric Myrvaagnes  
Linda Salter  
Candy Sidner  
Aaron Seidman  
Kendra Tornheim  
Susan Tornheim

For the latest information, see the New Song [web site](#).

## Tu b'Shevat Celebration

Saturday, February 7

The sap is rising somewhere, so think SPRING! Spring definitely is just around the corner; the problem is, in New England it's a very long block.

To help us prepare for the change in season we will have a morning service plus program. Rabbi Natan Margalit will join us as guest speaker for the service. This will be followed by a pot-luck lunch and afterwards we will have an additional study hour with our guest. Plan to stay until 2:00.

For the pot luck:

A - I please bring side dishes or salad  
J - Q please bring dessert or cold drinks  
R - Z please bring main dishes

Usual dietary considerations please (vegetarian or dairy dishes)  
(continued on p 2)

## Officers

President: Michael Feldstein  
Vice-President: Rosalind Bronsen  
Vice-President: Joyce Lazarus  
Secretary: Steve Adler-Golden  
Treasurer: Ellen Fisher

## Committee Chairs

Adult Education: Joyce Hollman  
Gemilut Hasadim: Richard & Joan Yospin  
High Holidays: Ruth Badler & Joan Belson  
House & Operations: Martha Jaffe  
Membership: Judith Hurwitz & Madelyn Morris  
Music: Richard Yospin  
Newsletter: Dena & Todd Rakoff  
Planning & Finance: Chuck Rich  
Program: Elaine Lindy & Ruth Seidman  
Ritual: Naomi Myrvaagnes  
Social Action: Peter Barrer  
Technology: Reuben Fisher

## Shir Hadash

### ***The Reconstructionist Havurah of Greater Boston***

P.O. Box 610431  
Newton, MA 02461  
(617)-965-2775  
<http://www.jrf.org/shirhadash/>

## Change in 2009 Retreat Date

Since the previously published 2009 Retreat date conflicts with Father's Day, the Retreat has been changed to Friday, June 26 to Sunday, June 28 Questions? contact Charlotte Swartz  
chars1@msn.com 781-488-3615

## Our Guest:

Rabbi Natan Margalit, Ph.D. teaches Rabbinics at Hebrew College Rabbinical School. He has taught and written for many years on Judaism and Ecology. He lives in Newton with his wife Ilana and sons Nadav and Aiden.

## After the Torah reading: **"Is the Torah Organic?"**

It has become clear that if we humans are going to live sustainably on planet earth, we need to radically shift our way of thinking about our place here. Rabbi Margalit will lead a discussion that takes us beyond quoting a verse here or a law there, and asks whether the Jewish textual tradition can point us toward a different way of thinking and being in the world – so that we can choose life for ourselves and for the planet.

## After lunch: **"From Waste to Wonder"**

We will look at some verses from the Torah which give us a hint at the ancient roots of our current culture of waste, and give us some hints toward creating a culture of wonder, appreciation and sustainable living.

## Tzedakah Night February 20, 6:30 pm

Good feelings, good contributions, good food! Plan to join everyone on Friday February 20 for this year's Tzedakah Night event. It will be held at a member home, starting 6:30 pm (call 617-965-2775 for more information). We'll start with a Shabbat welcome, then there is a pot luck dinner, food assignments according to last name. Social Action will provide tea and decaf coffee. A- F dessert G-L side dish or drinks M-Z main dish Following dinner, we will proceed to the main event, giving away \$2,300 of our available budget. The recipient list consists of groups that received a donation last year plus any other suggestions that members propose. Please let Peter Barrer (pbarrer@verizon.net) know by February 13 if there is a group you would like to add to the recipient list below:

- Carroll Center for the Blind
- Center for Jewish and Arab Economic Development FINCA International
- Full Life Gospel Center Food Pantry
- Grow Clinic
- Jewish Family Service of Metrowest
- Hillel
- Living Traditions (KlezKamp)
- Mathari Fund, Nairobi, Kenya
- NACOEJ
- Mali Project – Empowered Woman
- Remuh Jewish Library - Krakow
- Second Step
- Solutions at Work
- Yad Chesed