



Carnegie Shul Chatter

November 2, 2018

STR  **NGER**
T  **GETHER**

Tomorrow marks a week since the horrific tragedy at Tree of Life in Squirrel Hill. This Shabbos, Jews everywhere are coming together for

Solidarity Shabbos

Please make a special effort to attend our services this
Saturday at 9:20 a.m.

Please bring a friend, if you'd like.

Let us show the world that the Carnegie Shul — and Jews everywhere — will not be intimidated, that our faith in God will not be shaken.

A Message from the Jewish Federation's Community Security Director, Brad Orsini

Local law enforcement has been given a comprehensive list of events and religious worship going on this weekend, and you should expect to see a larger than normal police presence. This police presence is not in response to any known threat; rather, it is designed to make you feel safe. You may also see police officers from outside of Pittsburgh who are helping out to relieve local police, many of whom have been putting in long overtime hours.

Love... and Hate

It is so very gratifying to see the support from so many places in support of the Pittsburgh Jewish community after the Tree of Life shootings.

Ellen and I were among more than 2000 people who attended a vigil earlier this week in Sarasota, Florida, more than 1000 miles from Pittsburgh.

Yes, it is heart warming to see people condemning anti-Semitism.

And still...

"F.... Jews" was painted on a synagogue in Irvine, California this week.

And in Brooklyn, New York yesterday, "Die Jew Rats We Are Here," "Jews Better Be Ready," "Rose" and "Hitler," were discovered by a woman congregant Thursday on the second and fourth floors of the shul.

Tomorrow Jews everywhere will attend Solidarity Sabbath services, standing up against such hatred.

Please make every possible effort to attend our services.

We must show these hate-mongers that we will not be intimidated. That good will triumph over evil.

Gestures of Kindness



The outpouring of support for the Jewish community worldwide and right here, in Carnegie and the South Hills, has been extremely inspirational since the attack at Tree of Life last week.

On Wednesday, Rick D'Loss found these flowers at the front door of our shul.

Even as far away as Florida, where Ellen and I are spending the winter, a neighbor came to our door this week with flowers.

Such kindnesses give us hope in the wake of this terrible anti-Semitic attack.



The Carnegie Shul received this message via email from the Indian community in Carnegie:

On behalf of the community and businesses of Carnegie, we condemn the barbaric act of violence on 10-27-2018 at Tree of Life Congregation. We express our deepest sympathy and solidarity to the members of the Tree of Life Congregation and to all of our Jewish Brothers and Sisters. Our hearts go out to the family members who lost their loved ones and to those who were victims of this heinous hate crime incident. We are immensely grateful to the services of the brave policemen and the first responders, and our prayers are with wounded policemen and their families.

During this time of mourning, we are standing by the Jewish community to support them in whatever way they need us. We are organizing a **community prayer service at Indian Community Center in Carnegie, PA , on Sunday at 5PM** to pray for the families of the victims and wounded. Please join this event in support of our community to the Brothers and Sisters of Jewish Community and reinforce the common bond among all human beings.

Local Vigils in Support of the Jewish Community

Today, Friday, Nov. 2, 5:30-6:00 p.m.

The Bhutanese Association of Pittsburgh (BCAP) is hosting a community candlelight vigil tomorrow, **Friday, November 2-from 5:30-6:00 p.m. at the Wallace/Prospect Park in Whitehall.** Rob will be attending the vigil as will Josh Sayles, director of Federation's Community Relations Council. For your convenience we've attached both the press release and flier about the event.

Tomorrow, Saturday, Nov. 3, 6:30 p.m.

A local Girl Scout troop, in conjunction with Dormont Borough, is hosting a community candlelight

vigil on **Saturday, November 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Keystone Oaks High School parking lot.** Temple Emanuel's Rabbi Jessica Locketz will lead Havdalah. Details are still being worked out but this interfaith vigil (featuring TBA clergy from various South Hills institutions) may also be attended by both State Rep. Dan Miller and current Congressman Conor Lamb (both have been invited to speak as well). Rabbi Alex Greenbaum from Beth El and Rabbi Mendy Rosenblum from Chabad were asked to participate but were unable to because of previous engagements. I will be attending this event. For your convenience I've attached the flyer created by the Girls Scouts for this event.

Oct 28th, 2018

Dr. Larry Block, President
Congregation Ahavath Achim
500 Chestnut St.
Carnegie, PA 15106

Dear Dr. Block and Board Members,

Our deepest condolences from AIC community and Board of Directors to you and all the congregation members of Ahavath Achim for the loss the Jewish community in Pittsburgh has suffered on Saturday. It is indeed a loss for all in Pittsburgh. It is quite a struggle to make any sense out of this. Although history has proven that trends of evil towards minorities or people from different background are on the rise at times, we would like to think that there is a genuine opportunity that man can change this. We believe hate can only be defeated by bringing people from different backgrounds and getting to know each other and establishing relationships/friendships. When people see how we all share what makes us human, all will certainly realize that we all have a common enemy, evil, that we have to fight as the true enemy of the human race and to be always aware that while we treat the symptoms we more importantly have to root out the causes once and for all.

While the language of hate has increased notably from those who have been misguided in the past few years, we must come together and find ways to organize to fight such doctrines that existed for many decades, likely centuries, resulting in seemingly endless hate. We need to organize not only on the local level but also on the national level. In our opinion, freedom of speech cannot include planting hate and dehumanizing others in the mind of anyone especially in the young. This is where the line should be drawn. We have a saying: "if you speak, only speak for the good, otherwise be silent." We need to fight back hate at its core by working together to outlaw hate speech, at all levels, regardless of the source and bring about positive change where all humans regardless of background respect each other. This is how we can make a difference and how positive tangible change can be achieved for this generation and the ones to come, so we may help heal the wounds of those who have been hurt the most.

Sincerely,

Walid Mohsen

Al-Walid Mohsen
President of the Board Directors
E-mail: manager@attawheed.com

This week, Dr. Larry Block received this letter from the Muslim Center in Carnegie.

Here is Larry's response:



Congregation Ahavath Achim

500 CHESTNUT STREET

CARNEGIE, PA 15106

PHONE: (412) 279-1566

WWW.THECARNEGIESHUL.ORG

INFO@THECARNEGIESHUL.ORG

ב"ה

October 31, 2018

Mr. Al-Walid Mohsen
President, Board of Directors
Attawheed Islamic Center
401 Washington Ave.
Carnegie, PA 15106

Dear Mr. Mohsen,

When I read your letter of the 28th to me and the Board of Directors of Congregation Ahavath Achim, I was overwhelmed. Your heartfelt expression of grief and solidarity in the face of the tragedy that unfolded last Saturday morning in Squirrel Hill was a soothing balm that helped to assuage the hurt and sense of increased vulnerability that we felt that morning. We had just begun our Saturday morning prayer service when the initial report of the attack reached us. At first, we hesitated going forward with our prayers but decided to continue with the understanding that the best we could do at that point was to increase our focus on our prayers and intensify our efforts to commune with G-d and mitigate the unfolding disaster.

David Shribman, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* executive editor wrote, on the day of the attack. "We knew it could happen here — any here, anywhere — when we learned that six were killed [and 19 injured] in the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec City last year." A recent article noted that the anxiety and bigotry that last Saturday's assailant espoused and the fact that it's almost as easy to acquire an assault weapon as it is to open a Facebook account necessitate our working together — as you wrote in your letter to us — "to outlaw hate speech, at all levels, regardless of the source and bring about positive change where all humans regardless of background respect each other..."

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Congregation Ahavath Achim — The Carnegie Shul — we look forward to collaborating with you in order to achieve the harmony and peace that we all crave. Your support of us and our support of you in these trying times is unconditional.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence H. Block

Lawrence H. Block, Ph.D.
President, The Carnegie Shul

WE REMEMBER

THE 11 VICTIMS OF THE PITTSBURGH SYNAGOGUE ATTACK

Joyce Feinberg, age 75
Richard Gottfried, age 65
Rose Mallinger, age 97
Jerry Rabinowitz, age 66
Daniel Stein, age 71
Melvin Wax, age 88
Irving Younger, age 69

(Brothers)

Cecil Rosenthal, age 59
David Rosenthal, age 54

(Husband and Wife)

Bernice Simon, age 84
Sylvan Simon, age 86



May their memory forever be a blessing



From an email newsletter sent out by the Jewish Federation:

How Can You Help?

Donate to the Jewish Federation Victims of Terror Fund

Funds are earmarked for psychological services, support for families, reconstruction, additional security throughout the community and medical bills for all those involved. Call or email: David Guzikowski, (412) 992-5255 or dguzikowski@jfedpgh.org

Volunteer

The Jewish Federation Volunteer Center is coordinating efforts to aid those in the community impacted by the tragedy. Call or email: David Chudnow, 412-992-5209 or dchudnow@jfedpgh.org

Create cards and letters of condolences and support

To be delivered at the appropriate time. Mail to: Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, 234 McKee Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Submit Your Own Letter of Support

Jewish Family & Community Services is calling for letters to bereaved and injured families, to be compiled in books and shared with each family. Go to: www.jfcpgh.org/communitysupport/