

The Agudagram

May 2024 Volume 73, No. 8
Nisan/Iyar 5784

Agudas Israel Congregation
77 North Pine Street
Hazleton, PA 18201
570-455-2851

Officers:

Richard Kline, Ritual Leader
Debbie Walko, President
Marlene Leonard, Vice President
Richard Rockman, Secretary
Helene Kline, Treasurer
Richard Kline, Financial Officer



SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING

May 3- Parshat Acherei- 7:45pm candlelighting

May 10- Parshat Kadoshim- 7:52pm candlelighting

May 17- Parshat Emor- 7:59pm candlelighting

May 24- Parshat Behar- 8:06pm candlelighting

May 31- Parshat Bechukotai- 8:13pm candlelighting

Be

Estate Planning?

Call the AIC office to reserve your cemetery plot(s) for you and your beloved family. Active planning helps family tend to your afterlife needs and their mourning with less stress.

Consider joining the Cemetery Committee to help our members and congregation with this lasting legacy.

Holocaust survivors affected by October 7 to attend March of the Living at Auschwitz
By CANAAN LIDOR 25 April 2024, 7:03 pm



Visitors to the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp after the March of the Living annual observance, in Oswiecim, Poland, April 28, 2022. (Czarek Sokolowski/AP) Seven Holocaust survivors whose lives were affected by the October 7 onslaught on Israel are preparing to attend this year's March of the Living event in

Poland.

The march, which the March of the Living nonprofit holds annually at the Auschwitz former death camp on Israel's national Holocaust memorial day, Yom Hashoah, is set to happen on May 6 this year, with the October 7 delegation leading.

Bella Haim, grandmother of the Yotam Haim, who was kidnapped during the attack and later accidentally killed by Israeli troops in Gaza while trying to escape; Danit Gabay, who was with her children at Kibbutz Re'im during the terror onslaught; and Daniel Louz from Kibbutz Be'eri are among the members of the delegation. They are among 55 Holocaust survivors set to attend the march, along with thousands of Jews, many of them members of youth movements from This year's event also features a commemorative march in Budapest to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the destruction of Hungarian Jewry, organizers say.

"This year's March of the Living holds profound significance, as the horrors of the past intertwine with the present ongoing nightmare faced by the State of Israel," reads a statement published today that is undersigned by Shmuel Rosenman and Phyllis Greenberg Heideman, the chairman and president, respectively, of the International March of the Living organization.

"The recent incomprehensible massacre on October 7 serves as a constant reminder of the persistent threat posed by antisemitic hatred," they write.

across the world.

GET WELL WISHES ARE EXPRESSED TO: CAROL SILVER, JANET KEICH, BRUCE MILLER, JIM LEONARD, LEANNE TRATTNER, SHIRLEY BRENNER, & BONNIE YANUSKIEWICZ.

SHOULD ANYONE HAVE ANY NEWS TO SHARE WITH THE AIC FAMILY, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO AGUDASISRAELHAZLETON@GMAIL.COM TO RUN IN THE NEXT AGUDAGRAM!



APRIL DONATIONS RECEIVED

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

From	....	In Memory of
Phyllis Cohen Deitch	....	Betty Cohen, mother
Ruth Goldstein	....	Betty Phillips, aunt
Michele Sukenik Banker	....	Bonnie Klemow, cousin
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Bonnie Klemow, friend
Sherri Klemow Shevlin	....	Bonnie Klemow, sister
Elliot & Toby Eisenberg	....	Dora Yust
Israel Miller	....	Elaine Miller, wife
Yanuskievicz & Kaplan Families	....	Frances Lande Trout, aunt
Micki Auerbach	....	Gussie Ruttenberg, mother
Elliot & Toby Eisenberg	....	Harold Eisenberg
Gail Bayarsky Burger	....	Henry Bayarsky, father
Helene Lintz	....	Herman Lintz, grandfather
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Ira Goldberg, friend & classmate
Howard Narrow, Rhona Narrow	....	Jeanette Mullin, grandmother
Steve & Myrak Kline Russek & Family	....	Lillian Kline, mother
Elliot & Toby Eisenberg	....	Milton Yust
Lee & Marsha Glassberg	....	Murray Glassberg, father
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Murray Glassberg, friend
Richard Rockman	....	Reuben Robinson, grandfather
Elliot & Toby Eisenberg	....	Ruth Eisenberg
Sondra Levinson	....	Sadie Rabinowitz, grandmother

Endowment Donations

In honor of Beulah Bishop's 102nd birthday on 4/25/24
from her 3 children, 3 grandchildren & 3 great-grandchildren

In memory of Theresa "Tina" Rogers
Richard & Faye Bishop

Happy Birthday to Janis Bishop Block
Richard & Faye Bishop

In memory of Jerry Burkat
Richard Rockman

May (Nisan/Iyar) Yahrzeits

May the memory of the righteous endure as a blessing.

The yahrzeit plaque lights are on in the sanctuary in memory of our departed loved ones.

*Numbers before each name correspond to the Hebrew date of their passing. The date after each name is the secular day of the yahrzeit. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the evening before this date burning through the day of their passing. Kaddish should be said the evening before and the day of the date of passing.

NISAN

23 Betty Cohen 5/1
23 Getha Edelstein 5/1
24 Rose Shapiro 5/2
25 Phyllis Rosen 5/3
25 Emmanuel Cimmet 5/3
28 Ellis Supowit 5/6
28 Emma Finkel 5/6
28 Rose Narrow 5/6
28 Jean Sugarman 5/6
29 Barry Klemow 5/7

8 Kalman Sugarman 5/16
9 Marshall Steiner 5/17
10 Rudolph Seuss 5/18
10 Nathan Gersteen 5/18
11 Jerry Brownstein 5/19
11 Nathan Cenower 5/19
11 Anna Shupack 5/19
11 Annabelle Trattner 5/19
12 Edith Wagner 5/20
13 Carrie Mandelberg 5/21
15 Esther Williams 5/23
16 Cecelia Miller 5/24
17 Samuel Gandell 5/25
17 Thelma Tybie Cohen 5/25
17 Ethel Clark 5/25
19 Anna Shlesinger 5/27
21 Naomi Jaffe 5/29
21 David Grossman 5/29
22 Israel T. Klapper 5/30
23 Ruth Klemow 5/31
23 Sarah Goldstein 5/31

IYAR

1 Elsie B. Cohn 5/9
1 Bessie Edelstein 5/9
1 Joseph Lander 5/9
1 Mollie Cohn 5/9
2 Joseph Brenner 5/10
6 Alan Klemow 5/14
7 Mollie Glassberg 5/15
7 Bessie Klemow 5/15
7 David Tumarkin 5/15

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MITZVAH OF GIVING
TZEDUKAH TO YOUR SHUL OR THE SHUL OF
YOUR LOVED ONE WHO HAS PASSED, ON THE
OCCASION OF THEIR YAHRZEIT IN THEIR
MEMORY.

REFLECTION WHICH MAY BE READ WHEN LIGHTING A YAHRZEIT CANDLE
FOR YOUR LOVED ONE:

“I light this candle to bring peace to the soul of _____ (insert Jewish name) ben/bat (son of/daughter of) _____ (insert father’s Jewish name).”

The human soul is a light from God. May it be your will that the soul of (*insert name*) enjoy eternal life, along with the souls of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of the righteous that are in Gan Eden. Amen.

Neir Adonai Nishmat Adam. Yehi Ratzon Milfanecha, Adonai Eloheinu Veilohei Avoteinu, Shetehei Nishmat (insert name) Tzerurah betzeror hachayim, im nishmot Avraham Yitzchak ve’Ya’akov, Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel VeLeah. Tehi Menutchatah kavod, Selah

thank you!

We greatly appreciate donations for yahrzeits, life events, and other celebrations! They truly keep the shul running and show how strong our congregation is.

If you’d like information about donating, please email us at agudasisraelhazleton@gmail.com or call the shul.

AIC NEWS/ EVENTS



1. We welcome new members, Janice Schoem and Richard Koller to our congregation! Most of you know Richard from when he lived here years ago and from his continued attendance at our High Holiday services. We are glad to have him back as an official member. Janice comes to us from New Jersey just recently joining our community. We are so glad to welcome them both!
2. Thank you to the Cohn Foundation for their generous donation for Agudas Israel Cemetery improvement.

3. Thank you to the family of Albert Rosen - Jeff & Ellen, Nathan & Steven & families for establishing the Albert Rosen Endowment at Agudas Israel.
4. May 4, Rabbi Larry Kaplan will lead our Shabbat services for us at Agudas Israel at 9:30am in Richard Kline's absence. We are very grateful to have a closeknit greater Jewish community allowing us to share in events and clergy as Rabbi Kaplan also often helps us by officiating funeral services. Thank you Rabbi Kaplan and our Wilkes-Barre Jewish family! Please plan to attend in person this Shabbat!
5. May 5 at 11am at the Kingston JCC, an Israeli band will perform for Yom Ha'Atzmaut along with Israeli food being served. This event also marks the last Midrasha session for the 2023/2024 school year. Hopefully, everyone can join to celebrate Israel at a time when it needs our support.

6. May 6th is Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. Join us at Beth Israel Temple Hazleton at 7:30PM for a memorial service in remembrance of the 6 million Jews that were murdered in the Holocaust. The service



- will feature the winning submissions from this year's essay contest and include readings and prayers from Rabbi Yossi Zylberberg, Richard Kline, Reverend Christine Hess & members of the Hazleton Jewish Community Council. Please take the time to read the winning essays below. Thank you to Christina on behalf of AIC for helping to revive and facilitate this important program!
7. Continuing local Yom Ha'Shoah events include the author of "Daughter of Auschwitz" Tova Friedman who will speak at the Friedman JCC. She is one of the youngest survivors of this atrocity and will share her harrowing experience with our community and reflect on recent current events involving antisemitism in America and the world.
8. Information for Shavuot will be shared in the June Agudagram with service times and Yizkor service time.



Hazleton Jewish Community Council

77 North Pine Street • Hazleton, PA 18201 • (570) 455-2851

Email: hazleton.jcc@gmail.com

Join us for a Memorial Program in remembrance of the six million Jewish Martyrs of the Nazi Holocaust, Yom HaShoah

Monday May 6, 2024, 7:30 PM

at Beth Israel Temple, 98 N. Church St, Hazleton, PA

And on Zoom - email us for the link

The program will include prayers and readings from:

Rabbi Yosef Zylberberg, BIT

Rev. Dr. Jane Hess, Faith UCC

Richard Kline, AIC Ritual Leader

Robert Klemow, HJCC President

Debbie Walko, AIC President

Dr. Carl Frankel, BIT

Karen Butcher, BIT

Winners of the 28th annual Holocaust Memorial Essay Contest
will be awarded and essays read:

High School Winner

1st prize - Jaida M. Valdez, Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences

Junior High Winners

1st prize - Katherine Arias, MMI Preparatory School

2nd prize - Yoreimy Aponte, MMI Preparatory School

JUNIOR HIGH FIRST PLACE WINNER

Katherine Arias
MMI Preparatory
Grade 9

All it takes is one small action to make someone's life a little bit better. During the holocaust, the Jews went through a challenging period causing them a lot of pain and trauma. However, there were still people out there who showed empathy and compassion toward the Jews. Jewish organizations and individuals would take some of the Jews in and protect them from the bad intentions of the Nazis. The reason why there were people who tried to help the Jews even if they weren't their families or friends was because they wanted to make a difference in their lives. It created a sense of belonging and allowed them to communicate with different people. The motivation to want to help someone comes with understanding their situation and their pain. This creates a desire within us to want to help people. Helping someone doesn't mean that you will be able to take away all their anguish and trauma. The simple meaning of helping someone is to comfort them and let them know that there is someone out there who sees them and their struggles which creates a better world for them. Knowing that you can help someone during one of their darkest times not only creates a better world and feeling for them but also helps you feel good about yourself knowing that you did the right thing for those innocent people. Overall, the reason people would risk themselves for someone who is not their family or friends is to let them know that they are not alone and that there will always be someone who will understand them and be able to help them.

JUNIOR HIGH SECOND PLACE WINNER

Yoreimy Aponte
9th Grade
MMI Preparatory School

“Why would anyone risk themselves for anyone other than friends and family”? While thinking about this prompt I made something up called “RISK”. Risk is a word that was already included in the Urban Dictionary along with this prompt, but I decided that instead of using its obvious definition to make my own. I broke the word risk up into four words. R means respect, I means Impact, S means Silence, and lastly, K means Knowing.

First is R, meaning Regret. When it comes to helping people a lot of people just pass by and are very selfish. So why would you risk your life for someone that you don't know? The answer is regret. Just knowing that you declined so many people who needed your help could make you regret it for the rest of your life. The second, is I, meaning Impactful. Risking your life and

helping other people can be very impactful in your life. Being the opposite of regret. It's impactful because you acknowledged someone else who was mentally and physically damaged.

The third is S, meaning silence. When it comes to seeing other people suffer they can't handle being silent and just letting it sit around. It's almost like a pain that crosses you when you see someone suffering or injured and when you walk away knowing that you could've helped that person and chose not to. The last letter is K, meaning Knowing. When it comes to risking your life and helping others just knowing that you could have helped another life from the suffering that they went through is a very big weight to carry on. Overall, certain people would and would not risk their lives for others. Half of the time people do it for the attention of others and the other half is real.

HIGH SCHOOL FIRST PLACE WINNER

Jaida M. Valdez
Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences
12th Grade
Beyond Family and Friends

In the intricate web of human relationships, the bonds of friendship and family hold a special place. These connections often serve as the foundation for support, care, and sacrifice. However, altruism extends beyond these circles, prompting individuals to risk their lives for the well-being of others outside their immediate kin. While the instinct to protect loved ones is deeply ingrained, the motivation to aid strangers stems from empathy, social cohesion, and a shared humanity.

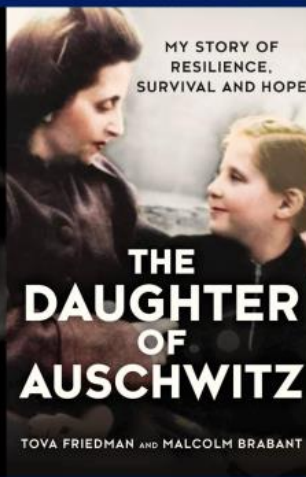
At the core of altruism lies empathy, a fundamental trait that enables individuals to understand and share the feelings of others. This empathetic response transcends the boundaries of the familiar, allowing individuals to connect with strangers on a compassionate level. When confronted with someone in distress, whether it be a neighbor, a fellow citizen, or a stranger in a distant land, empathy compels individuals to act selflessly. Empathy is also driven by the desire to alleviate suffering and promote well-being. This is exactly what many people did to save thousands of Jews from the evil clutches of Hitler and the Nazi regime. Many strangers took risks by hiding Jews, creating fake passports to smuggle young children to safety and to create an underground network to aid strangers. Recently, I had the opportunity to converse with a survivor from the Holocaust and I asked this woman how she could be so positive and upbeat about life and her future. The woman responded, the Germans took everything away from me once and if I remained bitter and ugly that the Germans would win again. I pondered

this and as my eyes filled with tears, I knew this was a strong woman who built herself a wonderful future and would leave an amazing legacy.

Congregation Ohav Zedek, Temple Israel,
Temple B'nai B'rith & The Friedman JCC present

Tova Friedman

The youngest survivor of Auschwitz



Wednesday, May 8, 2024

7:00 PM at The Friedman JCC

613 SJ Strauss Lane, Kingston, PA

Please RSVP to b.sugarman@nepajca.org or (570) 824 - 4646

MAY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shabbat Shalom to All,

I am so looking forward to having Rabbi Larry Kaplan of Temple Israel, Wilkes-Barre, perform Shabbat Services at Agudas Israel this coming Saturday, as he will be filling in for Richard Kline, Spiritual Leader. Please join us in person or on Zoom- May 4th beginning at 9:30am.

Come to Beth Israel Temple on Monday, May 6th at 7:30pm to pay tribute to those who perished in the Holocaust and listen to the ideas and thoughts of our younger generation as they read their essays.

I am sad to announce the recent passing of Ilene Katz, who was a dear friend of mine. We shared many great memories growing up together at

the Shul, JCC, and at MMI. May her memory be a blessing!

After talking with Marie and Howard Narrow at Shabbat Services last week about their upcoming move to Macungie, I am happy they are only moving an hour away and will continue to be members as well as Howard staying on as a board member; however, I am saddened they will not be attending our services regularly. I'm really trying my best to reopen avenues and contemplate new ways to entice our members to join us at Shabbat Services. We need to have new faces to join in at services and take part in our delicious kiddushes prepared by Marlene Leonard who is a wonderful cook and very creative in the kitchen. Even during this difficult time with her husband, Jimmy, being in the hospital, she still manages to prepare outstanding meals for us. Marlene extends thanks to all who sent prayers and well wishes for Jimmy. He is now in a rehab facility and is healing from his latest surgery. Prayers to the Leonard family.

In the past, I asked members to share comments of what attending services truly means hoping it might be contagious in a positive way and we could add four or five more people to join us. Our intent is not only to have enough people to have a minyan so those who have Yahrzeits can fulfill their personal enlightenment, but to also leave others attending to walk away with a feeling of learning something new about themselves and/or feeling the bond of togetherness in a mitzvah. Please help us in continuing this Agudas Israel tradition. Contact me with any ideas and comments.

Lastly, we are being blessed with beautiful weather in NEPA and it is so refreshing to see flowers blooming, trees blossoming, active wildlife, and hear birds singing, so go outside and enjoy the beautiful floral scents and the springtime fresh air!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Walker".