

B'NAI ISRAEL

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Nisan 5783

Dear Friends,

Yom HaShoah is an opportunity to think about the enduring meaning of “Never Again.” This year, those words take on heightened meaning as they are uttered in conjunction with an alarming uptick in expressions – and even normalization – of antisemitism. We Jews know too well the dangers of complacency, silence, and apathy.

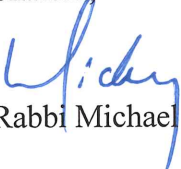
With each passing year, the nature of what it means to remember the Holocaust changes. Time is running out to hear survivor testimony. Fewer and fewer of us remember through personal experiences, which makes our efforts to remember through ritual that much more important.

We invite you to light the enclosed candle on the evening of Monday, April 17 (*27 Nisan*), and recite the *Yom HaShoah* meditation included on the Men’s Club presidents’ letter. That evening, our *shlichah*, Uriel Lin, will lead a Zikaron BaSalon program during which we will hear the story of the family of Rebecca Ravski (Rabbi Berkowitz’s wife) and their survival of the Holocaust. On the following day, our high school students will participate in a Yom HaShoah commemoration during Noar B’Yachad. Visit www.bnaiisraelcong.org/yomhashoah to learn more about these and other programs that are being planned.

We hope you will also participate in the community’s Holocaust commemoration, which will be held virtually on Sunday, April 23, 2023, from 1pm to 3pm. More information is available at www.jcouncil.org.

Thank you to the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs for pioneering the Yellow Candle Project, and to the B’nai Israel Men’s Club for enabling every member of our community to participate in this ritual. Please consider expressing your gratitude and honoring the victims of the Holocaust with a contribution.

Shalom,


Rabbi Michael Safra


Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz


Rabbi Cheryl Stone