

August 9, 2019/8 Av 5779

Dear KHN community,

This evening marks the beginning of Tisha B'Av, the 9th day of the month of Av. However, because it is Shabbat, and we do not mourn on Shabbat, we begin the observance tomorrow evening. We enter Shabbat mournfully, both in line with the Jewish calendar, and with this past devastating week. We mourn the loss of 31 lives in El Paso and Dayton through domestic terror and gun violence. We weep over the raids in Mississippi which targeted 680 workers, destroying immigrant communities. We mourn the life cut short by a terrorist stabbing of 19-year-old yeshiva student and Israeli soldier Dvir Sorek on Wednesday. Additionally, we lost one of America's literary giants, Toni Morrison, whose work influenced many of our lives.

Tonight we gather for Shabbat services at 7:30 pm to find comfort in community and bask in the ancient words of our tradition. We will say Kaddish for those killed and tomorrow evening we will commemorate Tisha B'Av together with several Bucks County synagogues at 9:00 pm at Ohev Shalom in Richboro (see e-bulletin for details). Sunday all are welcome to gather with the greater Philadelphia Jewish community to reflect the Jewish community's core values in support of safe and dignified treatment for those who come to this country seeking asylum, shelter and a better life for their families (see e-bulletin for details.) To learn more about this effort, please follow this link: <https://www.inquirer.com/news/jewish-immigration-protests-ice-spiritual-20190809.html>

Those wanting to learn more about understanding immigrant rights in the Bucks County area can join a community solidarity program this Monday evening, August 12th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the BuxMont Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 2040 Street Rd. in Warrington sponsored by Immigrant Rights Action, Rise Up Doylestown, Welcoming the Stranger, the Peace Center and BMUU.

Toni Morrison, may her memory be a blessing, understood brokenness in the world. She wrote, "This is *precisely* the time when artists go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal. I know the world is bruised and bleeding, and though it is important not to ignore its pain, it is also critical to refuse to succumb to its malevolence. Like failure, chaos contains information that can lead to knowledge — even wisdom." ["No Place for Self-Pity, No Room for Fear," included in the 150th anniversary issue of [*The Nation*](#).]

Because we are only human, in order to be able to play our role in healing the world, we must also take care of ourselves -- rest, support each other and remember what sanity can look like.

May you have a peaceful Shabbos.

Shabbat shalom,

Rabbi Diana