



Dear Friends,

Our hearts are broken as we continue to learn details about the brutal attack by Hamas this past Saturday—during our sacred Shabbat/Shemini Atzeret— and the ongoing war. We stand with the Buffalo Jewish community, and members of our local, state, and federal government, as we unequivocally condemn this brutal violence. A tragedy of tremendous scale, Saturday has been noted as the deadliest day in Jewish history since the Holocaust.

Our Temple Beth Tzedek community has so many strong ties to Israel: we have members living in Israel, as well as family and friends of our members. So many of us have visited or spent significant time in Israel, both recently and in years past. This is a time for us to care for one another. Please reach out to friends in Israel to share your support, and check in on members of our community who have family and friends in Israel to offer your concern. In the times that we feel helpless, we can ensure that no one feels alone in their despair.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Buffalo Jewish community's vigil Monday night and who viewed [it on livestream](#). We will continue to share details of upcoming events. Our congregation continues working closely with the Secure Community Network's Jewish Buffalo team and local law enforcement to ensure the safety of participants at services and gatherings.

If you would like to donate in support of Israel, please consider [Jewish Federations of North America](#) who will ensure that your gift goes to the areas of greatest need. You can also view this [list from the Jewish Funders Network of trusted organizations](#). Please be careful in picking a charity. Sadly, at times like this, fraud is prevalent. You also might consider purchasing Israel Bonds, or you can [consult this article](#) for additional ideas.

[The USCJ has compiled an extensive resource page](#), which includes prayers, upcoming webinars, and resources for speaking with children about the war. We will be posting this information in a special section on the TBT website - please check back regularly.

Our partnership with JFS of WNY is continuing this year, and they are available if you are seeking emotional support. If there are other resources you would like, or ways that we can help you during this time, please be in touch.

Join us today (and every Wednesday) for a Healing Service following 6:00 minyan, and on Shabbat, when we will continue to pray for Israel and offer support to one another.

We pray for healing for the wounded and traumatized and for the safe return of all captives. We pray for courage and protection for members of the Israel Defense Forces, first responders, and caretakers. We pray for Israel's leaders, and we pray for the peace and safety of Israel and its citizens. *Oseh Shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu, v'al kol Yisrael, v'imru Amen*. May the One who makes peace in the heavens, bring peace upon us and upon all of Israel – Amen.

Sincerely,  
Rabbi Sara Rich and Linda Boxer

