

## Standing with Pittsburgh

Cheryl Makin, Bridgewater Courier News Published 12:40 p.m. ET Oct. 28, 2018 | Updated 3:58 p.m. ET Oct. 30, 2018



Thousands of people jammed an intersection amid light rain for a vigil Saturday evening for the victims of a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue earlier in the day. The gathering included prayers and singing in memory of those killed and wounded. (Oct. 27) AP



(Photo: Sara C. Tobias, Newark Advocate, via USA TODAY Network)

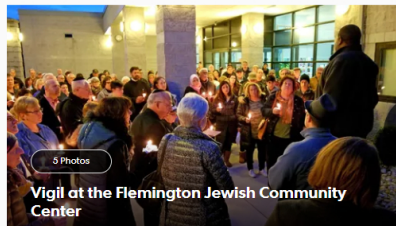
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CENTRAL JERSEY - Several local organizations and places of worship are hosting vigils in support of the senseless tragedy that occurred at a synagogue in Pittsburgh Saturday during worship services. Eleven worshippers were killed and six others were wounded.

Robert Bowers allegedly burst into the Tree of Life Congregation Synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh and screamed anti-Semitic epithets, as he opened fire on the congregants, law enforcement officials said.

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Vigil at the Flemington Jewish Community Center



In a statement on the The Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ website, the community "mourns and stands with that in Pittsburgh and across the world."

"This senseless tragedy reinforces our commitment to combat hate and make our communities more prepared and secure," said the statement.

On the Facebook page of The Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties, the organization has said that "the hearts and prayers of the Jewish Federation and the Jewish community of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties go out to our brothers and sisters who have lost loved ones and friends."

"The horror that occurred today cannot be tolerated," said the Facebook page post. "We mourn along with the entire Jewish community."

Local vigils include:

### SUNDAY

Congregation Neve Shalom, 250 Grove Avenue, Metuchen at 6:30 p.m. The vigil is being co-hosted by the Metuchen Edison Interfaith Area Clergy Association, First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen and Temple Emanu-el. Governor Phil Murphy, Mayor Jonathan Busch and other public and religious leaders including Father Timothy Christy from the Diocese of Metuchen, Reverend Anna Thomas from Centenary United Methodist Church, Reverend Justin Kamann from First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, Reverend Reginald Johnson from the Metuchen Edison NAACP, and Rabbi David Z. Vaisberg from Temple Emanu-El are expected to be joining Rabbi Eric Rosin from Neve Shalom.

### ADVERTISEMENT

Masjid-e-Ali, 47 Cedar Grove Lane, Somerset at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Asghar Kharazi, Director at Masjid-e-Ali and Co-Founder of the NJ Interfaith Coalition, extends the invitation to all who can attend a vigil to remember and express our sorrows for the victims of shooting in Tree of Life Synagogue and reaffirm our commitment to reject any form of hate and bigotry.

Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple, 222 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick at 7

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p.m. There also will be holding clergy hours for those who want to come in and talk on Monday from 3:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Highland Park Conservative Temple, 201 South Third Avenue, Highland Park at 6:45 p.m. A prayer service will be held after the Maariv Evening Service.

Central NJ NCSY and Congregation Ahavas Achim, 216 South First Avenue, Highland Park at 8 p.m. The synagogue and youth group will host a memorial service with prayer and tehillim. 216 S 1st Avenue.

#### MONDAY

Monroe Township Senior Center, 12 Halsey Reed Road, Monroe at 6 p.m. Congregation Beit Shalom of Monroe is spearheading an interfaith vigil in support of the Pittsburgh community at the Monroe Township Senior Center. Mayor Gerald Tamburro and religious leaders will attend to unite our community against anti-Semitism, hate, and violence. Doors open at 5:30.

East Brunswick is hosting the 2nd Annual East Brunswick Unity Walk with a vigil for the events in Pittsburgh at the East Brunswick Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Drive. The gathering begins at 5:30 with the official program slated for 6 p.m. Local clergy and township officials will be speaking.

#### TUESDAY

Temple Beth-El, 67 Route 206, Hillsborough at 7 p.m. The vigil is hosted by the Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties. Organizers are asking participants to please RSVP on Facebook at <https://goo.gl/zKQ4ed> and strongly urge participants to consider carpooling to allow for maximum attendance.

#### THURSDAY

East Brunswick Jewish Center is hosting a Community Memorial Vigil for Tree of Life Congregation at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1. All are welcome. Participating congregations include Beth Ohr of Old Bridge, East Brunswick Jewish Center, Temple B'nai Shalom in East Brunswick, Torah Links of Middlesex County and Young Israel of East Brunswick. Distinguished guests include Mayor Brad Cohen of East Brunswick and Mayor Owen Henry of Old Bridge.

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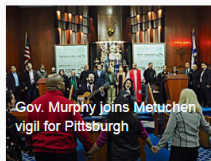
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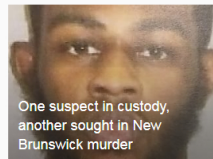
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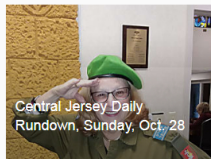
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