**from the CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN PITTSBURGH (and BEYOND) -
 to our JEWISH NEIGHBORS**

THE APOSTLE PAUL TAUGHT THE CHURCH TO

*“WEEP WITH THOSE WHO WEEP”* (Romans 12:15)

As you complete *Shloshim* (the 30 days of mourning), we the CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY want you, our Jewish neighbors, to know we are GREATLY SADDENED by both the HATE and the HORROR experienced in Squirrel Hill on Shabbat - October 27.

All true Christians believe G-d has a special plan for Israel and feel a very deep connection to the Jewish people. We honor you as G-d's chosen people. We treasure the role of Israel and the Jewish people in the revelation of G-d’s love for mankind, and the role you will yet play in the unfolding of His love.

We affirm that the actions of October 27 in no way reflect the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ or the sentiments of those who are truly His followers.

Our desire is that our lives reflect what Jesus taught - that three vital instructions should guide us as we conduct our lives. All three of these teachings are based on *Torah* and *Tenach*.

Jesus taught

**1) LOVE G-d with all your heart, soul, mind and strength
 (Deuteronomy 6:5; Mark 12:28-30)**

**2) LOVE your neighbor and treat him as you would yourself
 (Leviticus 19:18; Mark 12:31)**

**3) And, Jesus reminded His followers of the teaching of wise King
 Solomon - “LOVE your enemies” (Proverbs 25:21-22; Luke 6:35).**

We applaud the staff (many Jewish) at Allegheny General Hospital that exemplified this last biblical teaching by giving excellent medical care to the very one who had just savaged our Pittsburgh community.

We have and will continue to follow the command of Psalm 122:6 - “*Shaalu Shalom Yerushalyim* … Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (and her people).”

*Shalom Aleichem* - Peace to you,

Your Christian neighbors

**HOW TO HELP !!!**

Dear Ones,

We are attempting to gather the Christian Community in Pittsburgh **to speak as one** to comfort our Jewish neighbors in the Name of Jesus.

This is not meant as a substitute for anything individual churches or people desire to do to make an expression of God’s love to Jewish Pittsburgh. *Rather, our desire is that the Jewish Community experience a COMMUNITY/UNIFIED expression of the Love of God through Jesus in us, His Church.*

We want to put the text of this letter - “***from the CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN PITTSBURGH …” -*** in a FULL PAGE “advertisement” in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on the 1-month anniversary of this tragedy. *(Jewish people, each month after a loved one dying, has special prayers prayed in synagogue in memory of those who passed. So this timing would be very significant to the Jewish community.)*

The Jewish people are a very literate people. The generations most impacted by the tragedy in Squirrel Hill are ones for which newspapers have been an important part. A full-page “ad” in one of Pittsburgh major newspapers will have a special weight and meaning.

**A weekday - “non-profit rate” - full-page ad costs $3600.**

**To help with the cost of the putting this letter of love into the paper - goto -** [***rockofagesmjc.org***](http://www.rockofagesmjc.org) **and click on the “HELP PAY FOR POST-GAZETTE AD” banner text *[hold control and click goto link]*.**

Those giving will have their names placed in the ad as “signors” of the letter (unless you tell us otherwise). **We ARE HOPEFUL TO FILL THE ADD WITH THE NAMES OF HUNDREDS OF CHURCHES !!!**

We ask people/churches to give at least $18. The word “*chai*” in Hebrew means life. The Hebrew characters in the word add up to the number “18”. “18” therefore, in the Jewish community, represents giving life. Gifts in the Jewish community are often given in multiples of 18.

*Prayerfully, many of you can give more. (You can choose $18, a multiple of $18, OR YOU CAN FILL IN YOUR OWN AMOUNT ON THE DONATION SITE.)*

In addition, all funds received, in excess of cost of ad, will go to Israel’s equivalent of our “Red Cross” called **MAGEN DAVID ADOM**. These first responders **in Israel are the equivalent of our paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians**. They are the primary initial medical care on scene at the (sadly) many bombings, shootings, knife attacks, etc. in Israel.

The excess funds going to MAGEN DAVID ADOM will be given in the name of and to honor the 11 victims of October 27. We are praying we, the Christian community, can give a substantial gift!

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING AND CONSIDERING HOW WE CAN ACT AS ONE IN THE NAME OF JESUS TO SHOW HIS LOVE TO OUR JEWISH NEIGHBORS AT THIS TIME !!!

Any questions? Please call or email Abraham E. Sandler - **412-609-1117,** ***abraham@rockofagesmjc.org***OR Dan O’Neil - **412-535-3044,** ***eagleswingsministries1@verizon.net***