

TBH Administrator

From: Temple Beth Hatfiloh <tbh@bethhatfiloh.org>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 3:08 PM
To: TBH Administrator
Subject: Latest Update: TBH & COVID-19

TEMPLE BETH HATFILOH
— A CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE —



Dear TBH Friends:

We hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy; adjusting to the new reality we find ourselves in.

Yesterday, the Executive Committee of the Board voted to keep **our synagogue closed until at least April 24**. This is aligned with the date of school closure in Washington State. We recognize, given the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, that we may need to extend this date to protect all our safety.

This closure also includes the administrative offices. TBH will continue to fully function and staff will continue to work, but **please do not come to the TBH building.**

While we cannot be physically together, we are finding ways to join together virtually. Zoom video conferencing is proving to be easy to use and replicates the feeling of being in the same room together. Last Friday night, the Rabbi livestreamed the service via Facebook Live and Zoom. It was a warm and wonderful experience. Multiple TBH meetings have occurred on Zoom and more are scheduled. Even the TBH choir is going to explore rehearsing in our “Zoom Room”. The Rabbi is exploring additional programming possibilities, including an alternative to our Community Seder, which needless to say, is cancelled this year.

And while we are focused on providing for our community's spiritual needs, we are also working to help provide for the physical needs of our congregational community. In the coming days, you will be hearing from your Board contact. We want to find out if you have need groceries delivered or other errands, check in phone calls and more. We also are recruiting couriers who are not in the most vulnerable demographic to help make this a reality. And, there's no need to wait to hear from your Board contact! If you are reading this and feel you would benefit from help, or you are willing to help, please contact Kayla at tbh@bethhatfiloh.org or call (360)754-8519.

Rabbi Seth is available for remote appointments, you can be in touch with him directly at rabbi@bethhatfiloh.org. In addition, our Immigrant and Refugee Task Force is working hard to ensure the safety and health of our sanctuary guest.

This Shabbat we read the portion Vayakhel-Pikudei, which concludes the Book of Exodus. The Torah describes the construction of the Tabernacle, which was constructed by Betzalel and assembled by Moses. But the raw material was supplied by everyone: "Moses said further to the whole community of Israelites: 'This is what God has commanded: Take from among you gifts to God; everyone whose heart so moves him shall bring them.'" (Exodus 35:4-5)

We are in this together, and together we will make it through these challenging times.

B'Shalom,



Tikva Glantz, Board President



Rabbi Seth Goldstein

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