



May 1, 2020 / 5780

Dear Friends,

As Shabbat approaches and we all take a breath, we wanted to write you with some important "business" updates. As you all know, while our building remains closed, Judea Reform Congregation is definitely "open for business." Hopefully, many of you have been touched by the light we continue to kindle--whether it be through virtual worship, Torah study, a Zemer Allan sing-a-long, a DRTY virtual paint-a-thon, a connecting phone call, a zoom committee meeting, or an online shiva minyan--we are continuing to find moments of togetherness, worship, and community. We are truly "all in this together" and we are confident this experience will make our Judea Reform community stronger.

With that in mind, we want to tell you about important information about the business of moving forward: Fiscal Year 2021 budget, Annual Meeting, and the possibilities of re-entry to our building.

**Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Update:** When we last communicated with you about the budget, we were deep in the planning of our FY21 budget, to be presented to you, the Congregation. But in mid-March we had to pivot in response to COVID-19. We are now working on a revised FY21 budget based on what we know now and many, many assumptions. With the guidance of our Finance Committee, we will be developing a new FY21 budget with our organizational goals and priorities in the context of the current situation and as the economic impact we anticipate continues to evolve.

**Annual Meeting:** Because we want to do our best work and be able to present to you the best plan, we will need a bit more time. We have decided to postpone the Annual Meeting by 2 weeks, to **May 31 at 4 pm**. Our Constitution requires the Annual Meeting take place in either April or May, so this new date is within the guidelines of our Constitution. We also intend to hold a pre-meeting for those who may wish additional conversation about the proposed budget.

And yes, these meetings will be virtual. Our intention is to hold the pre-meeting and the Annual Meeting using Zoom technology. A team of technologically savvy and legal minds are working on the appropriate technology to enable questions and voting at the Annual Meeting. It is

important to us that everyone is able to participate as much as possible, and we will be providing more information about this as we get closer to the meeting. If you have not used Zoom yet, we encourage you to set it up in anticipation of the Annual Meeting. If you need help, we have a team of volunteers who can help you navigate specific questions. Please email [info@judeareform.org](mailto:info@judeareform.org) and someone will be in contact.

**Re-recovery/Re-entry:** On all of our minds is what happens beyond May. Not surprisingly, there are no clear answers yet. **At this point in time, our building remains closed through May 31** (although we are still "up and running" as a community with many opportunities for engagement). When and how we will be able to come back together in our beautiful building and be in community together, in person, is still unknown. Our leadership team continues to monitor the guidelines of the CDC, the Governor's and Mayor's orders, and the guidance of our medical and scientific community. We are examining a variety of scenarios based on potential re-entry plans. It is our hope that by our Annual Meeting we will have a clearer picture and can share some plans with you at that time, if not sooner.

Thank you all for trusting our leadership as we do our best to navigate these uncharted waters.

Wishing you days filled with love and moments of joy!

Shabbat Shalom,

Senior Rabbi, Matthew V. Soffer  
President, Ziva Raney  
Executive Director, Emily Young

P.S. Please continue to check our website, enotices, and Facebook for information about all of our virtual happenings.