

March 10th, 2020

Dear Judea Reform Community,

Last week we wrote to you with news of Judea Reform's preventive preparedness for the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We continue to monitor and pay close attention to the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the NC Department of Health and Human Services, and the Union for Reform Judaism. We are in close contact with our campus neighbors at Lerner School and the Levin JCC, as well.

If you have been in our building in the past week it is hard to miss the stations of anti-viral supplies: hand sanitizers, disinfectant wipes, tissues, and handwashing signage. We continue to remind everyone to wash hands when here and make frequent use of our supplies.

We are continuing to hold all activities, meetings, events, and worship services (with extra cleaning and awareness), while carefully monitoring the situation as it impacts Judea Reform Congregation.

One such development we would like to call attention to is Sunday's (March 8th) <u>CDC</u> recommendation for People at Risk for Serious Illness from COVID-19.

- Please, stay home if you are sick or not feeling well.
- If you are at risk for serious illness we encourage you to heed the recommendations of the CDC and avoid gatherings of people and populated locations to reduce risk of transmission.
- Remember, all Judea Reform worship services are <u>livestreamed</u>; you can watch from home on your computer or phone!
- Over the next week, our Caring Community volunteers will be reaching out to those in need of extra support during these trying times. If you feel you could use support at this time, please email caringcommunity@judeareform.org

In light of the CDC's recent recommendation, we wanted to let you know Duke University has cancelled all <u>OLLI</u> (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) courses from March 14 to May 15, out of an abundance of caution. Of course this will impact our campus, as OLLI participants fill our Education Building from Monday through Thursday during the day. We will miss our OLLI neighbors over the next few months.

As a sacred community, we recognize that these measures are not distinct from our obligation to live Jewishly: health (*bri'ut*) and wholeness (*shleimut*) are Jewish values. Especially in trying times such as this do we honor and affirm the values of our life-affirming tradition.

We will continue to communicate with the Congregation as news evolves that may impact our Judea Reform Community.

B'Shalom,

Emily Young Interim Executive Director Judea Reform Congregation