Dear TKE Congregant,

As we know, the CDC dramatically changed their COVID guidelines, warranting a review of our own policies and procedures. We are pleased to share the following modifications to our own reopening plans and procedures.

**Vaccination Status, Social Distancing, and Reservations**

* Congregants, regardless of vaccination status, are invited to attend all in-person activities.
* TKE does not require proof of vaccinations to attend programming or worship.
* Space restrictions and attendance caps previously necessary to ensure social distancing are now lifted.
* Reservations are no longer required for worship at our Friday Shabbat services.

**Mask Wearing**

* TKE is no longer requiring attendees age 12 and over to wear masks to attend events. We strongly urge all congregants who have not been fully vaccinated, including those under the age of 12, to continue to wear masks at all times.

We recognize that some members of our community are unvaccinated, immunocompromised, have a condition that renders the vaccine less effective, or are under the age of 12, and we strongly encourage these individuals to continue wearing a mask at TKE programs, during worship services, and in educational settings. As well, we appreciate that there are members of our community who may still feel more comfortable wearing a mask when attending in-person events, even if they have been fully vaccinated.

**Virtual Participation**
As an inclusive community, we will continue to offer opportunities for virtual participation for the most of our programming and worship services so that all are able to remain active participants in the life of our congregation.

**High Holy Days**
These new protocols will unquestionably have a significant impact on what we are now able to offer congregants for the High Holy Days. Although plans are still being finalized, members can anticipate opportunities to participate in-person for prayer, study, and reflection. As noted above, virtual participation will also be an option for all who wish. Stay tuned for more details.

**Religious School, Youth & Teen Programs**
As we have announced previously, we anticipate our Religious School and Youth programming to open in-person for the fall. Appropriate COVID protocols will be determined at the beginning of the school year in August and will be communicated directly to families with students who are participating in those programs.

**Questions**
Recognizing you may have questions regarding these updated guidelines, we have put together an updated Q&A that you can find [INSERT LINK].

We are excited to be continuing the transition to in-person at Temple Kol Emeth and look forward having each of you back in our building as soon. As always, please feel free to reach out to us with your questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing each of you!

Rachel Barich

President, Temple Kol Emeth

Jodi Roberts

President-elect, Temple Kol Emeth

Rabbi Larry Sernovitz

Senior Rabbi, Temple Kol Emeth