



TEMPLE
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June 12, 2020

Dear TBA Members,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. Your TBA family misses you and looks forward to having you back in our building as soon as it is safe and feasible. Of course, your health and safety is our primary concern. Like all religious institutions, we had to quickly adapt to changing conditions in light of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in March. TBA was quick to respond by moving many of our programs to online platforms. At this point, we offer minyan (including informal socializing before and afterwards) via Zoom every Sunday-Thursday evening, as well as morning minyan every Sunday and Thursday. In addition, we have Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat services every Friday night and Havdalah services every Saturday night. Rabbi Malik also led meaningful Yizkor services on Erev Passover and Erev Shavuot, as well as a moving Yom HaShoah ceremony, and she participated in the community-wide virtual Yom HaZikaron and Tikkun Leyl Shavuot programs. Over the past 3 months, we have also provided virtual preschool, religious school, and adult education classes, including expanded educational offerings right before Passover. Many of the rabbi's classes and Divrei Torah have been recorded on YouTube. Attendance at online classes and services has been overwhelming. It has been great to see so many of you in these contexts, albeit virtually.

On June 25th, the rabbi will teach a class regarding the recent teshuvah of the CJLS (Committee on Jewish Law and Standards) regarding Streaming on Shabbat and Holidays. During this class, we will read parts of Rabbi Joshua Heller's teshuvah and discuss opposition to the teshuvah by Rabbi Amy Levin, Rabbi Lisa Malik, Rabbi Eliot Malomet, Rabbi Avi Reisner, and Rabbi David Schuck. This class will be offered twice to accommodate congregants' different schedules, first at 1:00 PM and then again at 7:00 PM.

As the status of the pandemic continues to evolve, we are working diligently on plans to resume having in-person Shabbat and holiday services at the synagogue



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again. To help us achieve this goal, we have assembled two new task forces. The first is the Scenario Task Force. This small group is exploring various different options for providing in-person gatherings to meet the spiritual needs of our congregants during the summer and fall. The second is the COVID Compliance and Operations Task Force. This group will take the scenarios and work through the state, federal, and CDC guidelines to make sure that our plans are in compliance. At the same time, we will continue to provide virtual offerings. Over the summer, Rabbi Malik and Cantor Wyner also plan to make some video recordings of holiday service highlights and are looking for volunteers and professionals to help with video recording and editing on Sundays and weekdays.

Unfortunately, we must cancel the June Jubilee that was scheduled for June 28th. We will keep you posted if we are able to reschedule it to the late summer or early fall. This event was supposed to be a major fundraiser for the synagogue, so will need your help to help us make up for this shortfall. We will still be holding our SUPER 50/50 and conducting our drawing on June 28th. If you have not yet purchased a ticket or sold any tickets to friends, relatives, or neighbors, please consider doing so; it would help us out so much. If you have already purchased or sold tickets, THANK YOU. If you could sell additional tickets, that would be so greatly appreciated. We have simplified the process of selling tickets online; just click on this link & share it with others: www.TBARAFFLE.com

Know that we are here for you even though we have had to remain physically apart for these past few months. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or just to say hello. I look forward to seeing you soon- in person and/or online!

Shalom,

Nathan Goldwasser

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