



## Dor Tikvah Committee for Safe Congregational Services Update 7.23.2020

I hope that all is going well for each of you and that you are finding ways to adapt and enjoy your summer. Once again, I am writing simply to provide you with a brief update from the Dor Tikvah Committee for Safe Congregational Services.

The Committee meets virtually on a weekly basis. We remain in close communication with local medical professionals and we continue to track the number of new COVID cases as well as hospital capacities.

**Local COVID Trends:** According to SC DHEC data, over the past week, new cases of the COVID virus have declined in the Charleston area. This is welcome news, but new cases are still high in our area, so please remain vigilant and continue to protect yourself and others while out in public. At this time, our medical advisors believe that we can still safely convene outdoor services with the proper protections in place.

**Outdoor Services:** Since June 24th, Dor Tikvah has been offering outdoor services on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. If you are interested in attending, please click this link - <https://www.dortikvah.org/event/Join-Minyan> - to sign up for upcoming services.

**Looking Forward:** The Dor Tikvah Board will be meeting prior to the August Congregational Meeting to discuss the possible expansion of services in the months ahead. This conversation will include options to consider regarding High Holy Day services, which are now less than 2 months away. Updates will be shared with the entire congregation at the Congregational Meeting on August 23rd.

**Other Opportunities:** As limited as our in-person interactions are at the moment, there are a number of other ways in which we can still connect. The Rabbi continues to hold pre and post *Shabbat Zoom get-togethers* each week ([zoom link here](#) Password: 085081), our regular weekday classes have shifted to virtual platforms and most are ongoing through the summer, and our wonderful weekly social program, *Together Apart*, will pick up again in August on Wednesday evenings ([more info here](#)). Next week Wednesday night-Thursdays marks *Tisha B'Av* (the Fast of the Ninth of Av), and we will be providing virtual programming throughout in order to make the day more meaningful from home (more details on that coming out at the beginning of next week).

In addition to the above online opportunities, if you have any other creative online programming ideas, please share them with either me or the Rabbi. We continue to seek new ways to connect as a congregation as we find our way through this challenging time. Please reach out! It would be a pleasure to hear from you!