

COVID-19 Update #5  
Sunday, March 15, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all all doing well. Below is information regarding Pesach as well as upcoming classes via Zoom.

**For those who are not accustomed to using Zoom, please contact me. I will be happy to answer your questions in the hope that you can join our on line learning and davening.**

1. [A Halachik Guide to Cleaning and Preparing For Pesach](#)

2. Classes / Services

3. Chessed Brigade (**I am so happy to report that many of our elderly members have been called already and we will continue to do so as long as necessary.**)

4. UOS Updates WhatsApp Group

5. Help for UOS Gap Year students in Israel

6. JFS

1. [Please click here for the 2020 UOS Guide for Cleaning and Preparing For Pesach.](#) For some who had plans to be away for Pesach, there may be uncertainty as to how to have a seder and kasher your home. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

**2. Online learning and Davening**

**Maintaining your spiritual schedule is very important.** We need to turn our homes into shuls for the time being. Join us for online Torah classes and Davening. Let's stay connected to each other and use davening to strengthen us. **We will be adding Avinu Malkeinu as has been suggested by a number of leading Rabbis. For those davening at home, please add Avinu Malkeinu with the prayer in mind that this pandemic come to a speedy end.**

**Classes**

- A four part online series on: Hidden Gems of the Haggadah. Each class will explore some of the lesser known aspects and customs of the Haggadah and the Pesach Seder.

Dates: Monday Nights (3/ 16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6) at 8PM Via Zoom.

**Monday Night 3/16 - Hidden Themes of the Haggadah. While remembering the Exodus we**

can also focus on other important ideas and characteristics that can add meaning to our seder and our lives beyond Pesach.

- **Ruthie will be offering a three part online series on Shir Hashirim (Song of Songs)**

Dates: Wednesday Nights 8pm 3/18 / 3/25 / 4/1

- **Pesach Cleaning Made Easy. March 22nd at 8pm**

**Virtual Davening: Join us for Virtual Davening as follows.**

Sunday Shacharit - 8AM. Starting tomorrow 3/15/20.

**Weekday Shacharit 7am**

**[ALL UOS ZOOM EVENTS CAN BE ACCESSED BY USING THIS LINK.](#)**

You can also join by phone. Tel. #'s appear when you click the link above and choosing the dial in by phone option.

3. **Chessed:** If you would like to join the **Chessed brigade** to make calls to members so people can stay connected as well as to help with other needs, please email Doreen Lerner at [doreenlerner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:doreenlerner@sbcglobal.net)

4. **Stay Connected:** I have created a **WhatsApp group** so we can keep you updated on classes, programs, changes in policy etc. **[Please use this link to join.](#)** Also, **please take a moment to “like” the [UOS facebook page.](#)** It is a great way to stay up to date with all of the “goings on” at UOS.

5. **Adam Bloch has offered to help UOS Gap Year students in Israel navigate the current situation.** Please contact him at [theotheradamblock@gmail.com](mailto:theotheradamblock@gmail.com)

6. Jewish Family Services is offering counseling services for those who are anxious about the current situation. Individuals may make appointments for counseling by filling out our online form [https://www.jfshouston.org/client\\_referral\\_form.php](https://www.jfshouston.org/client_referral_form.php) or calling us at 713-986-7832.

There are also a number of Call In / Internet sessions available for Parents, Adults and Adolescent starting Monday, March 16th. **[Please click here for information on how to join.](#)**

**Please be in touch with any concerns or questions.**

**All the best,**

**Rabbi Gelman**