



# Adath Israel

## CONGREGATION

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Friday, March 13, 2020

My Fellow Adath Israel Congregants,

Your health and safety are of the utmost importance to the Adath Israel officers, clergy and your Board of Trustees. I'm writing to let you know how Adath Israel is responding to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The precept of Pikuach nefesh, saving a life, is the principle of Jewish Law which demands that the preservation of human life overrides virtually any other religious rule or mitzvah. In this case, it is our commitment to adjusting our programming and protocols to prioritize public health and safety for all. We're following updates from various local government agencies to stay informed and aligned with current advisories. We understand that circumstances will likely remain fluid in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

Here are some of the steps that we're currently taking:

1. Our cleaning crew was instructed to wipe down all door handles with disinfectant wipes, each and every evening.
2. Although hand sanitizer is in very short supply, a limited quantity was obtained for use in the office and kitchen.
3. Behavioral Modification posters regarding anti-viral hygiene will be posted throughout the building.
4. Kosher Café, Café Europa, and Memory Café programs are being modified or cancelled.
5. Organizations which rent space from Adath: Their meetings are cancelled.
6. Due to the closing of Lawrence Township Public Schools, Religious School will be closed until after the end of Passover and will resume Sunday, April 19th. Distance learning options are being explored.
7. Religious Services: No change to schedule, but recommend dispersed seating
8. Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush are suspended for the balance of March.
9. Board and Committee meetings: We'll use virtual meetings (video or call-in) until further notice.
10. Other programming such as: MOSAIC events, Torah Fund dinner (postponed), One Book – One Jewish Community are likely to be postponed. Please check the synagogue's calendar.
11. Bridge Academy: will be asked to wipe down tables and chairs in Social Hall 3 and the Chapel with disinfectant wipes.
12. Office hours will remain the same, subject to state or federal regulations. If possible, synagogue business should be conducted by phone or email.

We are grateful for your understanding and continued support during this potentially difficult time for our nation and our beloved Adath Israel.

Thank you,

Abe Abramovich