



Temple Israel Ner Tamid

1732 Lander Road
Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124
(440) 473-5120 • Fax (440) 646-9585

היכל ישראל

נר תמיד

Matthew J. Eisenberg, Rabbi
Frederick A. Eisenberg, Founding Rabbi Emeritus

Dear Fellow Congregants,

I am writing to explain our current plans with respect to High Holiday Services and Covid-19. The decision to gather in person was not taken lightly and is subject to change before Rosh Hashanah or between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I am sure you are or will become aware that several Congregations are choosing not to gather in person to observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Our Congregation **WILL** gather in person and in our renovated Sanctuary.

For those uncomfortable inside, the audio from the service will be streamed to our new patio as well as other rooms in the building. It can be viewed in all 4 classrooms as well as the library. If you would prefer to watch at home, we will stream to Facebook Live and YouTube.

We will observe the following safety protocols:

- Guests wearing respiratory protection (masks) will be seated in the Sanctuary
- Guests not wearing respiratory protection will be seated in the Stark Family Social Hall
- We will use "pod" seating to provide social distance
- Masks will be provided for those who desire to wear one

We have researched the latest news regarding Covid-19, the risks, and the mitigants to those risks. The best mitigant is the vaccine. Breakthrough cases are few. Severe cases are even fewer. As of August 9th, the CDC reports 99.5% of people vaccinated have not contracted a case of Covid-19 that required hospitalization.

The next best mitigant is fresh air. Our new religious school building exchanges 100% of the air every 12 minutes or more often. CDC guidelines indicate that this is on par with a room in which oral surgery might be performed. The Sanctuary and The Stark Family Social Hall will each have windows open to supplement our air conditioning units.

The third best mitigant is air filtration. We have purchased several portable air filtration devices that remove 99.7% of all viral material and bacteria from the air. Again, this is the standard by CDC.

We **ENCOURAGE** our congregants to wear respiratory protection and wear it properly. We are confident that the benefits of praying together this year are greater than the risks of remaining in isolation for most. We trust you to make the appropriate decision for your family and for yourself.

Remember, the above is subject to change as facts change. Visit www.tintcleveland.org beginning August 31 for updates.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RF 2/2', is positioned above the printed name.

Richard Freedman

President, Board of Trustees