



Upcoming Yom Tov information

1 message

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To: OhaivYisroelNewsletter <ohaivyisroelnewsletter@googlegroups.com>

Gut Moed

There is a lot of information here, so please read through ALL of it.

While I appreciate everyone's input and concern about the current situation, let me share with you the following:

I am aware of what Governor Cuomo has said and his new guidelines. I'm also in direct communication with Ed Day and the Spring Valley Police department. Further, I had a lengthy conversation with the DOH who told me that while the governor did indeed set guidelines, those guidelines were being challenged on the Federal level and as such they are not enforceable. Nonetheless, we will continue to remain vigilant and adhere to the CDC guidelines of mask wearing, social distancing and with the recent uptick, if you have been exposed to anyone who has COVID you should refrain from coming into the shul for 14 days and get tested before you attend any services – if a special need arises or more clarification, please call me directly.

Now, the situation remains fluid and therefore as an update is required, and email will be sent out – please check your emails often especially erev Shabbos.

For now, we need to prepare for the Chag. Minyanim for Hoshanah Rabba will remain as is. After discussions with the Rav and other "key" members we basically have 2 options for Simchas Torah:

1- Due to the current status of COVID cancel the festivities, dancing and the like. Do a quick hakafa and be done. Or,

2- Do a modified Simchas Torah with hakafos as follows:

Now, before I lay out the following, for those that know me by now, when I commit to something, I try my hardest to complete that task. The following will be quite hard to accomplish and it will entail EACH AND EVERY ATTENDEE to do their part.

- We will have our regular minyanim inside & out by the z'man on Saturday night 7:13PM
- NO CHILDREN under bar-mitzvah or girls will be allowed inside the main shul (ladies will be limited to the 9 that are signed up). There is a separate ladies sign up where full members will be given precedence (if you haven't signed up yet or you are not sure if you did, it will only take a minute to do) - <https://blueberryskul.typeform.com/to/bCkoKrve>
- At 19 Crestview, where we had the big tent, there will be a perimeter set out with milk crates or some other form AND EACH AND EVERY PERSON will need to be behind that perimeter MEN & LADIES on opposite ends.

- Children MUST stay with their "parent" the entire time - no switching back and forth between father & mother.
- Leeba will be giving out "Torah Flags" to all the little children who register – registration at <https://blueberryshul.typeform.com/to/IuQGrGg5>
- A peckle of nosh will be given to the children who have registered above "after" the Torahs have been brought back inside
- If you bring ANY TYPE of FOOD/NOSH for your child/ren please make sure to bring a garbage bag too, as the area we will be in, is someone's backyard
- After Atah Horaisah we will escort the 5 Sifrei Torah to 19 Crestview - where all of you will be waiting and hopefully join in, in song and revel at the highlight of the Yomim Noraaim culminating with the precious gift given to us - The Torah
- The people holding the Sifrei Torah will go in the middle of the circle and dance while being distant from one-another
- If EVERYONE can do their part, we will have all 7 hakafos outside - singing and "dancing in place" will make for a remarkable and memorable evening
- Unfortunately, if people do not respect the rules &/or do not wear their masks fully (covering their nose & mouth at the same time), we will have no choice but to stop the hakafos, go back inside, and end the evening.

Sunday morning:

- As much as I would love to have a kiddush I cannot figure out how to do it safely and as such, there will not be a kiddush this year - if you have an idea, feel free to email me
- NO boys under bar-mitzvah will be getting an aliyah (unless they are within a couple of months of their bar-mitzvah)
- NO children other than those getting an aliyah should go into the main shul or building for any reason other than the bathroom and escorted by their parent.
- There will not be a kol haniarim aliyah this year
- We will not be having hakafos with children in the morning - we will simply do 7 quick hakafos
- As hard and sad as it was for me to write the above, I'm sure each and every one of you will be feeling the same thing. But, with the present uptick, my job is to keep you safe! I feel that this is a true compromise and will still give us a semblance of Yom Tov & Simchas Torah, though not what we are used to.

I'YH, by doing things this way, we will be zoche to share in a s'udaas hodaah very soon!

May we all stay safe during these uncertain times and again, be reminded that the situation is fluid and may change – if you do not get an email from me, then the schedule stays as is.

Chag Sameach

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