



TEMPLE BETH SHALOM
JOYFUL · PERSONAL · ACCESSIBLE

Programming Subcommittee Report

Temple Beth Shalom COVID-19 Task Force

These recommendations are based on the prevailing conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic in Central Ohio as of August 2020. These recommendations are in effect through at least November 1, 2020. The Task Force will review its recommendations in late October, at which time potential changes may be considered based on the course of the virus.

Temple Beth Shalom (TBS) is blessed to have an active community. From Mah Jongg in the Social Hall to First Friday Shabbat dinners, social events are a big part of the culture of TBS. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, all events in the building have been canceled since March. Even with masks, social distancing, and proper hand hygiene, an event in an enclosed space like the Social Hall is risky due to the airborne nature of COVID-19. Due to the combination of flu season and COVID-19 this Fall, there will be **no programming in the building through at least November 1, 2020 (except lifecycle events)**.

While the Jewish value of *Pikuach Nefesh* (saving a human life) is of the utmost importance, TBS programming does not need to be put on hold because the Temple building will be unavailable this Fall. The Programming Subcommittee expressed an interest in helping TBS's wonderful groups/clubs develop COVID-safe programs that could occur on the Temple's grounds or other outdoor spaces. The [Guide to Planning & Implementing a COVID-Safe Program](#) highlights TBS's willingness to help its groups/clubs design creative and safe programming. The requirements of a COVID-safe program are as follows:

- Mandatory mask wearing by all participants
- A maximum of 20 people
- At least 6'-10' of social distancing
- Last no more than an hour
- No shareable food (participants must bring their own individually prepared food)
- Not involve high risk activities such as singing

By honoring these requirements, TBS will provide the following:

- Access to one of its outdoor spaces (including chairs, if requested):
 - ◆ Front lawn
 - ◆ Patio
 - ◆ Parking lot
 - ◆ Outdoor sanctuary
- TBS staff support

To make a request, a representative from a group/club should fill out the [COVID-Safe Event Request Form](#). If approved, all attendees will have to fill out a [health acknowledgement](#) no later than 48 hours before the scheduled program.