



CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL UPDATE

Dear CBI Community,

I sincerely hope this update finds all of you and your families safe and following the best protocol we are supposed to be following. While it has been a while since you have gotten an update from us, I am sure that everyone is aware of how the state of Florida's Covid-19 situation changes daily and we have to be able to adjust our thinking and actions based on what is happening outside the walls of our facility. Over the summer business has continued as usual at CBI with the clergy and staff working harder than ever virtually to maintain our programming and services with a warm and welcoming feeling of community, despite the hardships our nation is facing.

While we had to cancel session 1 of our NCECE Camp (Camp Yeladim), I am happy to report we have completed our 3 week second session, and are in the midst of session 3. We are strictly adhering to all the rules of the Department of Health and the CDC and we are very proud of our staff, parents and kids adjusting to what for the moment has become the new normal. The rules are posted on the website should you want to see what it took for us to be up and running safely.

The Education team and clergy are busy preparing many alternate plans for the reopening of both the NCECE and the Religious School, which all parents will be receiving the options for both these schools shortly. This is a monumental task and while we would love to open normally, safety will always come first, and we are planning as such.

The facility has been undergoing a complete painting overall and it looks fantastic. In addition, through the good fortune of being awarded a major Homeland Security grant we have replaced many gates with electric doors and classrooms with keyless entries. In addition, we have added a few more cameras and the entire parking lot lighting is now LED. Believe me when you return you will notice quite a difference and upgrading of our facility. Our security team has been here EVERY DAY, even when no one is on campus. Staff has returned on a staggered basis in the office and they continue to also work virtually from home and no one is missing a beat in their responsibilities.

You will be hearing very shortly about the upcoming High Holydays as the clergy is putting together their final plans to try and combine the spirituality and safety for our members. This is again a new experience for all of us and we appreciate everyone's indulgence and acceptance as we move forward. I hope by now you have returned your membership forms and will continue to be a part of our CBI family. No Synagogue has accomplished as much as we have by staying connected virtually with all of you. We plan on moving forward and getting past every obstacle that confronts us, working closely with our outstanding lay leadership headed by President Jeffrey Cannon.

Remember you are not alone and clergy, myself and any staff is here for you in time of need or just to speak. Until we see you in person again stay safe and healthy. If you need to reach out you can call the synagogue and leave a message or you can reach out to me at steve.allen@cbiboca.org as my clock reads 24/7. If you haven't had a chance to see the recent

video from CBI click below.

Warmly,

Steve Allen

CBI Executive Director

