



July 2020

RE: Religious School Registration, Due August 15, 2020

Dear Religious School Families and Prospective Families:

While Temple Ohev Sholom's Religious School this year will, by necessity, look a little different from the past, it builds on a strong foundation that has served our families well for decades. Please be assured that the Temple's leadership, faculty, and I have worked hard to design a meaningful, safe, and fun experience for our students.

Most significantly, religious school will be held primarily on the Zoom online platform, which allows for new and exciting opportunities. Families will receive the Zoom links following registration and payment. We will remain flexible and plan in-person activities as conditions allow, using the same fact- and values-based decision-making process that has guided the Temple's actions since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Our Sunday morning program for students in Pre-K through 7th Grades will begin on **Sunday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m.** We are exploring the possibility of a physically distant, in-person option for meeting teachers and picking up materials just on the first day; we will share the details as we get closer to that date. If we do that, a virtual alternative will be available as well. Mid-week classes for students in 3rd through 7th Grades will begin on **Wednesday, September 16 at 4:30 p.m.**

Pre-K through 2nd Grades will meet on Sundays only, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., over Zoom. Students in 3rd through 7th Grades will meet on Zoom from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Sundays and from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays. This will include a combination of classroom learning, small group instruction, and independent work time.

Because it is, unfortunately, not possible for students in 7th Grade to perform the community service projects that have traditionally been part of that grade's curriculum, we will be bringing representatives of the community into the virtual classroom. The students will also serve the Temple as teachers' aides in the younger classes several Sundays each month. Details will be provided on the first day of class.

In addition, instead of the traditional student-led Friday night family services, our plan at the moment is instead to have each class contribute to the rabbi's weekly Shabbat service video during their service week. We are leaving the family services on the schedule for now just in case we are able to do them if circumstances change, but we do not expect that to happen, if at all, until early 2021. The 2nd Grade Naming program on the schedule for November 15th will likely occur via Zoom.

The tuition and fee schedule for 2020-21 remains the same as last year, as follows:

Pre-K through 2nd Grades: \$325
3rd through 7th Grades: \$389

One-half of tuition is due upon by the registration deadline of August 15, 2020, with the balance due by December 15, 2020. However, tuition for 7th Grade is due in full upon registration.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation: \$600. This fee is in addition to regular school tuition. It was billed in July and must be paid, in full, at least one month prior to the event.

Included in this packet are three important documents:

1. Schedule for 2020-21 School Year
2. Student Registration Form (complete one for each student)
3. PTO Family Information Form

Please complete the Student Registration Form(s) and PTO Family Information Form and submit them, along with payment, to the temple office no later than August 15, 2020. You may either print out the forms, fill in by hand, and mail hard copies to the Temple office, or you may fill them out electronically and email them as completed attachments to office@ohvsholom.org. Payments for Religious School, PTO, and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation can be made via check payable to “Temple Ohev Sholom” or securely online at www.ohvsholom.org/payments.

Finally, if your family foresees a challenge with having enough computers, tablets, smartphones, etc. in your household for each child to participate fully in religious school by Zoom, please let me know when you register because we may be able to help address that issue. The Temple has received a generous donation from an anonymous donor of a dozen tablets that we are able to lend out to families in need.

Thank you in advance for your patience and support as we embark on this new adventure together. I look forward to meeting and getting to know your families. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

L'shalom,

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