

Temple BNai Israel

Re-Opening Guidelines

In order to continue to put the safety of our congregants and clergy as the top priority, we have created some guidelines to follow when we gather in-person at the temple and social hall. In-person gathering will begin at the discretion of the Temple Board and withdrawn with that same discretion. The Temple Board will follow current CDC and MDHHS guidelines.

General Entrance Guidelines and Practices:

1. The Temple President is assigned as the Covid contact person and must be notified as part of any congregants contact tracing process. The Covid contact person will be responsible for monitoring national, state and local guidelines.
2. The temple will be operating at capacity set by the current state guidelines. As of March 19 - we are at a 50% capacity. The 50% capacity of the Sanctuary is 42 people and the 50% capacity of the Social Hall is 45 people.
3. There will be a greeter at the front door off of Michigan Street to allow entry. All participants must use this entry.
4. Upon entry, all participants will be asked to:
 - a. Wear a mask
 - b. Sanitize their hands
 - c. Each household and individuals will sign in with first and last names, a phone number and number in household in attendance. This will be used in the instance that contact tracing is needed.
 - d. Signing in carries the attestation that no members of the household
 - i. Have been ill in the last 14 days
 - ii. Have had any high-risk contact in the last 14 days.
5. There is no eating or drinking in the Temple / social hall. This will be updated following CDC and MDHHS guidelines.
6. No communal singing in the Temple / social hall. This will be updated following CDC and MDHHS guidelines.
7. Restrooms will remain open
8. Households will try and sit together and congregants will try to keep a six foot distance between other households.
9. If possible, windows will be opened while congregants are using the space.
10. Temple and/or social hall will be sanitized after each use, according to CDC guidelines.
11. Temple and social hall will be thoroughly cleaned after three uses.

Sanctuary Guidelines

1. Every other pew/row will be taped off for non-use. Congregants will sit in every other row. One household per row or up to 3 people from two households per row. Households should sit together.

2. Rabbi will lead services from the Bimah. If the Rabbi is vaccinated, they may be unmasked while on the bimah. One musician may also be on Bimah.
3. As of March 19, 2021, no singing is allowed.
4. Readers are permitted to read from their seat, mask on.

Religious School Guidelines

1. Religious school may begin to meet in person. All guidelines above must be adhered to.
2. BNai Mitzvah celebrations will be held at the discretion of the family. While in-person service is ideal, we will do our utmost to support the family needs. Capacity guidelines need to be adhered to. BNai Mitzvah families may opt to “close” the service to family only to help with capacity numbers.

Change of Practice

In order to be as flexible as possible, the Executive committee (president, vice-president, treasurer) is given authority to change capacity numbers, singing protocol, vaccinated protocol, and other process listed above, based on CDC and/or MDHHS guidelines.

Positive Case Protocols

If the Covid Contact person has been notified of a positive case present at a Temple event, the following steps will be taken:

1. President (or designee) will retrieve the sign-in book and notify appropriate authorities of attendees.
2. Temple will be locked down for 24 hours prior to cleaning. After 24 hours, regular cleaning and sanitizing will take place.

Reporting concerns

If there are concerns in regards to CDC or MDHHS compliance, congregants may contact the Temple board at tbipetoskey@gmail.com to report any non-compliance or other issues.

These guidelines were prepared utilizing information from the [MDHHS](#), [MI Safe Start Guidelines](#), and the [Health Department of Northwest Michigan](#).