

NOTICE TO THE CONGREGATION-
NO FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Your Board of Directors has been carefully monitoring the effects of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. There are now more cases in Collier and Lee Counties. The number of cases is increasing rapidly, both nationally and statewide. The health experts from the CDC, the Florida Department of Health and local health authorities have all recommended against holding public gatherings, including religious services.

The Board of Directors has voted unanimously to not hold Friday night Shabbat services until further notice. No one, including the health experts, knows what will happen with the spread of COVID-19. We do know that participating in public gatherings may increase your risk of exposure. We want to avoid this risk for our NJC members, staff and guests.

The Annual Meeting, which had been scheduled for Friday, April 3 at 6 pm, will not be held. This year, the voting provides for a ballot to be filled out and mailed in to NJC's P.O. Box. Please mail your ballot in by March 28. The Board of Directors has also cancelled Game Day on March 30, all Sisterhood and Men's Club activities and events and our April 8 Passover Seder. The safety and health of our members is the Board's paramount concern.

The Board will be carefully monitoring COVID-19 as we move forward. When it is safe to resume Friday night Shabbat services, we will do so. The Board's decisions will always be guided by science and medicine provided to us by the health experts charged with ensuring that the health risks to us are minimized.

We are quite confident that we will resume Friday night Shabbat services and our other NJC activities and events. We will continue to keep you fully informed and updated as this situation develops.

Steve McCloskey