



COVID-19 Reopening Policies

Temple Beth Shalom Long Beach is happy to welcome members and guests back to in-person Shabbat morning services. During the first phase of reopening, we will continue to have virtual-only Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdalah services. We have established the following policies to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. Adherence to the following policies and to all instructions provided by staff, clergy, and ushers is required for service attendance.

No one should feel obligated to come to services, especially those most vulnerable to the virus – the elderly, immunocompromised, and those who have underlying health conditions. We have incorporated accommodations that are in violation of Shabbat only if they are absolutely necessary for the community's safety. The principle of pikuah nefesh doheh et ha-shabat – to save a life takes precedence over the observance of the Sabbath – applies. Anyone experiencing symptoms associated with COVID 19 or who suspects they may have the virus is asked to perform the Mitzvah of saving a life by staying home. We are developing a plan to stream live services to allow our entire community to attend our services virtually.

Reservations

1. People intending to attend services should sign up in advance, either by using the registration form shared by e-mail or by calling the office. If you are unable to sign up in advance, you are still welcome to attend, but we will need to write down your name and contact information for the purposes of contact tracing.
2. Adults over 65 years of age and individuals with certain underlying health conditions or co-morbidities (such as, but not limited to, hypertension, obesity, uncontrolled asthma, and diabetes), or with immunosuppression conditions are strongly encouraged to consult with their physicians prior to registering or attending services.

Entry Requirements

3. Entry and egress from the building will be limited to the front doors and the back door by Gary's office. Entry to the Sanctuary will be through the double doors and exit from the Sanctuary will be through the social hall. Directional signs and arrows will be available to help guide you. A temperature check will be made at the entry to the Sanctuary. If you have an elevated temperature, for everyone's safety, you will be asked to return home.

Masks and Social Distancing

4. Masks that cover your nose and mouth will be required to be worn at all times. Persons leading the service will be separated from the congregation by a tempered glass shield. People should observe social distancing of at least six feet while on the premises. To ensure socially distant seating, books will be set out in clusters. We ask that you please only sit where books have been provided, and to leave the books in place at the end of the service. People who bring their own books will be directed to seating by the ushers.

5. Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring their own kippot and talitot. We will provide a small stock of plain kippot for those who need them to use and keep.

Torah Service

6. Aliyot and other honors will be taken from the seats. Only clergy and the person reading the Torah will be on the Bimah.

Other Policies

7. There will be no Oneg, no Kiddush, and no other food or drink served. Drinking fountains will be turned off and the kitchen will be closed. You are encouraged to bring your own water bottle, but water bottles will be available for those who need them. At the conclusion of the service, all attendees will be asked to leave the synagogue campus. No schmoozing before or after the service will be permitted.
8. Hand sanitizer will be available, and attendees are encouraged to sanitize their hands upon entry and egress or to wear gloves.
9. Restrooms should be used one at a time whenever possible. In addition to the two restrooms near the front entrance, there is a restroom near the entrance to the social hall and one near the back entrance.