



MTOI – Messianic Torah Observant Israel

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Rabbi Steve Berkson
President / Chairman

Rabbi Thomas J. Mitchell
Vice Chairman

Monday, March 16, 2020

To the Body,

Like so many of you, we have spent the last several days and weeks learning about the coronavirus (COVID-19) and how it is impacting our world. For MTOI, that means understanding how it affects our staff, congregations, fellowships and communities here in the United States and abroad, and then making the necessary adjustments to our operations.

We have one guiding statement, “Working Together to Serve The Body” and a basic part of fulfilling that is keeping you and our staff safe. This is at the center of our planning and part of every step along the way. With that in mind, we have made several adjustments, and will continue to, in how we provide for the body locally and at large in response to the ongoing threat of the coronavirus.

We are closely following the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidelines and recommendations on the steps we can take to help prevent the spread of the virus. We have shared specific instructions with our staff and leadership on the importance of washing their hands and staying home if they feel sick or are returning from an area of the world identified as posing a coronavirus-related risk. Per CDC recommendations, we will ask members who have traveled to such locations or have been exposed to others who have traveled to such locations to self-quarantine from attending scheduled events, gatherings, and fellowship opportunities for 14 days.

In order to comply with the restrictions on the size of public gatherings we have suspended functions to include Pesach, the MTOI Academy, limited Shabbat Services, and suspending oneg and limiting Tuesday Torah Study out of an abundance of caution. We ask for and appreciate your support as we reorganize and adjust to the regulatory requirements and local directives as a matter of compliance, concern and consideration for the welfare of the body, local communities and others. Please continue to contact us by phone, (423.250.3020), email: admin@mtoi.org or through our website (www.mtoi.org) for counseling, support and encouragement.

MTOI will continue to closely monitor the rapidly changing situation and do all we can to protect you, our family, by diligently seeking to provide you with timely information, resources and guidance as we all contend and cope with any new developments.

Blessings and Shalom

David Hayes
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