



YISE

YOUNG ISRAEL
SHOMRAI EMUNAH
of
Greater Washington

RABBI DOVID ROSENBAUM

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June 16, 2020 / 25 Sivan 5780

Dear Friends:

Montgomery County has announced that it plans to shift to Phase 2 this Friday at 5:00 pm. We do not know at this time all the ways that Phase 2 will impact, and hopefully enhance, our minyan offerings. We have already learnt from Phase 1 that the exact language of the executive order, and sometimes further clarification regarding the order, can make a significant difference.

One enhancement that seems clear at this point is that Phase 2 should allow us to have a few more than 12 people davening at one time in the Belonofsky Sanctuary and, if we remove the wall, the full Social Hall. As we have mentioned in earlier communications, it is very important to us to provide women the option to attend our minyanim. To state the obvious, women, and their tefillos, are a vital component of our tzibbur.

Beginning with Friday night davening, we look forward to providing women the option to attend various minyanim throughout the week. Any woman interested in attending davening from Friday night, June 19, through Saturday night, June 27, should please email Rabbi Rosenbaum at rdrosenbaum@yise.org the following information:

- your name
- if you have yahrtzeit or are saying kaddish during the coming week for a relative for whom you sat shiva, and if so, what Hebrew date(s)
- if you are interested in attending davening on Friday night the 19th and/or the 26th, and if you would be willing to daven at the early and/or late minyan, or if you have a preference between the two
- if you are interested in attending davening on Shabbos morning the 20th or the 27th, and if you would be willing to daven at 6:30, 8:00, or 9:30, or if you have a preference among the three
- if you are interested in attending Shabbos mincha on the 20th or 27th
- if you are interested in attending Saturday night maariv on the 20th or the 27th
- if there is a weekday davening between Sunday the 21st and Friday the 26th that you would like to attend

Please also indicate whether you are comfortable davening in the Belonofsky balcony and/or the Social Hall, or if you have a preference between the two. For reasons relating to the limitations of Phase 2 and the halachic requirements for what constitutes a minyan, it will regrettably not be an option for women to daven on the lower level of the Belonofsky Sanctuary at this time.

Please make sure to email Rabbi Rosenbaum no later than noon this Thursday, June 18, to make sure we can appropriately process your request, and get further clarification from you, if necessary.

Though we are excited about this new opportunity, the changes brought about through Phase 2 will, no doubt, bring their own set of confusing details. Please bear with us as we continue to endeavor to provide our congregation with as many opportunities to serve Hashem, together, as possible.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Dovid Rosenbaum

Yale Ginsburg, President