Reopening Etz Chaim

Etz Chaim will start with mincha/maariv at 8:00PM on June 1 and continue with weekday davening, shacharis and mincha/maariv. All davening will take place outdoors, in the shul sukkah and on the lawn beside it. In case of heavy rain, we will daven in the shul. A designated person will open the door for attendees to decrease touching shared surfaces and windows will be open or A/C will be on for ventilation. In that case, we will be using the back entrance in the sukkah and the front door with the ramp for exiting.

Continuing on Tuesday, June 2nd, for the rest of the week, we will daven at the following times:

Shacharis - Borchu at 6:30 a.m. (see comments below) Mincha/Maariv - 8:00 p.m.

At this time, Etz Chaim is not open for Shabbos services, shiurim/classes, and other functions.

Pre-Registration Required for Weekday Minyanim

Pre-registration will be required for attendance at all minyanim. To pre-register, email Rabbi Gorin at rabbi@etzchaimsharon.com. You may not attend unless you receive a confirmation. For shacharis, email Rabbi Gorin no later than 7:00 p.m. the night before and for mincha/maariv, no later than 2:00 p.m. the day of.

Presently, we will have a maximum of fourteen per minyan, ten in the sukkah and four on the lawn or all fourteen inside. Priority will be given to those who are in mourning or who have yahrtzeit. Additional minyanim can be arranged if there is enough interest.

Social distancing

Social distancing guidelines are in place. Seats will be arranged with eight feet surrounding them. All handshakes and physical contact must be avoided. It is important to be vigilant regarding refraining from touching shared surfaces, including touching and kissing mezuzahs.

Masks

A mask or face cover is required at all times.

Masks will be made available for minyan attendees who come without.

Restricted Attendance

It is of paramount importance that anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, quarantined due to exposure, or otherwise under suspicion for developing infection, NOT ATTEND Minyan, indoors or outdoors. This includes anyone exhibiting any symptoms of ANY illness.

Discouraged Attendance

Those over 65 years old, or those with chronic medical conditions or those who are associated with group homes, long-term care facilities and/or hospitals are discouraged from attendance.

Cleaning

Chairs, doorknobs (if applicable) and other high touch surfaces will be disinfected between minyanim.

Other Practices

- Hand hygiene is strongly encouraged. Hand sanitizer will be made available for minyan attendees.
- In order to decrease exposure time, **Shacharis will formally begin at Borchu**. We encourage putting tallis and tefillin on and starting **Pesukei D'zimra** at home.
- Shul will be open fifteen minutes before the start time and close ten minutes after davening is over.
- Minyan attendees should bring their own siddurim. Shul siddurim will be available
 for those who come without. The siddur will then be the responsibility of that
 person to hold until these practices can be relaxed.
- Restrooms are not available at this time. Please use the restroom before coming to shul.
- The kitchen will be closed as well.

Torah Reading

The *ba'al korei* will take out the Torah, place the Torah on the *bimah*, and return the Torah to the *aron*.

The Torah will not be taken around the shul nor should it be kissed.

The *ba'al korei* will chant the entire reading and take all *aliyos*, with no one else standing nearby.

Further Clarifications

Any questions or clarifications can be directed to Rabbi Gorin, Joshua Maeir or Dr. David Sloane.