

The dog days of summer are upon us. Summer is usually a quiet time at Agudas Achim, even more so this year with Covid quarantines and social distancing requirements.

But behind the scenes we have been working! The Education committee will be sending out information on how classes will be handled in the coming year (spoiler – online for at least the fall semester). The Membership committee has been in contact with new and prospective members – WELCOME to our new members, I'm looking forward to meeting you over zoom and eventually in person. Adult Education has also been busy, they have lined up an exciting array of programming for late July through August, with more ideas in the pipeline. See the bulletin and the weekly emails for details. Tikun Olam has sponsored a blood drive and is discussing other activities. And of course Ritual is busy planning High Holiday services, which will be held via zoom.

presentation with the Adult Ed committee, and I am looking forward to more engagement with them.

We are also working on improving ways to contact the synagogue. When we initially closed the building we had no idea that the closure would be this long. As Karen and John are mostly working from home, most contact with the office has been via email, with the phone mostly only available for leaving messages. We are working on solutions to have the phones forwarded and able to be answered during normal business hours, as well as a way for the rabbi to be reachable by phone. Details will be available shortly.

I hope you are all staying healthy, and taking care of yourselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. Physical is easy – wear a mask and faceshield, wash your hands, use hand sanitizer, the protocols are well publicized. But mental and emotional health are just as important. My coping strategies are to turn the news off, unfollow or block negative