



Congregation Ner Tamid

on the Greenspun Campus for Jewish Life, Learning, and Spiritual Renewal

Vacation in the Time of Corona

One of the side effects of the Time of Corona has been cabin fever. At least for a good year and more, we have been staying home. Being extra cautious. And following the rules the best we could. Businesses were shut down, travel was difficult, and we stayed home and watched Netflix.

Then came the miracle of the vaccine! And while too many are not vaccinated, many are. Enough that most states have opened up and anyone who has been to the airport recently knows that the planes are full to capacity. The newspaper in our community had big headlines “Vegas is Back” as quickly (perhaps even quicker than we could have imagined) the tourists came back in huge numbers. Garth Brooks opened Allegiant stadium to tourists and locals alike and 65,000 people attended. A bit further down at T-Mobile arena another 18,000 gathered to watch a UFC fight. *Vegas is back indeed!*

And while I am tempted to point out that the virus is still amongst us, and the Delta variant seems particularly resilient, and that we still need to be vigilant and cautious, I am not going to. I am not going to because I don't think right now anyone is listening. We have done our deed. We have sacrificed and we have been careful and we have worn our masks and now it is time to resume life as normal.

In fact, post covid (and we are no where near “post covid”) is starting to look a lot like pre covid. Handshakes are back and masks are gone and crowds gather without a concern in the world. This is a good thing, unless and until its not.

So, it is time to take a vacation. To recharge our batteries; to see our friends; to resume life as best we can. I get it. It feels like forever since we have seen many of our friends and relatives. We are by nature social creatures. And we need each other. Loneliness is also a side effect of the Time of Corona.

If you are protected and careful, take time to reconnect and recharge. Life can be tough. And certainly, this last year has been more than most. Just remember though, the virus doesn't take a vacation; it works harder and harder to be a part of our lives. And we who care about each other, must work equally hard to remain vigilant, resilient, and cautious. As Yogi Berra once said, *“It ain't over 'til it's over.”*

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