

DEVARIM CHAIM (WORDS OF LIFE)

A publication of
Kehillah B'nei Abraham



December 2024



From the Editor

Dr. Dee

Kehillah B'nei Abraham (KBA) is translated as **Congregation of the Children of Abraham** where Jewish and Gentile Believers

live out their faith in the G-D of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and His Messiah Yeshua.

We worship and learn together from all the richness of G-D's Living Word (Genesis through Revelation); especially the revelation of G-D's Holy Son, Messiah Yeshua. We do this in the culture of Judaism (which is the culture our Messiah lived during His time on earth--His first coming) in order to better understand His teachings to live out His instructions in our daily lives.

Open Arms for Visitors: Visitors are always a cherished part of our community! We extend a warm invitation to you, your friends, and your family to join us for any of our services. Our *Shabbat Shacharit* services are **live streamed** right from our website www.kba.life.

KBA Website: We have a plethora of resources (under the **RESOURCE** tab), plus, our services are now archived. Feel free to peruse our website. If you have questions, please let us know.

SERVICES: Our weekly Shabbat services are held in person at World Life Church, 495 S. Perry Street, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, and also live streamed each Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Visit us at www.kba.life for more information.

Exciting News for Our Newsletter Team:

I am thrilled to share some wonderful news: Tiffany will be joining me to assist with editing and distribution of the KBA newsletter! Many of you already know Tiffany and her dedication to our congregation. Her journey as a Messianic believer began in 2009. With over a decade of experience serving in various capacities, Tiffany brings a wealth of knowledge, creativity, and a heart for sharing G-D's work in our community. She is excited about collaborating to ensure that our community stays connected.



Together, we look forward to enhancing the newsletter and keeping everyone informed and inspired. Please join me in warmly welcoming Tiffany to this new role!

Hanukkah

What Is Hanukkah?

Hanukkah (Chanukah) is the Jewish eight-day, wintertime "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods.

The Hebrew word Chanukah means "dedication," and is thus named because it celebrates the rededication of the Holy Temple (as you'll read below). Also spelled Hanukkah (or variations of that spelling).



When Is Chanukah?

Chanukah begins on the eve of Kislev 25 and continues for eight days. On the civil calendar, it generally coincides with the month of December. *Chanukah* 2024 runs from Dec. 25-Jan. 2.

What Chanukah or Hanukkah Celebrates...



Artist Dominic Alves captured this image of a snowy Chanukah in Brighton, UK.

In the second century BCE, the Holy Land was ruled by the Seleucids (Syrian-Greeks), who tried to force the people of Israel to accept Greek culture and beliefs instead of *mitzvah* observance and belief in G-D. Against all odds, a small band of faithful but poorly armed Jews, led by Judah the Maccabee, defeated one of the mightiest armies on earth, drove the Greeks from the land, reclaimed the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and rededicated it to the service of G-D.

When they sought to light the Temple's *Menorah* (the seven-branched candelabrum), they found only a single cruse of olive oil that had escaped contamination by the Greeks. Miraculously, they lit the menorah and the one-day supply of oil lasted for eight days, until new oil could be prepared under conditions of ritual purity.

To commemorate and publicize these miracles, the sages instituted the festival of *Chanukah*.

At the heart of the festival is the nightly *menorah* lighting. The *menorah* holds nine flames, one of which is the *shamash* ("attendant"), which is used to kindle the other eight lights. On the first night, we light just one flame. On the second night, an additional flame is lit. By the eighth night of *Chanukah*, all eight lights are kindled.

On Friday afternoon, care must be taken to light the *menorah* before *Shabbat* candles are lit, and the following evening they are to be kindled only after *Shabbat* has ended.

Special blessings are recited, often to a traditional melody, before the *menorah* is lit, and traditional songs are sung afterward.

A *menorah* is lit in every household (or even by each individual within the household) and placed in a doorway or window. The *menorah* is also lit in synagogues and other public places. In recent years, thousands of jumbo menorahs have cropped up in front of city halls and legislative buildings, and in malls and parks all over the world.

We recite the special *Hallel* prayer daily, and add V'Al HaNissim in our daily prayers and in the Grace After Meals, to offer praise and thanksgiving to G-D for "delivering the strong into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few ... the wicked into the hands of the righteous."

[Information taken from https://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/article_cdo/aid/102911/jewish/What-Is-Hanukkah.htm]

According to the website *Hebrews4Christians*, *Hanukkah* is not mentioned in the *Tanakkah* but appears in the Renewed Covenant in the Gospel of John 10:22-24 it mentions that Yeshua was at the Temple at the Feast of Dedication or *Hanukkah*.

During the season of remembering miracles, we would do well to remember that Our Messiah Yeshua is ultimately the *Menorah* that lights our path to *ABBA*, guides our daily walk and secures our place with Him in the World to Come. Yeshua is the light and hope for the world and the reason we pledge allegiance to Him.

For further information please visit Chabad.org or Hebrews4Christians.



Rabbi Shimon Rosenberg of Afula, Israel, the father of Rivkah Holtzberg, lights a 25-foot steel menorah during *Chanukah 2008* in front of the Gateway of India in Mumbai just weeks after his daughter and son-in-law, Rabbi Gavriel Holtzberg, were killed in a terrorist attack. Gavriel Holtzberg would light that menorah each year. *Photo by Serge Attal/Flash90*

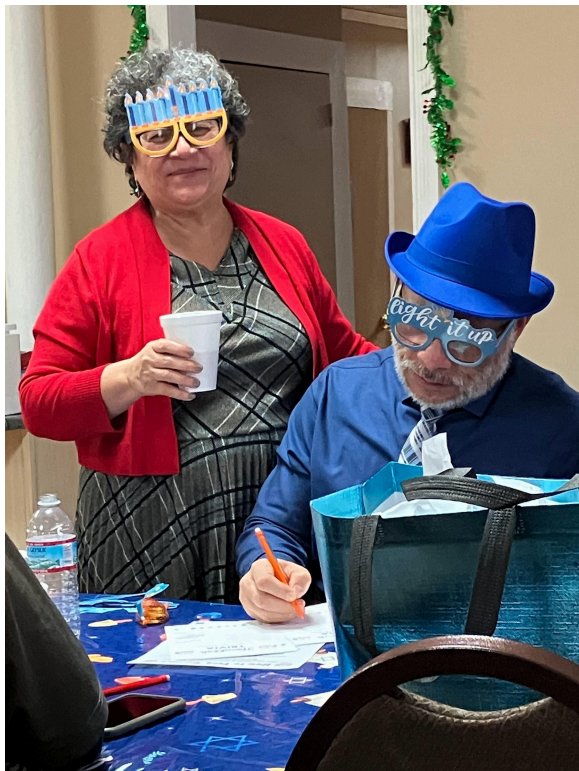
Hanukkah Music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWskKG2f9VQ>

PICS FROM LAST HANUKKAH 2023 AT KBA







HELPING HANDS NEEDED



We have wonderful leaders and helpers at KBA who tirelessly work to serve our Savior Yeshua, as well as the members of our Messianic Synagogue. If you are not part of a ministry, please consider lending a helping hand when you can. We are currently in need of help in the following areas:

- **Audio/Visual Ministry**
- **First Responders**
- **Greeters**
- **Ushers**
- **Oneg Help - See [Cathy Smith](#)**

If you are able to serve in a KBA ministry, please contact one of our leaders... Rabbi, Bobby, Steve or Cheryl.

PRAYER WITH THE RABBI 🙏



Yeshua warned His disciples to *watch and pray* lest you enter into temptation.

Matthew 26:41

At 10AM each Saturday morning before *Shabbat Shacharit*, Rabbi Rene invites all men for a time of prayer. The prayer group meets in his regular Torah Club classroom located downstairs.



SCRIPTURES FOR THE MONTH

Scripture: **Numbers 6:24–26, Psalm 115:14, Proverbs 22:4-6**

Prayer Points

- Pray for healing in families and for the mending of broken relationships.
- Pray that families will go deep in G-D's Word together so they can recognize and resist the schemes of the enemy.
- Pray for the restoration of families as a principal place where G-D's Word is shared, taught, and lived.



[Pray for the peace of Jerusalem](#)
[Ps. 122:6](#)

ילדים Children

Do you have young children attending KBA? If you do, Joan Knauer has been gracious enough to provide coloring materials for the children of KBA. They can be used in service to keep the children occupied, or if you prefer that your children focus on the service, you are certainly welcome to take them home. Each week Joan brings a sheet that aligns with our weekly *parashah* in order to bless our children, so we encourage you to take one for your children if they enjoy coloring.

CALENDAR

Hanukkah Dec. 25, 2024 - Jan. 2, 2025

Saturday, December 28, during Oneg, we will have festive food, *dreidels*, *gelt*, and Hanukkah decorations. Our 3:00 PM *Torah* classes will continue as usual after the celebration.

Thank You!

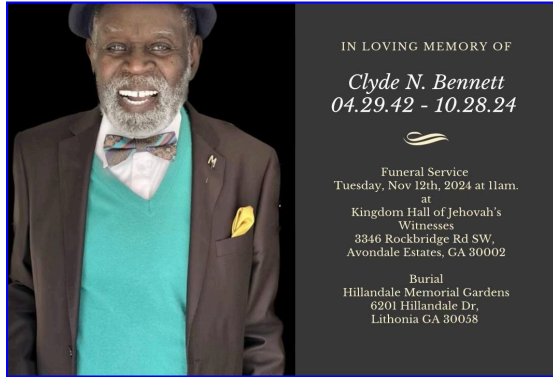
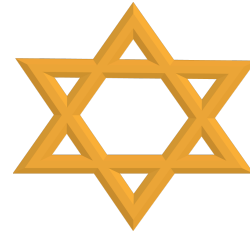
Hvala ti - Thank you in Bosnian. Thank you is not enough to express how grateful I am for all the prayers, love, text messages, gifts, donations and moving support I received from many of you during my son's sudden death and my move to Sarajevo, Bosnia.

My son's death, Aaron, is probably one of the most challenging experiences of my life to say the least. But even in his death, there have been many blessings...too many to name and some I'm sure I've missed. However, I am extremely grateful to *HaShem* for allowing me to be a part of such a tremendous community of believers and to be a recipient of your loving kindness. A special thank you to Gary and Donna (from Wyoming), Steve and Cheryl, Colin and Michelle, Kim Spencer, Audrey Foster, Ingrid Lemons, Sandra Henderson, Tiffany, Trey, Cathy Smith and her mom, David and Michelle, my neighbor Marty and his wife Annie Ruth, and of course our beloved Rabbi and Rebbetzin Anna. I am grateful to Sister T who allowed me to text her at 3:00 AM. If I forgot to name someone (which is the problem with naming people) who assisted in any way, please charge it to my head and not my heart, and forgive me.

I miss you all very much! But as often as I can I will be online during *Shabbat* Services. Again, thank you and until... the next appointed time, Shalom. *Dee*

PASSING OF CLYDE BENNETT

Clyde Bennett, E. Michelle Donnor's father, passed away October 28, 2024. Please keep Michelle, Rena-Marie, Melissa, Ethan and Melaniyah in your prayers.



Mourner's Kaddish:

Glorified and sanctified be God's great name throughout the world which He has created according to His will.

May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days, and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon; and say, Amen.

May His great name be blessed forever and to all eternity.

Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He, beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations that are ever spoken in the world; and say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.

He who creates peace in His celestial heights, may He create peace for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.