



Next Steps

CONGREGATION BETH MESSIAH



Welcome to Next Steps at Congregation Beth Messiah

Shalom everyone,

I want to take a moment to personally thank you for seeking your next steps here at Congregation Beth Messiah and for your commitment to growing in your faith. Your desire to invest in your personal sanctification is something we deeply admire, and we are honored to walk alongside you on this journey.

My family joyfully accepted the call to serve at Beth Messiah in August of 1994, and it has been our greatest privilege to shepherd the flock that G-d has entrusted to us. We wholeheartedly believe that this congregation is not just a place to attend, but a family to belong to.

Our prayer is that you will find a true home here—a place where you are known, loved, and encouraged in your walk with Yeshua. We want to help you get connected, deepen your relationships, and discover the unique ways G-d has gifted you to serve His people.

As you take these next steps, know that we are here to support you. Whether you are looking for community, opportunities to serve, or a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Yeshua, we are excited to help guide you.

Welcome to the mishpochah—we are glad you're here!

In Messiah Yeshua,

Rabbi John Ross



WHAT WE *Believe*

Vision in Action

Lift, Align, Meet & Build
(L.A.M.B.)

Lifting Israel & the Jewish Community up
in Prayer

Aligning our actions with His Word and
His Ruach

Meeting together in community and
doing Jewish life together, rooted in
Torah & centered around Yeshua

Building the Kingdom of G-d through
Worship, Preaching, Immersing,
Discipleship and Education

According to the grace of G-d which was
given to me, like a skilled master builder I
laid a foundation, and another builds on
it. But let each consider carefully
how he builds on it.
(1 Corinthians 3:10 -TLV).

Vision in Word

To build a New Covenant community of
Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua
who support the four-fold callings of the
congregation: Jewish identity,
empowerment by the Spirit of G-d,
community lifestyle, and biblical
leadership. We will work together to
produce a healthy atmosphere for Jewish
people to discover Yeshua.



Our History

The calling on a couple to see the salvation and restoration of Israel and the Jewish people

Congregation Beth Messiah is a Messianic Jewish synagogue in Houston, Texas where the Good News of Yeshua is shared every Saturday morning.

Beth Messiah was founded in 1982 by Richard Freeman and his wife Patsy with the vision of creating a space for Jewish people to find the Messiah Yeshua and remain true to their Jewish heritage. Since its inception, Beth Messiah has grown from a chavurah meeting in a living room to a messianic synagogue with hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish worshipers attending each week in person and online.

The call came to Richard while serving at a congregation in Stephenville, Texas and working in the peanut shelling business.

Richard and Patsy sought the L-rd and were directed by G-d's Word and His Ruach through dreams to move to Houston in the early 1980's and start a ministry to Jewish people who need to know Yeshua.

G-d brought Michael Bryan, a Russian Jewish man in the 1980's, and later, Ron Aaronson, a Jewish man with ministry experience in the greater Body of Messiah, in the 1990's. CBM met in various locations throughout Houston during the first 25 years.

The L-rd opened the door for Beth Messiah to purchase some land in southwest Houston at the end of the 90's. The land was purchased and developed in the early 2000's.

With the guidance of the Ruach HaKodesh, the leadership team of Richard Freeman, Ron Aaronson, Donald Sexton, Biff Van Cleve, Elliott Katz and Daniel Lerner, the plans were put together to build the Messiah's House, Congregation Beth Messiah at 9001 West Airport Boulevard in Houston, Texas. The foundation was laid physically and prayed into existence by our CBM prayer warriors and friends in the Body of Messiah.

In late summer of 2007, the building we have today was finished and dedicated to the L-rd. Beth Messiah paraded our existing Torah scroll from our current meeting place of Greater Houston Church down a path of 2 ½ miles to our new building on a Shabbat morning. Led by worshipers and dancers and escorted by Houston and Stafford police, the Torah came to rest in its new location, and a new chapter was written in our history.

But the congregation is not about the building, it is about the people. Throughout the decades, the L-rd has brought both Jews and Gentiles to CBM to worship in a Jewish culture and context being knit together as one by the Spirit of unity and the bond of peace.

Second, third (and now fourth) generation Messianic Jewish believers make up part of the living stones that are submitted to our Sure Foundation, the Rosh Pinah, The Chief Cornerstone, Yeshua the Messiah.

“As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by men but chosen by G-d and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house—a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Messiah Yeshua. For it says in Scripture, ‘Behold, I lay in Zion a stone, a chosen, precious cornerstone. Whoever trusts in Him will never be put to shame.’”
- 1 Peter 2:4-6 (TLV)

Today, G-d has blessed CBM with more land, a beautiful building, and a new team of leaders to lead the next generation of Messianic Jewish believers in Yeshua.

WHO *we* ARE

Our Rabbis & Staff



John Ross
Senior Rabbi
john@cbmhouston.org



Jesse Post
Associate Rabbi
jesse@cbmhouston.org



Agustin Wainberg
Associate Rabbi
agustin@cbmhouston.org



Noe Espinosa
Administrator
noe@cbmhouston.org



Melanie Stafford
Accounting & Moadim
melanie@cbmhouston.org



Heather Campos
Communication & Children
heather@cbmhouston.org



Dane & Debbi Kappler
Youth Ministry
youth@cbmhouston.org

Shabbat Shalom

Join us Every Saturday at 10 am!

We have our morning worship service every Shabbat (Saturday) morning at 10 am. We have childcare available during the service for children 4 and under. Our Shabbat school meets after the first hour of service, and we pray for the children and send them out to their classes. You pick them up after service has concluded.

We also have prayer and Hebrew Heroes, a Hebrew language program for all levels and ages of children at 9 am.

You can expect about forty-five minutes of beautiful liturgical worship during our Torah service. This is followed by worship with singing and dance for about 30 minutes. We conclude the service each week with a biblically rooted message full of Messianic Jewish context and themes.

If you are visiting with us today for the first time or tenth time, welcome! We hope you find a home here and serve the G-d of Israel and the nations. We lift high the name of Yeshua every week!



Yearly Moadim

The L-rd's Feasts

In addition to our time of corporate worship every Shabbat (Saturday) at 10 am, we gather during the Biblical feasts and the Jewish calendar.

G-d's appointed times.

We gather for the major holidays as outlined in the book of Leviticus, chapter 23. These include Rosh Hashanah (Yom Teruah), Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Passover & Unleavened Bread, and Shavuot.

We also celebrate the minor feasts such as Hanukkah and Purim, and we also acknowledge many of the civil holidays and memorials that are a part of Jewish life in the diaspora, and life as Jews in the Land of Israel.

We will also hold teachings and educational opportunities regarding these feasts. Moed is the Hebrew word for appointed time, and the plural word in Hebrew is moadim. We will offer nursery during these major holidays, and we do not charge tickets except for our Passover Seder.

Join us in worshipping the L-rd during these special days!



Our Covering

Congregation Beth Messiah's Umbrella Organization

Congregation Beth Messiah belongs to the International Alliance of Messianic Congregations and Synagogues (IAMCS).

Founded in 1986, the IAMCS is the congregational arm of the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America (MJAA) and is currently the largest association of Messianic congregations in the world.

The MJAA is the largest single organization representing Messianic Jews in the US. Messianic Jews are lineally Jewish people that believe that Yeshua (Jesus) fulfilled prophecies in the Scriptures (Matthew 5:17).

The MJAA sponsors national and regional conferences, the largest Messianic congregational organization in the world, as well as national programs for college age, teen groups and young professionals.

The MJAA has built significant humanitarian aid ministry in both Israel (The Joseph Project International) and Ethiopia that blesses hundreds of thousands of poor and needy Israeli and Ethiopian Jews. The MJAA also has organizations for Young Professionals (YP) as well as the YMJA (Young Messianic Jewish Alliance)



Who We Support

Congregation Beth Messiah's Ministry Partners

Congregation Beth Messiah supports over 20 ministries every month. These external ministries are located in Israel, and a few of them are here in the United States. All of them are supported because their vision is to share Yeshua as Messiah of Israel and the nations.

Some bring humanitarian aid, many share the Good News of Yeshua, and most do both. All of them proclaim Yeshua as Messiah, love G-d, and love the Jewish people. Their heart aligns with our vision to see the salvation and restoration of Israel and the Jewish People.

CBM designates funds to these external ministries, and we encourage our people to give offerings to these wonderful ministries as well. The column on the right shows our current list of those ministries CBM supports.

Adonai Shamah Congregation
Chosen People Ministries
Dugit Ministries
Hatikva Project
Heart of God
Heritage House Ministries
Hope 4 Israel
Houses for Healing - Netivyah
IAMCS
Israel Benevolence Fund
Jerusalem Institute of Justice
Jews for Jesus
Joseph Project
King of Kings Ministries
One for Israel
Rabbis Legacy Fund
Reach Initiative International
Ruach Israel
SOLU Israel
Song of Israel
Tikkun
Together for Israel

Children and Youth

Nursery, Shabbat School & Hebrew Heroes

We have nursery available for parents with children ages 0 to 4. Halfway through our Shabbat service, we will dismiss children to Shabbat school classes from ages 5 to 10. We have a B'Nei Mitzvah (Children of the Commandment) class that meets at that time as well for those age 11 & 12.

During the school year, we offer Hebrew Heroes, a Hebrew language program for all levels and ages of children at 9 am. Some advanced classes take place after our morning Shabbat service.

Youth Highway

We see our youth as not only the next generation of leaders, but we see them as a valuable contributor in our weekly services. Therefore, our youth meet after the Shabbat service on the first and third Shabbats of each month. This meeting is called Highway, and it includes a time of fellowship and food, worship, and teaching from our youth leadership.

Every HighWay event our volunteer youth worship team leads us into the presence of Adonai with amazing worship. Each HighWay event there is a relevant message from Scripture that helps youth understand G-d's Word and how it applies to life.

Wednesday Night Recharge

Community Meal

At CBM, we believe that community is vital and is an integral part of Jewish culture. We meet for WNR (Wednesday Night Recharge) starting at 6 pm with a community meal. The cost is a suggested donation each week. It varies between a prepared meal by one of our congregational chefs and volunteers to dinners from some of our local eateries. It is a great time to gather for fellowship and community at the end of a Wednesday.

Worship & Prayer

At 7 pm, we all gather for worship and prayer. Multigenerational worship and prayer is biblical and it is a great way to get our young people involved with our older generations. We pray for the needs of our community, city, the Jewish people, and Israel just to name a few things. Messianic Rabbi Michael Wolf of Beth Messiah in Cincinnati Ohio says, “A weekly prayer meeting is absolutely vital to the life of your congregation’s spiritual growth.” We agree!

Discipleship for All Ages

Children & Youth

Our Wednesday Night Recharge has discipleship classes for our children and youth. These are geared for those from Shabbat school age up to high school. We will gather for worship and prayer and then dismiss our children and youth to their classes.

The classes involve Scripture memory, Bible study, and small group discussion for the youth.

Bible Studies

Our men's and women's Bible studies cover a variety of subjects, focusing on biblical wisdom and practical application.

They meet after worship and prayer in the sanctuary and Haifa Hall. These are extensions of our Sisterhood Women's Ministry and Anshe Chayil Men's Ministry. These meetings help foster connections filled with encouragement for daily living and strengthening your walk with Yeshua.

Chavurah Groups

We believe that life was designed to be lived in community.

Our Chavurah (Fellowship) Groups encourage the development of deep, abiding friendships within our communities.

Chavurah Groups meet on various weekends of each month, usually twice a month at a minimum during the school year. A few meet year-round

Our groups are cross-cultural, promoting a wide range of perspectives offered by people at different life stages. We meet in homes throughout the metro Houston area as well as at the synagogue. Check out our website, **cbmhouston.org/small-groups** for more details.

Chavurah Groups & Locations:

- *Road of the Redeemed - College & Career @ CBM*
- *Women's Chavurah - Sundays Bi-Monthly @CBM*
- *Men's Chavurah - Sundays Bi-Monthly @ CBM*
- *Torah Club - Shabbats Bi-Monthly @ CBM*
- *Kulanu K' Echad Jewish Group Events @ CBM*
- *Various Friday Night & Saturday Night Groups @ family homes*

Contact: Rabbi Jesse Post
jesse@cbmhouston.org

Serve and Volunteer

Areas to Serve

Info Center (First Impressions)

Prayer

A/V Sound

Worship Team

Choir

Dance Ministry

Meals

Shabbat School

Build Team

Hebrew Heroes

Reception Desk

Sisterhood (Women)

Chavurah Facilitator

Hospitality Teams

Singles

WNR (Wednesday Night Recharge)

Messianic Mommies (Ministry to Moms)

Anshe Chayil (Men's Ministry)

Moadim Decor

Kiddush & Oneg Events

Moadim Events & Food

Mitzvah Bridge Ministry

Zikhron HaMashiach (L-rd's Supper)

Ushers

Greeters

Parent Volunteer (Youth & B'Nei Mitzvah)

Spanish Translation

Resource Center

Marrieds

Road of the Redeemed (College & Career)

Action Plan

Let's walk through the key steps in a believer's journey—from faith in Yeshua the Messiah, to actively serving His Community, the Body of Messiah. Each step is grounded in Scripture.

1. Belief in Messiah Yeshua

Step: The foundation of following Yeshua begins with belief in Him as the Son of G-d, who died for our sins and rose again.

Scripture: John 3:16 – “For G-d so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Romans 10:9 – “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Yeshua is L-rd,’ and believe in your heart that G-d raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Talk to one of our rabbis to know more.

2. Immersion

Step: After believing in Yeshua, immersion (baptism) symbolizes the believer's identification with Messiah Yeshua in His death, burial, and resurrection.

Scripture: Matthew 28:19 – “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, immersing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Ruach HaKodesh.”

Romans 6:4 – “We were therefore buried with him through immersion into death in order that, just as Messiah was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

3. Membership

Step: Believers are called to become active members of the local community (Kehillah), connecting to the body of Messiah for spiritual growth, accountability, and unity.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:27 – “Now you are the body of Messiah, and each one of you is a part of it.”

Hebrews 10:24-25 – “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Come see a rabbi if you would like to know more!

4. Discipleship

Chavurah Groups

Step: Engaging with fellow believers in a smaller group setting allows for mutual encouragement, learning, and accountability.

Scripture: Acts 2:42 – “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Colossians 3:16 – “Let the word of Messiah dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Ruach, singing to G-d with gratitude in your hearts.”

Deeper Discipleship

Step: More personalized discipleship helps believers grow through intentional mentorship and teaching from a mature believer. ACE (Anshe Chayil Elevate) is the men's opportunity. Sisterhood and Messianic Mommies are the women's opportunities to go deeper. WNR is everyone's opportunity to grow in the L-rd.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:2 – “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

5. Service

Step: Serving in the body of Messiah means using the gifts and talents G-d has given you to help build up the community and meet the needs of others.

Ministry Teams

Step: Believers are encouraged to use their unique gifts in ministry teams to serve others, strengthen the community, and further the kingdom of G-d.

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10 – “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of G-d’s grace in its various forms.”

6. Evangelism

Step: As followers of Yeshua, we are called to share the Good News with others and be witnesses of our faith, making disciples and spreading the message of salvation.

Scripture: Matthew 28:19-20 – “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, immersing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Ruach HaKodesh, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Acts 1:8 – “But you will receive power when the Ruach HaKodesh comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Spiritual Gift Assessment

G-d invites us to "give our spiritual gifts away" through service. Use these tools to help you to understand where you are spiritually and how G-d has gifted you.

These assessments can provide insights, but they should not be relied upon as definitive or exhaustive. Spiritual gifts can be dynamic, evolving over time, and may not always align perfectly with the results of any assessment. It's important to consider these assessments as one of many ways to explore your spiritual journey, and to remain open to personal reflection, guidance, and growth.

Take the assessment at [giftstest.com](https://www.giftstest.com)

Key Concepts of Spiritual Giftedness

G-d-Given: Spiritual gifts are given by the Ruach HaKodesh, not based on a person's natural talents or abilities.

Purpose: The purpose of spiritual gifts is to serve the Body of Messiah, encourage others in faith, and advance the gospel.

Diversity: G-d gives a variety of gifts to different people to work together in harmony.

Not for Self-Glorification: These gifts are not meant for personal gain or to elevate an individual but to serve others and glorify G-d.

Empowered by the Ruach HaKodesh: Spiritual gifts are activated and strengthened by the Holy Spirit's power, not by human effort alone.

Key Scripture References

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Romans 12:4-8

Ephesians 4:11-13

1 Peter 4:10-11

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

Conclusion

Spiritual gifts are a vital part of the Believer's life, Jewish and non-Jewish, and are meant to be used in humility, love, and service to others.

They are given by the Ruach HaKodesh to build up the body of Messiah. Understanding and using these gifts in harmony with other believers fosters unity and maturity in the Messianic community and greater Body of Messiah.

Contact

cbmhouston.org

info@cbmhouston.org

(713) 271-5757

9001 West Airport Blvd. Houston, TX 77071

Connect with us



CBM Houston



@cbmhouston

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Congregation Beth Messiah in your app store.