

DECEMBER 2025



MESSIAH'S HOUSE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
CONGREGATION BETH MESSIAH
A MESSIANIC JEWISH SYNAGOGUE



DECEMBER EVENTS



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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
RECHARGE**

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A.C.E.

6

A.C.E.

**YOUTH HIGHWAY
TORAH CLUB**

FOUNDATION COURSE

7

A.C.E

**BRIDGE MITZVAH
MINISTRY**

LET'S MAKE LATKES

10

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
RECHARGE**

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**YOUTH PARENT
MEETING**

**ROAD OF THE REDEEMED
FOUNDATION COURSE**

2B1 MARRIEDS

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**HANUKKAH COMMUNITY
LIGHTING & PARTY**

LATKE COOKOFF

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**HANUKKAH
HOUSE
DECORATING
CONTEST**

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**MESSIANIC MOMMIES
FAMILY NIGHT!
HANUKKAH & GARDEN
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YOUTH HIGHWAY

TORAH CLUB

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**YOUTH HANUKKAH
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ROAD OF THE REDEEMED

DECEMBER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

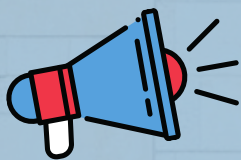
TAX

Reminder

ALL 2025 DONATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 31ST TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL MELANIE@CBMHOUSTON.ORG.

NEED TO UPDATE YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS?

MAKE SURE TO GET YOUR CHANGES IN BY DECEMBER 31ST IN ORDER TO RECEIVE YOUR 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT! TO MAKE CHANGES OR FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT MELANIE@CBMHOUSTON.ORG.



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CBMHOUSTON.ORG



Happy Hanukkah

Events & Sign-Ups



Foundation Course

Ready to become a member at Beth Messiah? The New Members Foundation Course is December 6th and December 13th from 1 pm to 3 pm after service in Haifa Hall and lasts for 2 weeks. This course is required for those seeking membership at CBM, but it is open to anyone who would like to attend.

[Register Here](#)



Hanukkah House Contest

Let's get ready to have a little fun and friendly competition! Come out and join us, December 17th, for our second annual Happy Hanukkah House Decorating Contest!

[Register Here](#)



Sisters Let's Make Latkes

Grab your apron and join your sisters on December 7th, as we make latkes for our Community Hanukkah Party!

[Register Here](#)



2B1 Married Ministry

Save the date and come join the 2B1 Married Ministry for Date Night, December 13th, as we enjoy a fun Game Night!

[Register Here](#)



Latke Cookoff

Potatoes grated and spatulas up! Sign up by Dec 8th for our 2025 Latke Cookoff! Judging will take place during the festivities on December 14th. Details will be emailed to you after you sign up.

[Register Here](#)



Hanukkah Outfit Contest

Get in that Hanukkah spirit for our Best and Most Outrageous Hanukkah Themed Outfit Contest! Bring your best sweater, t-shirt, PJ's or outfit. Sign up to enter and receive more details on the contest, all ages welcome. Contest and judging will happen during our Community Party on December 20th. And yes, there is a prize!

[Register Here](#)



Hanukkah

COMMUNITY
PARTIES



**DECEMBER
14TH
6PM-8:30PM**

COME JOIN US FOR THE FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH AS WE LIGHT THE HANUKKIAH, ENJOY SOME YUMMY SNACKS, JUDGE A LATKE COOK OFF, PLAY MACCABEE MINUTE TO WIN IT GAMES AND ENJOY DAVIDIC DANCE!

**DECEMBER
17TH
6PM-8:30PM**

BRING YOUR A-GAME FOR THE HANUKKAH HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST!

**DECEMBER
20TH
5PM-8:30PM**

COME ENJOY A NIGHT OF SINGING, HAVDALAH, LIGHTING THE HANUKKIAH, MOVIES, FACE PAINTING, RING TOSS, LATKE TOSS ACROSS, A CAKE WALK, COMPETE IN A FASHION SHOW, COOKIE DECORATING, BRACLET MAKING AND OF COURSE A DRIEDEL COMPETITION!

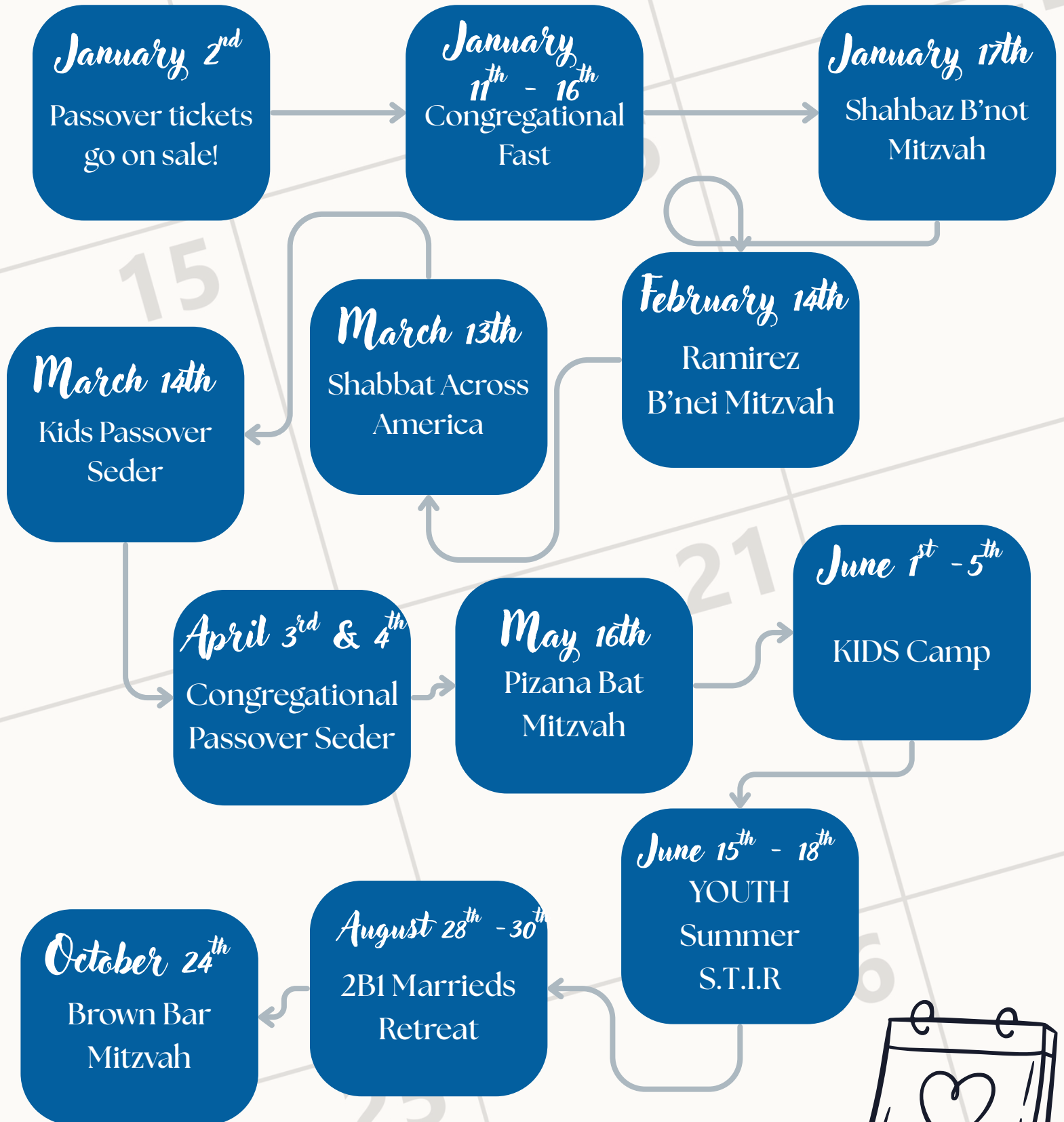


LOOKING

2026



FORWARD



Hanukkah

1st Night of Hanukkah

In the beginning, "G-d said, 'Let There Be Light'"

The reference is not only to physical light as we know it. This initial statement is rather the mandate of all Creation. The ultimate goal and purpose of creation is that the Divine Light shine throughout the world, transforming everything, even darkness itself, so that it, too, will shine.

2nd Night of Hanukkah

At Creation, G-d made the "two great lights," the sun and the moon.

The sun is constant; every day the same big fiery ball appears in the sky above us. But the moon is always going through changes. It has its ups and downs; one day it is full, then it wanes, getting smaller and smaller. Yet even after it seems to have completely disappeared, it renews itself, and grows again. Even as we grow and change, we must retain our consistency.

3rd Night of Hanukkah

The Lamp

The Syrian-Greek desecration of the Holy Temple was another example of their determination to destroy the sanctity of Jewish life. The worship of one invisible, omnipotent G-d was replaced with the worship of pagan deities made in the image of man.

The Torah tells us that "the soul of man is the lamp of G-d." Just as oil permeates the olive, the Divine soul permeates the Jew; and just as the oil burning in the menorah spreads light, the Jewish soul illuminates the world in the performance of good deeds. In defiling the sacred oil of the menorah, the Greeks tried to destroy the Jewish soul.

But the soul cannot be extinguished. Miraculously, despite the best efforts of the oppressors, one cruse of pure oil remained in the Temple, and one cruse was enough to re-dedicate the Temple and renew the holy task of spreading light throughout the world.

4th Night of Hanukkah

Lighting the Dark

Shabbat candles are lit before dark inside our home. By contrast, Hanukkah's candles must shine light into the darkness of the night, so they are placed near a window facing out into the street.

Shabbat candles bring light within, but the Hanukkah lights go further, also transforming the darkness outside.

8 Nights of Hanukkah

Excerpted from Chabad.org- Hanukkah 2025-continued onto next page

5th Night of Hanukkah

Increasing the light

"A mitzvah is compared to a candle and the Torah is light."

We should always aspire to increase our level of Torah and Mitzvot. If we did one good deed yesterday, let us try to increase and do more today. Like the Hanukkah candles, we are meant to add light every day.

The founder of the Chassidic movement, said: "The Hebrew word for light is 'Or' – the numerical equivalent of 'raz' (inner secret). Whoever knows the 'secret' contained in every thing can bring illumination." We know the light is Yeshua!

6th Night of Hanukkah

Miracles For Today

The lights of the Hanukkah menorah are more than simply a reminder of ancient miracles, they are meant to provide inspiration and illumination in our contemporary daily lives.

In fact, in a very real sense, the Hanukkah miracles of old are re-enacted in our observance today. That is one reason why we say, in the second blessing recited over the Hanukkah lights, "Blessed are You... who wrought miracles for our ancestors, in those days, at this time." By reflecting upon the significance of the Hanukkah miracles, we can see, with ever-increasing clarity, the miraculous dimension of events in our own time.

7th Night of Hanukkah

Spreading the Light

There is a Talmudic statement: "We are day workers."

Day means light. Our task is to spread light, to illuminate the world with the light of the Word of God and Yeshua.

Evil and darkness do not get swept out with a broom. By creating more light and leading others to Yeshua, the night and darkness will disappear by themselves.

8th Night of Hanukkah

The Infinite Light

Although it commemorates the kindling of the Temple's Menorah which had only seven branches, our Hanukkah Menorah has eight lights.

The number 'eight' in this context is not just the digit after 'seven.'

Symbolically, 'seven' is associated with the natural world, created in six days and completed with G-d's rest on the Seventh, Shabbat.

'Eight,' however, represents the infinite and supernatural, in contrast to the finite and natural.

The seven-lamp Menorah illuminated the natural world, but Hanukkah goes even beyond. It is a foretaste and reflection of the era of Mashiach, a higher level that is above and beyond our worldly limitations.

At the end of the long dark night, right before daybreak; we may be tempted to fall asleep. Hanukkah gives us the strength to be awake for and aware of the approach of daylight.

HANUKKAH BLESSINGS

HANUKKAH GUIDE

FIRST BLESSING

Baruch Atah Adonai Elohenu Melech Ha-olam
asher kideshanu bemitz-vo-tav ve-tzi-va-nu le-had-lik ner shel
Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who
has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded
us to kindle the Hanukkah light.

SECOND BLESSING

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu
Melech ha'olam, asher kid'shanu
b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner
shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Lord our God,
King of the universe, who
performed miracles for our
forefathers in those days, at this
time.

THIRD BLESSING

Recited only on the first night
(or the first time lighting this
Chanukkiah).

Baruch Atah Adonai Elohenu
Melech Ha-olam she-heche^וya-
nu ve-ki-yi-ma-nu ve-higi-a-nu
laz-man ha-ze

Today we stand before you, to
confirm our strength in the Holy
One. Thanking God for giving us
life, for sustaining us and for
enabling us to reach this season,
AMEN.

PRAY WITH ME

**JOHN 10:22
THEN CAME HANUKKAH; IT
WAS WINTER IN JERUSALEM.
YESHUA WAS WALKING IN THE
TEMPLE AROUND SOLOMON'S
COLONNADE.**

**FOR THE PEACE AND
PROTECTION OF ISRAEL**

**THAT THE LIGHT OF
G-D'S FACE SHINE ON US**

**FOR G-D'S LIGHT TO EXPOSE
ANY DARKNESS AGAINST
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY**

**FOR A DEEPER
RELATIONSHIP WITH G-D**

FOR SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

HANUKKAH

Hanukkah Guide

The Hanukkah



Steps For Lighting

- Place hanukkah in a window
- Place candles starting right to left
- Wait for sundown
- Say the daily blessing
- Light the Shamash Candle
- Use Shamash to light the current night's candle first
- Use Shamash to continue lighting candles going left to right
- Once lit, let the candles burn out



**Please light and display candles in a safe environment

Potato Latke Recipe



Ingredients

2 Eggs
1 onion finely chopped
1 t of salt
¼ t Baking powder
½ cup generous flour
3 cups shredded potatoes

Directions

Peel and grate potatoes, squeeze to get excess water out. Add in the remaining ingredients, fry 'em up! Have sour cream and applesauce ready to dip 'em into!

Mazel Tov

Jeremiah Pizana on your
Bar Mitzvah

&

Rabbi Todd and Rebbetzin
Susan White on officiating
their 100th ceremony!



UPCOMING

12/14-12/21

HANUKKAH IS COMING!

Families! Check out our December events as we will have a lot going on with everything from Hanukkah House decorating to latke cook-offs and a Hanukkah outfit contest! Come to the Community lighting on the 20th for fun games, face painting and fellowship and see us light the giant Hanukkiah! Don't forget about the delicious latkes!

DECEMBER



MAKOR HAEMET



We had a meaningful and joyful time at Cookies and Culture this month as students explored the country of Argentina... learning about its language, music, traditions, and the people who live there. This event takes place monthly on the third Wednesday at noon at Congregation Beth Messiah.

In class, we enjoyed a science activity building pumpkin volcanoes! During enrichment, students completed their handmade Challah covers in preparation for Shabbat. If you are interested in learning more about Makor HaEmet Messianic Jewish School, we are currently collecting interest forms for Pre-K through 2nd grade. We invite you to attend our Parent Information Night on January 22 at 7 PM at Congregation Beth Messiah. You'll learn about our university-model schedule, how we integrate discipleship and academic excellence, and how we follow the rhythm of the Biblical calendar with Yeshua at the center. For details and to RSVP, visit MakorHaEmetSchool.org/admissions.



*Then came Hanukkah, it was
winter in Jerusalem. Yeshua
was walking in the Temple..
Joh 10:22-23 (TLV)*

CBM YOUTH NEWS

December 2025

STAY INFORMED - STAY CONNECTED

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Highway(s):

- **December 6 , 1-3 PM**
Youth and their families are invited to worship Adonai and engage in His Word. Stay for fellowship, food and interactive activities
- December 20 (No Highway)
Hanukkah celebrations

WELCOME TO YOUTH VIBES!

WNR (Wednesday Night Recharge)

- December 3
- December 10



***Bible Studies with learning activities
(bible drills, bible Pictionary)**



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Hanukkah Party!!

December 21
6-9 PM

Please join us for a fun celebration with
food, fellowship and games



NOTE:

Mandatory Parent Meeting!
December 13, 2025
12:30-2:00pm
**in the Tel Aviv room*

CONTACT INFO

Dane & Debbi Kappler
YOUTH@CBMHOUSTON.ORG

December 2025

CBM Bible Readings

These readings are from the MJAA reading plan for 5786-5787 (2025-2026). They are available on our Beth Messiah app, on Apple and Google devices as well as on our website at <https://www.cbmhouston.org/daily-bible-readings/>

DECEMBER 1ST

Parshat Vayishlach
II Samuel 16–17
Mark 9

DECEMBER 2ND

Parshat Vayishlach
II Samuel 18–19
Mark 10

DECEMBER 3RD

Parshat Vayishlach
II Samuel 20–21
Mark 11

DECEMBER 4TH

Parshat Vayishlach
II Samuel 22–23
Mark 12

DECEMBER 5TH

Torah Portion:
Genesis 32:4–36:43
Haftarah: Obadiah 1:1-21

DECEMBER 6TH

Parshat Vayera
I Samuel 3–6
Matthew 20

DECEMBER 7TH

Parshat Vayeshev
II Samuel 24
Mark 13

DECEMBER 8TH

Parshat Vayeshev
I Kings 1
Mark 14

DECEMBER 9TH

Parshat Vayeshev
I Kings 2–3
Mark 15

DECEMBER 10TH

Parshat Vayeshev
I Kings 4–6
Mark 16

DECEMBER 11TH

Parshat Vayeshev
I Kings 7
Luke 1

DECEMBER 12TH & 13TH

Torah Portion:
Genesis 37:1–40:23
Haftarah: Amos 2:6–3:8

DECEMBER 14TH

Parshat Miketz
I Kings 8
Luke 2

DECEMBER 15TH

Parshat Miketz
I Kings 9–10
Luke 3

DECEMBER 16TH

Parshat Miketz
I Kings 11–12
Luke 4

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DECEMBER 17TH

Parshat Miketz
I Kings 13–14
Luke 5

DECEMBER 18TH

Parshat Miketz
I Kings 15–16
Luke 6

DECEMBER 19TH & 20TH

Torah Portion:
Genesis 41:1–44:17
Haftarah: I Kings 3:15–4:1

DECEMBER 21ST

Parshat Vayigash
I Kings 17–18
Luke 7

DECEMBER 22ND

Parshat Vayigash
I Kings 19–20
Luke 8

DECEMBER 23RD

Parshat Vayigash
I Kings 21–22
Luke 9

DECEMBER 24TH

Parshat Vayigash
II Kings 1–3
Luke 10

DECEMBER 25TH

Parshat Vayigash
II Kings 4–5
Luke 11

DECEMBER 26TH & 27TH

Torah Portion:
Genesis 44:18–47:27
Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15–28

DECEMBER 28TH

Parshat Vayechi
II Kings 6–8
Luke 12

DECEMBER 29TH

Parshat Vayechi
II Kings 9–10
Luke 13

DECEMBER 30TH

Parshat Vayechi
II Kings 11–12
Luke 14

DECEMBER 31ST

Parshat Vayechi
II Kings 13–15
Luke 15