Hebrew School
Annual Kickoff Meeting
2016-2017 Sept 29, 7:00 pm
Welcome
by Howard Silverman

Back to School

Parents, Grandparents, Teachers, Invested & Interested Others
Opening Prayer
by Howard Silverman

(2) omed
(2) attah
(1) mi
(2) lifnei
(1) da

stand
you
before whom
Know
Introductory Remarks
by Andrea Rubinstein
The current science on lifelong learning for lifelong thriving in living* validates the approach commanded by G-d Himself in Deuteronomy 6:7

You shall inculcate them diligently into your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

* See The Spiritual Child: The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving by Lisa Miller (recommended by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)
to teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions: urge on or establish in the person

to cause (as a person) to become impressed or instilled with something

And note well: to ‘instill’ something is to introduce and implant it gradually, little by little (with the first 13 years being critical)
Who is Responsible for this Inculcation?

- Primarily the text of Deut 7:6 addresses who?
  - Parents
- Secondarily the text of Deut 7:6 addresses who?
  - The whole congregation/community Israel

Conclusion: Parents lead and all are responsible for inculcating “the way of the Lord” into our children!
All repetition in this presentation is premeditated by design, to emulate G-d

This is a “with all of your, and with all of your, and with all of your” Deuteronomy thing!
Introductions: Who? Role?

“Faith Webbing”
Faith Webbing is a deep, purposeful intergenerational approach to connecting youth to faith(fulness) through a congregation. Members of all ages spend time side-by-side involved in the life and outreach of the congregation. The vision is to wrap our children and youth in a web of faith(fulness) so loving and caring that they will know G-d and Messiah Yeshua and always want to be an integral part of a local congregation.
"Faith Webbing" is just a 21st century term to refer to the ancient Biblical Israelite and later Jewish intergenerational way of life of the people of God (see, e.g., Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7).
All of our Religious School lifelong learning is ultimately about the parental, grandparental, congregational, communal, and otherwise intergenerational inculcation of the Messianic worldview and way of life into our children (Cf. Gen 18:19; Deut 6:7; Eph 6:4, etc.).
Yeshua the Messiah emphasized the fact that all who suffered loss for his sake or the sake of the good news would inherit in this age a hundred-fold homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, & fields, all with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. (Mk 10:30)  [Discuss the timeless implications of this text]

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Messiah, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Eph 4:15-16)
Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin in his book *To Raise a Jewish Child* rightly states: “this way of life is achieved only when home, religious school, synagogue, and total environment strategically interact to prepare a child to take their place in the world.”
All Are Responsible

As such, all of us have a responsibility to make an investment in our children. It starts with our parents and grandparents, and continues with all of us, including our wondrous volunteer teachers at all age levels.
Hebrew School
Key Component of Religious School

The school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.
Key Component of Community

Hebrew School

Only $75
Register now at 614-855-9501
Join us for the holidays first!

When is Hebrew School?
Sunday morning: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
(Hebrew alefbes, vocabulary and siddur)
Sunday morning: 10:40 to 11:30 a.m.
(Jewish history, culture, values, music, and art)
Thursday night: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
(Hebrew alefbes, vocabulary, siddur)

Children of Jewish-Gentile Homes

BMC is the synagogue of choice for Jewish-Gentile couples who seek to preserve their own identities in Messiah. Such a community of Jews as Jews, and Gentiles as Gentiles, one in Messiah Yeshua, provides a glimpse of the future unity G-d has for Israel and the nations in the Olam HaBa.
Key Component of Community

Hebrew School: Grades 1-6
Register now at bethmessiah.org
or 614.855.9501
BMC Religious School Overview

The school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.
The Educational Ideal

Lifelong Learning

Education in the form of lifelong learning is the centerpiece of discipleship at BMC, because it is the hallmark of the Jewish and therefore Messianic way of life. As Abraham Joshua Heschel rightly stated: “It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence... the school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.”

Hebrew School

A Sweet New Year
The school year begins with an apple picking field trip to Lynd Fruit Farm in Pataskala, OH in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Apples and honey are served, in part, to symbolize our hopes for a sweet and fruitful new year.

When is Hebrew School?
Sunday morning: 9:30 to 10:30 AM
(Hebrew alphabet, vocabulary and syllables)
Sunday afternoon: 11 AM to 12:15 PM
(jewish history, culture, values, music, and art)
Thursday night: 6:30 to 7:30 PM
(Hebrew alphabet, vocabulary, syllables)

What are the Class Sizes?
BMC maintains very small class sizes, which allows for individualized attention, and enables every child to have a voice in the learning experience.

Registration & Tuition
Parents may register their children at 614-835-5901 or at www.bethmessiah.org. The full calendar is there. Tuition is very affordable as shown on the website, and scholarships are available for those in need.

What Curriculum is Utilized?
Our Hebrew School Lifelong learners use resources from the classic Behrman House Curriculum.

Let’s Discover the Alef Bet:
Children learn the names and sounds of the letters of the Alef Bet; and a key Hebrew word, with an accompanying English translation and Jewish cultural explanation, is used to introduce each letter. Learning strategies include creative activities to reinforce the shape and sound of each letter, the introduction of additional Hebrew vocabulary words, playful exercises to engage the child’s artistic and creative interests, and clever riddles and amuse.

Derech Binah: The Hebrew Primer
Hundreds of thousands of children have learned to read Hebrew using this properly paced primer. It features a special focus on visual and auditory discrimination between letters, block print writing exercises, reading games, prayer practice and explanation, and playful speed reading, all of which is strategically designed to produce reading fluency.

Hebrew Through Prayer I, II, III
Beginning with the Shabbat morning service, children work their way through the key prayers and blessings of the siddur focusing on root, prefix, and suffix recognition, the place of prayers in the service, the physical actions associated with the prayers, and more importantly the themes, meaning, and relevance.

Who Teaches Hebrew School?
Our teaching staff is a diverse group of qualified and devoted persons, from the congregational leader to an elder, to our fluteist, to some of our parents.

Education of the Whole Child
BMC aims for the ideal Jewish education as described by Rabbi Hayim Haya Dovid, which is concerned with the total person of the child. The goal is to influence the child’s character, shape their values, and fashion their way of life. Messianic Jewish education at BMC seeks to instill a deep sense of identity, self-worth, significance, and strength in the Lord and His Messiah Yeshua, and imbue the child with wisdom to become self-disciplined, responsible, and well-equipped for good works. BMC agrees that this is achieved only when home, religious school, synagogue, and total environment strategically interact to prepare a child to take their place in the world. To this end, all of the lifelong learning opportunities at BMC are part of a single, holistic, generation to generation approach, in which every component builds on and reinforces the other.

Children of Jewish-Gentile Homes
BMC is the synagogue of choice for Jewish-Gentile couples who seek to preserve their own identities in Messiah. Such a community of Jews as Jews, and Gentiles as Gentiles, one in Messiah, provides a glimpse of the future unity God has for Israel and the nations in the Olam Habba.

Babies to Bubbies
BMC provides a full continuum of engaging and thought-provoking lifelong learning opportunities across the life cycle, from babies to babies. These opportunities range from the most elementary to the advanced, depending upon where a person is in their development. For our adult lifelong learning opportunities, see www.bethmessiah.org.

Jewish Preservation, Not Assimilation
BMC labors diligently for Jewish preservation and protection from assimilation, by fortifying Jewish identity, culture, traditions, and values for its Jewish members. That said, BMC is a community of Jewish persons who embrace Yeshua as Messiah, together with Gentile Yeshua-followers from diverse backgrounds.
The Educational Ideal

Lifelong Learning

Education in the form of lifelong learning is the centerpiece of discipleship at BMC, because it is the hallmark of the Jewish and therefore Messianic way of life. As Abraham Joshua Heschel rightly stated: “It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence... the school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.”
Babies to Bubbies

BMC provides a full continuum of engaging and thought-provoking lifelong learning opportunities across the life cycle, from babies to bubbies. These opportunities range from the most elementary to the advanced, depending upon where a person is in their development. For our adult lifelong learning opportunities, see www.bethmessiah.org.
Education of the Whole Child

BMC aims for the ideal Jewish education as described by Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin, which is concerned with the total person of the child. The goal is to influence the child's character, shape their values, and fashion their way of life. Messianic Jewish education at BMC seeks to instill a deep sense of identity, self-worth, significance, and strength in the LORD and His Messiah Yeshua, and imbue the child with wisdom to become self-disciplined, responsible, and well-equipped for good works. BMC agrees that this is achieved only when home, religious school, synagogue, and total environment strategically interact to prepare a child to take their place in the world. To this end, all of the lifelong learning opportunities at BMC are part of a single, holistic, generation to generation approach, in which every component builds on and reinforces the other.
The Educational Ideal

Jewish Preservation, Not Assimilation

BMC labors diligently for Jewish preservation and protection from assimilation, by fortifying Jewish identity, culture, traditions, and values for its Jewish members. That said, BMC is a community of Jewish persons who embrace Yeshua as Messiah, together with Gentile Yeshua-followers from diverse backgrounds.
Children of Jewish-Gentile Homes

BMC is the synagogue of choice for Jewish-Gentile couples who seek to preserve their own identities in Messiah. Such a community of Jews as Jews, and Gentiles as Gentiles, one in Messiah, provides a glimpse of the future unity G-d has for Israel and the nations in the Olam HaBa.
Lifelong Learning

Education in the form of lifelong learning is the centerpiece of discipleship at BMC, because it is the hallmark of the Jewish and therefore Messianic way of life. As Abraham Joshua Heschel rightly stated: “It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence… the school is a sanctuary, and study is a form of worship.”

Hebrew School

A Sweet New Year
The school year begins with an apple picking field trip to Lynd Fruit Farm in Pataskala, OH in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Apples and honey are served in part, to symbolize our hopes for a sweet and fruitful new year.

When is Hebrew School?
Sunday morning: 9:30 to 10:30 AM
(Hebrew alphabet, vocabulary and Siddur)
Sunday morning: 10:45 to 11:30 AM
(Jewish history, culture, values, music, and art)
Thursday night: 6:30 to 7:30 PM
(Hebrew alphabet, vocabulary, Siddur)

What Curriculum is Utilized?
Our Hebrew School learners use resources from the classic Behrman House Curriculum.

Let’s Discover the Alef Bet:
Children learn the names and sounds of the letters of the Alef Bet, and a key Hebrew word, with an accompanying English translation and Jewish cultural explanation, is used to introduce each letter. Learning strategies include creative activities to reinforce the shape and sound of each letter, the introduction of additional Hebrew vocabulary words, and play. The purpose is to engage the child artistically and creatively, and to help develop a love for learning.

Derech Binah: The Hebrew Primer
Hundreds of thousands of children have learned to read Hebrew using this properly paced primer. It features a special focus on visual and auditory discernment between letters, block print writing exercises, reading games, prayer practice and explanation, and playful games, all of which is strategically designed to produce reading fluency.

Hebrew Through Prayer I, II, III
Beginning with the Shabbat morning service, children work their way through the key prayers and blessings of the siddur, focusing on root, prefix, and suffix recognition, the place of prayers in the service, the physical actions associated with the prayers, and the themes, meaning, and relevance.

Who Teaches Hebrew School?
Our teaching staff is a diverse group of qualified and devoted persons, from the congregational leader, to an elder, to our liturgist, to some of our parents.

What Are the Class Sizes?
BMC maintains very small class sizes, which allows for individualized attention, and enables every child to have a voice in the learning experience.

Registration & Tuition
Parents may register their children at 614.885.9901 or at www.bethmessiah.org. The full calendar is there. Tuition is very affordable as shown on the website, and scholarships are available for those in need.

Bar and Bat Mitzvah Training
Becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is an important and joyous milestone in the Jewish life cycle. While training is customized to the candidate and his or her family preparation typically includes one year of training in Torah and Haftarah cantillation, guidance in writing a Devar Torah, and focused instruction on Jewish living using Jewish Heroes, Jewish Values: Living Mitzvah in Today’s World, by Barry L. Schwartz and Jewish history using The History of the Jewish People: A Story of Tradition and Change, Vol. I, by Jonathan B. Cranzer and Jonathan D. Sarna.

Bar/Bat Abraham
For Gentile youth who desire to more fully demonstrate how the blessing of Abraham has come to the nations through Messiah, we provide training in Torah and Haftarah cantillation, guidance in preparing a Devar Torah, and further instruction on Jewish history and traditions, and Messianic living.

Conduct
Our teachers, parents, and children agree to share the responsibility for an effective learning environment.

Commencement
Children who successfully complete the curriculum receive a certificate. All of our children participate in a year-end celebration.
The Ideal Hebrew School Setting

- warm
- relational
- engaging (content, pedagogical approach)
- respectful
- emphasizes responsibility
- provides an overall memorable experience
- reinforces the Messianic home life
- reinforces all lifelong learning is for living
Cerego [Click here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzpxpOfcUGO) (0.01-1.26) or see

**What did we learn?**

**What helps people to learn more quickly and remember longer?**

**Spaced Rehearsal**: Spacing out the review of information over increasing periods of time versus one-time "cramming"
The current science on lifelong learning validates the approach commanded by G-d Himself in Deuteronomy 6:7:

You shall inculcate them diligently into your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.
A Key to Lifelong Learning

What does this mean for home life?
What does this mean for synagogue life?
What does this mean for attendance in Hebrew School life?
Wholesight (David Naugle/Parker Palmer):

Ways of knowing complementing the capacities of sight and mind should also be embraced by Messiah-followers in order to do justice to their complete G-d-given natures and allow them to comprehend the totality of reality in its rich multiplicity and fullness to the extent humanly possible. To this end, spiritual writer Parker Palmer has advocated what he calls “wholesight,” which fuses sensation and rationality into a union with other, yet often neglected ways of knowing such as imagination, intuition, empathy, emotion, and most certainly faith( fulness). (Discuss)
Wholesight (David Naugle/Parker Palmer) continued:

In G-d’s epistemic grace, he has provided a variety of cognitive capacities which are adequate for and to be employed in grasping the diverse modes of created reality, an ancient concept known as adaequatio. All capacities ought to be well employed when it comes to apprehending the truth about G-d, humankind, and the world, else one suffers from metaphysical indigence (deficiency). . . . (Discuss)
A Word about the 21st Century

Take its educational advice with a grain of salt
A Word about the 21st Century

Taking its educational advice with a grain of salt means employing a multifaceted pedagogical approach that critically evaluates but does not deem as deterministic the world’s researched findings or unresearched fads regarding learning styles, attention spans, teaching methods, etc. We adapt the best and leave the rest.
Messianized Behrman House Approach

Using a Messianized and adapted version of the Behrman House approach to outcomes (see their “Big Ideas for Jewish Learning” at http://www.behrmanhouse.com/pdfs/pdfs/BigIdeasFINAL.pdf) we are mapping outcomes to the existing BMC curriculum, which draws from Behrman House, Flame Foundation, & Club Maccabee.
Reading Recommendations

1. To Raise a Jewish Child: A Guide for Parents by Hayim Halevy Donin

2. The Spiritual Child: The New Science on Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving by Lisa Miller (recommended by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)


All of which must be Messianized & adapted
Unfortunately, the intellectual life, the life of intentional, habitual cultivation of one's mind under Messiah's Lordship, can be valued and entered into only as a part of the overall approach to life just described, and this approach runs contrary to the conditions that define our contemporary lifestyles. Many people today, including many Messiah-followers, simply do not read or think deeply at all. We must recapture our intellectual heritage if we are to present to our brothers and sisters, our children, and a post-Judaeo-Christian culture a version of the Messianic way of life rich and deep enough to challenge the dehumanizing structures and habits of thought of a society gone mad. To do this, we must change our reading habits; indeed, we must alter our entire approach to the life of the mind as part of Messianic discipleship. Reading disciplines the mind, and the mind is like a muscle. If it is not exercised regularly and strenuously, it loses some of its capacities and strength.

今晚，我们再次向我们宝贵的希伯来学校教师致敬；所有的人选择牺牲自己，为了我们孩子们的福祉。
Emulating Yeshua the Messiah, by demonstrating His way of thinking and living, let us follow the exhortation of this recontextualization of Philippians 2:4:

"Let each of us be focused not only on the matters concerning ourselves, but on the matters concerning our children!"
What's At Stake? Such As These!

Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them (Matt 19:14 a&b)
Questions?
Comments?
Let us Pray

Religious School

BMC
Beth Messiah Congregation Columbus