



Daughters of Abraham



July 2026 NEWSLETTER

Featuring May and June Meetings and Events



FROM OUR FOUNDER: Janice Harris Lord



I hope we will always be willing to say, "I'm sorry" and be forgiven. I am a case in point. Even after 25½ years, I messed up on Eid al-Adha and beg forgiveness from my Muslim sisters. My calendar showed only the first Eid, Eid al-Fitr. Also, from somewhere I had the idea that the second Eid was minor to the first one. That is clearly wrong! I now know It is even MORE sacred than the first one. We scheduled the May meeting of the Arlington/Ft. Worth group during Eid al-Adha. Shortly thereafter, my Muslim sisters were kind and gracious but assured me that none of them would attend that meeting. It wasn't much in terms of reparation, but I told them that if any of them wanted to recommend a book or movie for the Book Review Retreat, I would be sure it was introduced and voted on. Sister Shirin Kathiria did just that, and her book was chosen. That makes me very happy, but it does not erase my sloppy planning. I should have been much more thorough. I'm so sorry! –Janice



NEWS: Summer Book Review Retreat (FOR ALL GROUPS!)

From Andrea Gette, Scribe for Daughters of Abraham, Fort Worth and Arlington Morning Group: We are looking forward to the Daughters of Abraham annual Summer Book Review Retreat! Details:

Sunday, July 19, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
St. Barnabas United Methodist Church
5011 W. Pleasant Ridge Drive
Arlington TX 76016

In the morning, Vicki Davis and Shirin Kathiria will facilitate the discussion on the book *The Future is Peace: A Shared Journey Across the Holy Land* by Aziz Abu Sarah and Maoz Inon. In the afternoon, Dorothy Lynn Brooks will facilitate the discussion on the book *Toward a True Kinship of Faiths: How the World's Religions Can Come Together* by the Dalai Lama. Both books are available online (Amazon, Walmart, Target, Thriftbooks, etc.). Here is a link to a **free audiobook** for *Toward a True Kinship of Faiths* <https://youtu.be/57BRrhzLk?is=4idbYoaT3TKh66Oc>

Please bring small amounts of salad, sandwiches, or desserts for a **cold pot-luck lunch** as well as your own water bottles. We will provide additional drinks throughout the day. Registration for the retreat is NOT required. Just show up! The information about the retreat is also on our website: www.daughtersofabraham-tx.org

Please join us at this retreat for fellowship even if you haven't read the books.



NEWS: Sons of Abraham Has Re-Started!



Sons of Abraham had a wonderful Reconnecting event on May 19 with about 30 men attending. The next meeting will be June 16 at 7pm at St. Barnabas United Methodist Church in Arlington. If you know of men who would like to attend but are not on the email list, they are invited to just show up, or they may contact Mason Wagner at mason.wagner@tcu.edu.



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NEWS: Speakers Bureau—DofA Interfaith Presentations

Did you know our Daughters of Abraham groups offer a speakers bureau? Usually in groups of three (one person representing each of our three faiths), we will go out on request and tell the Daughters of Abraham story to any group that would like to hear. Over the years we have spoken to Sunday school classes, women's groups, and special gatherings. These interfaith presentations really help us spread our message of love and peace so needed in our world! Below is information about a couple of recent presentations.



Ruth Winkler from the Northeast Tarrant Daughters group (third from left) spoke for us at the World Day of Prayer in Colleyville on May 7.



Pictured, left to right: Imam Baqir Shah, Islamic Center of Southlake; Rev. Bill Easom, Senior Pastor, Fellowship UMC; Ruth Winkler, CC (DoC), Daughters of Abraham; Rev. Elena Bronson, Pastor, St. John Church Unleashed, Grapevine; Howard Rosenthal, Founder of Peace Together and Associate Director of the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County; Farrah Hamraie, Bahai Community; Adrienne Richardson Collins, President, Multicultural Alliance; Bishop Dr. Cameron Jolley, Trophy Club Ward, Alliance Stake, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Christine Sturgeon, North Texas Interfaith Council Colleyville Stake, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Jasmin Morris, The Sikh Community & The Sikh Civil Defense Association, Fort Worth.



continued having fun together as dear friends.

Pictured, left to right: Leah Beth Kolni, Jewish Contact; Dawn Anderson, Christian contact; Laila Rumsey, Muslim contact



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Arlington/Fort Worth Morning Group

The Host for the May 27th meeting of the Arlington/Fort Worth Daughters was The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Arlington. BJ Lee facilitated the meeting, with about 30 women participating. The goal was to select books for the Summer Book Review Retreat for all the Daughters groups. The group proposed four books and one video documentary, and then they voted.

After much discussion, the group decided to keep the retreat a full day event on a Sunday, with appropriate cold lunch potluck. See details in another place in the newsletter. Janice Lord urged the group to regularly check the website at daughtersofabraham-tx.org for ongoing updates.

For the last few minutes of the group, Alfie Wines (info@freedomtable.org) told the group about the Freedom Table Project, and Julie Compton (savejuliecompton@sbcglobal.net) talked about a suicide prevention group that makes presentations to faith communities. Janae Baird told the group about 5700 unregistered graves in a Black cemetery in Arlington and a project to register them, Sons and Daughters are considering this as a group project.



BJ Lee facilitates discussion after Dorothy Lynn Brooks recommends a book. Janice Lord is blackboard scribe.



Northeast Tarrant County Group

The Northeast Tarrant County DOA group met on May 14, 2026, for our final meeting before summer break with a special gathering at Good Shepherd Catholic church Colleyville. We gathered at 6:30 p.m. for a light dinner and socializing and started our meeting at 7:00 p.m. During dinner members were asked to fill out cards with questions they had regarding other faith practices, stereotypes, traditions, and beliefs.

Questions discussed included topics like "what are some faith practices you don't agree with in regard to your own faith community" and "what is the most meaningful holiday of your faith." These questions and many others led to a lively and meaningful discussion. During the final 45 minutes of the meeting, we went around the room and gave everyone an opportunity to introduce themselves if new to the group and share what they were looking forward to this summer. Members commented that they enjoyed the open discussion and would like to repeat the same program next year.





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NOTE: Dallas group meets throughout the summer.



Dallas Group



On May 21, the Dallas DofA group met at Royal Lane Baptist Church for a discussion of "Pilgrimages in Our Faiths." The Christian hosts had prepared a wonderful, multi-table "dinner"! (It was way too much food to call snacks!) Our Muslim contact, Laila Rumsey, began the meeting with a wonderful overview of Hajj, the annual pilgrimage made by Muslims to the holy city of Mecca. The Muslim ladies told many wonderful stories about their personal experiences with Hajj, including several miracles they had experienced.

Jewish and Christian members then related stories of their spiritual journeys, including trips to the Holy Land to see sacred places. Cookie Stokes (Christian) shared her experiences on the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage (a/k/a The Way of Saint James, a network of pilgrimage routes across Europe leading to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain, which is believed by Roman Catholics to house the remains of Saint James, one of the apostles of Jesus). As we always do, we found many commonalities between our faiths in these spiritual experiences.

To end the meeting, our wonderful Muslim members presented us lovely gifts to celebrate with them their special holiday, including a personalized Daughters of Abraham keychain (see picture)! It was another wonderful evening of promoting peace and knowledge through interfaith friendships!



On June 18, Dallas Daughters gathered at Temple Emmanu-El for a very special topic, "A Visit from our Founder, Janice Lord." We have traditionally invited Janice to talk to us every few years as new members come in, so they can get to know the amazing woman who created this organization! This time we were blessed to also meet her daughter Lisa, who drove her to us and participated in the discussion. Janice told the Daughters of Abraham "origin story," as well as other memorable stories from the years since 9/11 when the idea for our group first came to her. Our group asked many questions of Janice and also shared some of their own special stories. Our Jewish hosts had prepared wonderful treats for us to enjoy as we spent this memorable evening together. It was another night to remember and we will cherish the memory.