



Daughters of Abraham



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2025 and
JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



FROM OUR FOUNDER: Janice Harris Lord

New beginnings, like a new year, include both grieving and hope. It seems like most of our Hellos also include Goodbyes. I hope each of our Daughters groups will take some time to reflect on these questions:

- (1) How well is the meeting plan we've been using worked (day, time, place, etc.)?
- (2) How many people from each of the faiths have joined us this year?
What could we add or delete to reach more women interested in our mission?
- (3) What topics did we attempt to discuss this year that didn't work? Why didn't they work?
Should we try again or say goodbye to those topics?
- (4) Did we unintentionally make mistakes this year that hurt people?
If so, how can we assure that it won't happen again?
- (5) What might we try that we haven't thought of before?

Many, many blessings to all of us through our Goodbyes and Hellos! –Janice



NEWS: Daughters of Abraham in the *Texas Jewish Post*

We were honored to be featured in the *Texas Jewish Post* in November. Here is a partial photo of the printed newsletter, but we would love to have a link to the actual article to put on our Daughters web page. If anyone knows how to provide that, please email me at caseskyl@gmail.com and I'll also include that in the next newsletter.



NEWS: Planning for 2026 Retreat

The planning for the retreat has begun! The location and date will soon be finalized, and you won't want to miss this event! We are looking at a Sunday in April to accommodate more Jewish ladies. Watch for more information and online registration to come SOON!



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Arlington/Fort Worth Morning Group

The Arlington/Fort Worth Daughters group meets the last Wednesday of each month, which often falls during Thanksgiving or Christmas holidays. Therefore, the November and December meetings are combined, with the group meeting in early December. Thus, more than 30 Daughters gathered on December 3 at Beth-El Congregation in Fort Worth.

This group accepted the lead of the Northeast Tarrant group and engaged in a cookie exchange for the second year. Recognizing the hunger needs of the area, we also collected canned and dry foods for the Tarrant County Food Bank. Kay Dillard and Pennie Boyett graciously delivered the groceries to the food bank.

The discussion topic was "What my Faith Teaches me about Gratitude." It was a moving discussion, concluding with the thought that gratitude is not an end product but should result in sharing what we have with others in need. Six new members were greeted at the end of the meeting.

Another change of the plan for January has emerged due to the ice and snow. The meeting on January 28 at First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth has been cancelled. The group will resume on February 25 with the same discussion topic, "My Plan to Increase my Faith through Connections with Other Faiths in 2026." Since this meeting will fall during Ramadan, all will be in solidarity with our Muslim sisters in refraining from refreshments.



Northeast Tarrant County Group

NOVEMBER

The Northeast Tarrant Daughters of Abraham met Thursday, November 20, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Colleyville.

We enjoyed fellowship prior to the meeting. The women served us a beautiful and delicious variety of pies! This was the first time we met at this church. We are grateful for the hospitality given to us.

After announcements and discussion guidelines, Christine Sturgeon gave us an overview of the Latter-Day Saints Church history, practices, and beliefs. Then she led us in a discussion of how gratitude and humility and gratitude and forgiveness interact. Members shared personal experiences about what these words mean to them.

We talked about upcoming opportunities for charitable giving in the community. We're looking forward to the next Peace Walk in March. At the end of our time together, Christine gave a tour of the church.





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Northeast Tarrant County Group (continued)

DECEMBER

Who doesn't love cookies and traditions? The annual December cookie exchange is a cherished tradition for the Northeast Tarrant Daughters of Abraham affiliate. Each year, Asra Khan graciously opens her home for this warm and cozy gathering of friends. We enjoy the delicious treats—and leave with a delightful variety of cookies to share at home.

This year, more than twenty women gathered, including several who have recently joined our group, as well as some returning members we were delighted to welcome back. It truly felt like a joyful reunion. As we introduced ourselves, we shared our plans for December and the New Year. Many will be gathering with family, some traveling to do so, and all of us spoke of the family traditions—especially food and games—that bring meaning to the season.

Our discussion topic, "Hopes and Dreams," invited us to look ahead to the coming year. Members shared aspirations related to family, career, hobbies, and personal interests. Conversations like these help us know one another more deeply and remind us how much we share, even as we celebrate our diversity. The evening closed with a shared sense of gratitude for the community we call Daughters of Abraham.



JANUARY

The Northeast Tarrant Daughters of Abraham Group held their 2nd Annual meeting with Rabbi Cantor Judy Greenfeld at Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville for our January meeting. We had a wonderful and informative "Question and Answer" period with Rabbi Cantor Judy. We could have talked all night but we wanted to be able to end the meeting with the wonderful and meditative Sound Bath. Rabbi Cantor Judy explained the history and composition of the sound bowls. The sound bowls are tuned to 432 Hz. This frequency is believed to create deeper relaxation and harmony, resonating naturally with the body's frequencies. The benefits of the Sound Bath include improved sleep, reductions of stress and anxiety, as well as a renewed sense of well-being, calm and happiness. Everyone truly enjoyed the evening and hoped to make it a yearly event.





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Dallas Group

NOVEMBER

On November 20, the Christian daughters hosted our meeting at Preston Hollow Presbyterian, which was a new host church for us. An intense storm hit Dallas right at the time of the meeting, so many emailed and texted they weren't going to be able to make it. Those who made the effort despite the weather were well-rewarded with fellowship and a great discussion of the book *A Vanished World: Medieval Spain's Golden Age of Enlightenment* by Chris Lowney. Our Muslim leader, Dr. Laila Ramsey, provided a "Cliff Notes" version of this 300-page book for us all which was quite helpful, as was her leading of the discussion. From the Amazon book review: "*A Vanished World* offers enduring lessons learned from medieval Spanish villages where Muslims, Christians, and Jews rubbed shoulders on a daily basis." We all learned a lot about this time in history from 711 to 1492 when all three of our faiths lived harmoniously together in Spain. May God grant that kind of understanding in our world today!



DECEMBER

The Dallas group always dedicates our December meeting to decide on the topics for the following year. This time we met at Adat Chaverim in Plano. We were thrilled to add this new Jewish synagogue to our host "repertoire," as all meetings hosted by Jewish Daughters have been at Temple Emmanu-El in Dallas since we began. As we had hoped, at the conclusion of this evening, multiple Jewish ladies from Adat Chaverim signed up for our email group.

The meeting began with our hosts lighting their Menorahs they had brought from their homes, reciting and singing as we celebrated the 5th night of Chanukah together. It was truly a beautiful spiritual experience for everyone. From there we transitioned to everyone presenting ideas for topics and Leah Beth, our Jewish contact, wrote them on large flip board pages. After we had filled two big pages with ideas, we voted on the topics and made our schedule with the 12 receiving the most votes.

Our topics for 2026 are: "Women of the Book," "Handling Clergy Scandals," "Medical Ethics," "Balances in Life," "Pilgrimages in Our Faiths," "A Visit from Our Founder Janice Lord," "Welcoming and Retaining Converts," "Experiencing God's Presence," "Movie: Colleyville Documentary," "How Peaceful People Fight Evil," "Tradition v. Modernity" and (of course) "Choosing Topics for 2027." We also always choose the first topic for the next year, which will be "Water Symbolism in Our Faiths" for January 2027.



Dallas Group (continued)



JANUARY

We started off the year with our topic of "Women of the Book: Shared Faith Heroines and Female Religious Role Models." We were hosted by our Muslim sisters at East Plano Islamic Center (EPIC). The food they provided was like a Thanksgiving feast, taking up multiple long tables! The discussion was lively as we shared favorite women from our various Scriptures, telling their stories for those who might not know, and explaining why they meant so much to us. As always, we found we have so much in common. It was a rich night of food and friendship.

