

Church Leaders

Birmingham has New Messianic Fellowship

“The first believers in Yeshua (Jesus), the Messiah, were Jewish. They believed, as we do, that the Messiah prophesied about in the Old Covenant Scriptures had come and will return,” says Messianic Rabbi Eric Walker, congregational leader of Beth Hallel, a new Messianic Fellowship in Birmingham.

For many Gentiles, the term Messianic Judaism is confusing. Simply put, it is “Biblical” Judaism. Messianic Jews believe the Word of God is true from Genesis to Revelation, accepting that Jesus is Messiah Yeshua. The purpose of a Messianic Jewish Fellowship is to promote an understanding of Biblical (Messianic) Judaism and to give the Jewish person an opportunity to accept the Messiah while keeping their Jewish identity. “Our vision is singular - to be salt and light,” says Messianic Rabbi Walker. “Our goal is to reach the Jewish community with the gospel.”

This Birmingham fellowship is being sponsored by the Congregation Beth Hallel in Roswell, Georgia, one of the oldest and largest Messianic Jewish Congregations in the country that is led by Messianic Rabbi Robert Solomon. Beth Hallel (House of Praise) of Birmingham will build on a 25-year foundation from Atlanta's fellowship as they celebrate Shabbat services beginning Friday, February 9, 2007, at 8:00 p.m.

“Both Jewish and Gentile believers are welcome,” says Rabbi Walker.

“If you are Jewish, you will notice that we incorporate the Biblical areas of Judaism that have been familiar to our people since the Law was given to Moses on Mt. Sinai in 1312 B.C. If you are a Gentile believer, our service may be unfamiliar to you. We hope you will enjoy the Davidic-style worship and see that our desire is to serve and worship God 'in spirit and in truth.' We are a congregation that emphasizes the Jewish roots of the Bible, but at the same time acknowledges all are one in Messiah.”

Eric and his wife, Lora, have held teaching and leadership positions at Congregation Beth Hallel in Roswell. Together they have raised two children in a home dedicated to the Jewish roots and heritage of their faith in Messiah Yeshua.

Beth Hallel will meet for Shabbat on the 2nd Friday of each month at 8:00 p.m. They will use the facilities of the Cathedral of the Cross located at 1480 Center Point Parkway. For more information, contact Eric Walker, 205-478-4325 or ericwalker@bethhallel.org.

