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ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH
Dear friends,

This issue of 'Word from Jerusalem' carries the theme of the 2016 Feast of Tabernacles: “All the Families of the Earth,” which points to God’s promise to Abraham and also to his descendants. This is God’s masterplan to save His church from every tribe and nation, and also reflects the importance of the family within the very heart of God. God wants to save families! The institution of family is experiencing unprecedented attacks: From gender mainstreaming to new suggested forms of family unions. They all stand in direct conflict with the biblical concept of family as God created it: Man and wife, created in God’s image, bringing forth children.

But the good news is that God is a restorer and a redeemer of families! There are many examples in the Bible of how entire households were saved out of seemingly-impossible circumstances. No matter how desperate your family situation might look like today, I want to encourage you to keep the faith and, like Joshua, declare before the Lord: “But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” (Joshua 24:15)

In this issue, you will also read how God is bringing the extended family of Jesus back home to the Land today. A new wave of Ethiopian Jews is on the way to Eretz Israel. The exciting news is that you can play a role in this modern-day miracle. The ICEJ was asked to help with the very first group of Jews returning home from Ethiopia, and your gift can make a difference in their lives! Find out more in the following pages of this magazine.

I hope you are blessed as you read this issue. Please let us hear from you, and send us your prayer requests. We will pray for you!

Many blessings to you and your family from Jerusalem!

Yours in Christ,

Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ Executive Director
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“Now the LORD had said to Abram: ‘Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed’.”
- Genesis 12:1–3
When God called Abraham, He assigned to him the most daring task: To impact all the families of the earth; every tribe, ethnic group and community on our planet – everybody! This is as inclusive as it gets! Very few people would accept such a huge mission for their lives.

**ABRAHAM’S WORLD**

According to biblical accounts, Abraham was born around two thousand years after Adam, the first man, was created, and was in the tenth generation after the flood in the time of Noah. By this time, the families of the earth were in a state of crisis. The account of Genesis 10 describes that Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with their wives, were the only survivors of the flood. After coming out of the ark they reestablished their families on earth and with that, repopulated the new world (Genesis 10:32).

According to Scripture, Noah and Shem were both alive when Abraham was born. Noah died when Abraham was 58 years old (Gen 9:28) and Shem even outlived him (Gen 11:11). Abraham, as the oldest son of his father, was the main patriarch of the Shemite clan. He may have personally heard the accounts of his great, great, great... great grandfather Shem, maybe even from Noah; stories of mankind’s rebellion against God and the devastating flood less than 300 years before he was born.

**PARADISE LOST**

Both Noah and Shem were living witnesses of life in the pre-flood world. Before God’s judgment, people lived much longer (almost 1000 years). The very first humans, Adam and Eve, had personal and regular contact with their Creator – a privilege that was lost by the time Abraham was born. It was a perfect world: a crystal clear stream flowed from the paradise garden called Eden, and in the middle of it were two mysterious trees, the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Man and woman were not allowed to eat from these particular trees, but from all the other trees and fruits they could eat as they pleased.

This perfect world changed when an evil force entered the garden. Satan deceived the woman and both she and her husband decided to eat from the Tree of Knowledge. As a consequence of their disobedience their direct contact with God was lost, and Adam and Eve were forever exiled from Eden. A dark shadow came over the earth. It impacted everything and the destructive influence of Satan was deeply felt by the first family of the earth.

Adam and Eve soon became the first dysfunctional family when their oldest son, Cain, murdered his younger brother, Abel. Not much later the ‘sons of God’ (fallen angels) left their heavenly abode and established perverted families with the ‘daughters of man,’ producing a new form of super humans, which the Bible called giants of the ancient world (Gen 6:4). Without a direct relationship with their Creator God, mankind was pulled deeper into destructive lifestyles. God regretted creating mankind and wanted to destroy it (Genesis 6:7). However, God saw Noah, a righteous man who ‘walked with God,’ and he and his family found grace in the eyes of God and were spared.

Nevertheless, Abraham knew that even the descendants of the three surviving clans did not learn from their own history, soon building the Tower of Babel. One Jewish tradition even states Abraham personally witnessed it, how his compatriots wanted to establish their independence from God and searched to gain a new Eden on earth. In their selfish ambition they tried building their own empire, so God scattered the families around the earth. Some of Abraham’s ancestral families lost contact with their related clans, because of this breach in communication. This divine interference formed the languages of the world.

When God intervened in Abraham’s life – that was the moment everything changed.

**HOPE FOR A HOPELESS WORLD**

When Abraham’s story begins, the families of the earth lived without hope and future. Abraham knew that he too belonged to a lineage of sinful and broken families who had lost contact with God and even lived in a state of rebellion against Him. When God intervened in Abraham’s life – that was the moment everything changed.

God decided to establish with Abraham a new family clan, chose a land for them to live in, and protected them in a special way. ‘If people around you bless you I will bless them too,’ God said. ‘And if they attack you, they will have me as their enemy.’ And then came the great mission statement: ‘Abraham, in you and your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’

From every perspective this was a radical turning point in human history. The Apostle Paul considered it to be the first proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ: “And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’” (Galatians 3:8) When God called Abraham he established the eternal calling of the Jewish people. But the main beneficiaries of this calling were not the Jews themselves. On the contrary, this calling came at the cost of enmity and persecution throughout their history. The main focus of blessing was ‘all the families
of the earth.’ Abraham and his descendants became God’s tool to bring back His light into a world that had become progressively darker.

From the beginning, Israel was a conduit of redemption for all mankind and a light to the nations. Instead of another flood that would cover the earth with judgment, God envisioned a flood of redemption to such a degree that the “knowledge of the glory of the Lord” would cover the earth as waters (Hab. 2:14). Former ICEJ Director Malcolm Hedding put it beautifully in his book, The Covenants of God: “The Abrahamic covenant is the covenant of God’s decision to save the world and as such it is the most fundamental of all covenants.”

This covenant put a process into motion that lasts until today. Through descendants of Abraham we received the Bible (Rom 3:1) as well as the greatest blessing of all: God’s only Son, Redeemer of the world, who was slain for the sins of the world. For this reason, Mathew starts his account of the Gospel with “the genealogy of Jesus Christ... the Son of Abraham” (Mathew 1:1). The land promised to Abraham, and Jerusalem in particular, has become the hub where all the blessings of Abraham’s covenant were unleashed. Here our Savior Jesus Christ was crucified, resurrected and rose to heaven. Here He poured out His Holy Spirit. From Jerusalem He sent out His disciples to bless all the families of the earth. And to Jerusalem, Christ will one day return.

The final outworking of this Abrahamic calling is to bring fallen mankind back into the presence of God, giving them access to paradise. Like Adam, one day we will live in a garden-city called Jerusalem. As in Eden, a stream will flow out of the city, with the Tree of Life at its very center. The fruit of the trees will heal the nations and the broken families of the earth, and God Himself will be constantly present (Rev 22). Interestingly enough, it was exactly this vision of the heavenly Jerusalem which kept Abraham going and served as a constant source of strength: “for [Abraham] waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” (Hebrews 11:10)

Abraham’s perspective of his calling was incredibly broad. Although keenly aware of how paradise was lost for the families of the earth, he saw a vision of those families being restored, just like John saw some 2000 years later: “After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’” (Revelation 7:9–10)

**FORETASTE OF HEAVEN**

This grand call of ‘All the Families of the Earth’ affects everyone’s destiny. You and your family members are perfect candidates for the blessings of God, regardless of your past! The price to return back to God has been paid by the greatest Son of Abraham, Jesus Christ. Accept it in faith.

All the Families of the Earth is also an eternal reminder that it was the physical descendants of Abraham, the people of Israel, that ushered this blessing to us. They were persecuted and hated for it like no other nation. Thus Paul call us debtors to the Jews and instructs us to bless them in return.

The Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem serves as an incredible sign for our present and future redemption, and this year’s theme “All the Families of the Earth” is a timely reminder of Abraham’s blessings to us. The prophet Zechariah saw “the families of the earth coming to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles” (Zech. 14:16-16). I cannot even count how many times people at the Feast in Jerusalem told me afterward: “It feels like a foretaste of Heaven!” Coming to Jerusalem is like coming home. Jerusalem connects us like no other place on earth, both with our history and, more importantly, with our future.

May you be blessed with the blessing of Abraham and I look forward to welcoming you at the Feast of Tabernacles, when All the Families of the Earth are invited to celebrate their Creator in Jerusalem.
Over recent years, the focus in the Middle East has been less on Israel but on Syria, the rise of ISIS, and the spread of that conflict to Iraq. Thanks to God the fears of many Israelis that the conflict might spill over into Israel has not happened. Instead, Israel’s borders have been quiet, and Israel has become a help for many of the victims of the various conflict by quietly giving humanitarian aid and medical assistance.

Let us thank God that Israel was so far protected and became a source of blessing in the midst of conflict. Pray with us that the situation remains quiet on Israel’s borders and that Israel can even increase its positive influence to its neighbouring states. (Ps 121)

Israel’s main troubles were a series of Palestinian attacks (mainly knife stabbings) in the streets of its cites. While these attacks do not represent an existential threat to Israel they instil fear in the lives of many Israelis and tourists. Over the last months the number of attacks however were significantly reduced.

Give thanks to God for the easing of tensions on the streets of Israel and continue to pray for complete peace on the streets of Jerusalem and all of Israel. Declare in faith God’s protection over Israel and its citizens, and pray that it will not affect in any way the Feast of Tabernacles. (Ps 60:18)

The Syria conflict has brought a new dynamic into the international arena. Europe is being flooded with millions of Syrian refugees, and ISIS recruits are staging terror attacks in European cities. In addition, Europe is shaken by the recent referendum of Britain to leave the European Union.

Please pray that all these shakings will bring revival for Europe and that the church in Europe will continue to rise to bless and stand with Israel. (Hag 1:6-9, Isa 60)

Over the past months, various peace initiatives have been re-circulated by the international community. Whether the French initiative from the European Union or the Initiative of the Arab league, the Israeli government has been sceptical on the various proposals as they are perceived as imposed from the outside with limited understanding of the real facts on the ground. In addition, none of the past initiatives lead to more peace but let to more violence and terror against Israel in spite of the many compromises Israel was willing to make.

Please pray for Israel’s government, and in particular for the Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Pray for wisdom and understanding in the various international talks, and that the schemes of the enemy who seeks to destroy and destabilize the State of Israel might be uncovered. Pray that Israel’s leader might achieve true and just stability that will honour God’s purposes for the region and will benefit all its inhabitants. (1Tim 2:1-4; Isa 32:14-19)

Join the Isaiah 62 initiative of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem as we corporately pray for Jerusalem, the nation of Israel, and the Middle East:

- Join as an individual prayer warrior at www.icej.org/isaiah62
- Begin an Isaiah 62 prayer group in your community
- Join us in fasting and praying on behalf of Israel every month
Ethiopia is currently experiencing the worst drought in 50 years caused by El Niño, which is quickly spreading to populous areas. The drought has brought a food crisis, which is said to be the worst in 30 years. On top of it, Ethiopia has been targeted by Islamist militants, in revenge for Ethiopia’s military intervention in 2006 in neighboring Somalia.

With these combined hardships, the government of Israel is ready to bring the remaining Jewish population from Ethiopia back to Israel. Many families have been separated for years, and now they fear for their safety.

In the past, the ICEJ sponsored flights and assisted with absorption through numerous projects, including sports and educational programs, vocational training, as well as Passover assistance. Now is the time for us to get involved again!

The ICEJ Aid director Nicole Yoder explained the difficulty of this journey for Ethiopian Jews. “They will face great challenges upon arrival because of the tremendous gaps between Ethiopia and Israel – culturally, education-wise, with high-tech etc. They face some of the greatest difficulties in adapting to life here – more so than other new immigrants.”
The ICEJ is once again raising the banner for the remaining Jews in Ethiopia. The government of Israel asked the Christian Embassy for help, and we agreed to sponsor the first 400 flights, which expected to begin in August. With God's help and working together we can bring them to the land of their fathers.

**BE A PART OF THIS MODERN DAY MIRACLE!**
Send your most generous gift today and become an active part of making the Ethiopian aliyah possible!

Make a donation at www.icej.org/ethiopia
Grandson of SS Officer Volunteers in Israel

For many years, Tobi Hoschke knew little about the military past of his grandfather, Waffen SS Officer, Hauptscharführer Wilhelm Hoschke. Upon recently discovering details of his grandfather’s past this young German now feels compelled to comfort the hearts of Holocaust survivors and their families. Today, 30-year-old Tobi is a Christian-Zionist and a volunteer at the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem.

Years after Wilhelm Hoschke’s passing, Tobi discovered that his beloved grandfather was an officer in the Waffen SS serving in the 1st SS Tank Division Adolf Hitler, a division which was involved in the murder of Jews during the Holocaust.

When stationed in France during the days following Operation D-Day Hoschke stopped a British officer from shooting himself, because he incorrectly assumed SS forces would execute him. When British troops later captured a seriously injured Hoschke, his life was spared by that same British officer who recognized Hoschke as the SS Officer who had saved him. Hoschke was brought to Britain, where he spent several years in a POW camp.

“I knew he was fighting in World War II and was deployed to Russia and France, but I did not know anything about the war crimes. I recently learned about the mass murders committed by his SS division. I do not know if he was responsible for them directly, but he must have known about them. So I see him as responsible for the atrocities and I am ashamed of what he did,” said Tobi.

Tobi’s parents embraced evangelical Christianity and taught him to love the Jewish people. Tobi’s grandfather accepted Jesus just a few months before his death and was able to die in peace. In the light of German history in general, and his grandfather’s story in particular, Tobi is committed to building bridges between the Jewish and German people, and to bring healing to the survivors and their families, including their descendants.

Tobi’s story was shared also on the Israeli news and can be found under this link: news.walla.co.il/item/2958131
Approximately one third of Israel’s Holocaust Survivors are impoverished, struggling with illness, or living alone. After surviving the unimaginable horror of the Holocaust in the early years of their lives, today they worry that once they fade, so will the memory of them. “Will anyone remember us?” asked Benjamin, a Holocaust survivor, currently residing at the ICEJ-sponsored Haifa Home.

The ICEJ decided to establish the Forest of Life in the heart of Israel, in Jerusalem, to take a stand against oblivion. By donating a minimum of 500 USD, you support the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors and the ICEJ plants an olive tree in your name.

**WHY DO WE PLANT THE TREES?**
The ICEJ-established Forest of Life is a natural monument to Holocaust survivors in the land of Israel. By planting trees, we make the desert bloom! A tree becomes a lasting testimony of Christian generosity. Olive trees are native to Jerusalem, and by reforesting the city we bring this land back to life!

All proceeds will go to the Haifa Home, where the survivors receive the care and attention they need and deserve.

**WHAT IS MY PART?**
Your support is of vital importance as you help keep the Haifa Home in operation! As a sign of appreciation, your name* will be included on the Wall of Supporters in front of the Haifa Home. You will also receive an official certificate stating that a tree was planted in your name. *You may also choose to make the donation on behalf of a friend or relative, whose name you would like to honor or commemorate.

**IT ALREADY STARTED!**
Many national representatives of the ICEJ, as well as private donors from many countries took the initiative and have already supported this great cause. More than a hundred trees have already been planted in Jerusalem, while the financial support is improving the great operations of the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors.

Do not hesitate to enlarge the Forest of Life in Israel!

**DONATE TODAY AT WWW.ICEJ.ORG/FORESTOFLIFE**
HEBRAIC REVELATION OF THE MESSIAH

JÜRGEN BÜHLER

Dr. Jürgen Bühler, Executive Director of the ICEJ and resident of Israel for over 20 years uses the biblical story of Joseph to help illustrate the heart of Jesus for the people of Israel. This message provides a better understanding of why it is essential to be a blessing to the Jewish people.

1.99 USD

GOD’S PROPHETIC FEASTS
THE JOY AND IMPORTANCE OF SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS

In the Bible we find God’s instructions on how His people should celebrate the Seasonal Feasts. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave the commandment to do this in remembrance of Him and that He would join this meal again in His kingdom. Throughout the Biblical year we see a progression taking place: The Spring-festivals point towards the first coming of Jesus while the Fall-festivals point towards His second coming. The Feast of Tabernacles is the climax of the Fall celebrations, and according to the prophets, the nations will go up to Jerusalem to celebrate this Feast of the Lord.

14 USD + SHIPPING

HEBREW/ENGLISH BIBLE

79 USD + SHIPPING

THE NEW JERUSALEM ANOINTING OIL

This Premium Anointing Oil has been hand crafted in Israel using Extra Virgin Olive Oil made from Olive Trees around Jerusalem. This bottle of Anointing Oil has been dedicated to God and soaked in prayer and it has been officially tested for quality. 7.5ml Spikenard Oil

5.99 USD + SHIPPING

2015 FEAST FULL SET DOWNLOAD

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SHEMESH VESNA BÜHLER
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2015 FEAST FULL SET DOWNLOAD

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JERUSALEM
A CULINARY ADVENTURE

The book is a peculiar culinary tour of Jerusalem, sharing its tales and revealing its secrets from the kitchen. From the low end Mahane Yehuda market to the high end restaurants, the book takes us on a journey with great insights, recipes, and beautiful color photographs. Background information on the eateries only adds more flavor to this already savory city.

20 USD + SHIPPING

GOD’S TSUNAMI
BY PETER TSUKAHIRA

God’s Tsunami describes a vision about how worldwide revival connects with the land and people of Israel. The foundation of this vision is both historical and biblical and it integrates truth about the strategic value of today’s marketplace with Israel and teaching about the kingdom of God. God’s Tsunami is a life-message of its author and was first published more than one year before the great Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004.

18 USD + SHIPPING

JERUSALEM NOTEBOOK

This notebook comes in two different colors: black, white. The edges are gold colored and the pages (140) are lined - pages of high quality Italian paper, 16 x 16 cm. Cover style - hard cover luxuriously embellished with the skyline of Jerusalem and ICEJ’s logo in a gold color.

30 USD + FREE SHIPPING

ISRAEL FLAG

The Israel Flag made of 100% polyester. Dimensions are 90 x 150 cm (35.4 x 59.1 inches)

9 USD + SHIPPING

ICEJ SHOMER PENDANT

Shomer is the Hebrew word for watchman. The artistically designed replica of the Zion Mule Corps’ insignia includes an engraving on the back with the scripture from Isaiah 62:6 in Hebrew and the initials of the ICEJ. 24K Gold plated.

30 USD + SHIPPING

VISIT OUR NEW ONLINE STORE AND RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON ALL PURCHASES!
Go to: ICEJSTORE.COM and use the discount code: WFJ2016ICEJ. The special 10% discount for your purchases at the Embassy Resources is valid throughout the year 2016.
In May, ICEJ’s international leaders gathered in Cape Town, South Africa, for the annual ICEJ Leadership Conference. More than 70 delegates from 30 countries joined together to strategize and plan ICEJ activities in the coming year.

The reason delegates traveled all the way to the Cape, however, was that South Africa has become a main hub for theological criticism against Israel. Due to their own apartheid history, many African leaders view Israel today as a modern day apartheid state and thus find no reason to support Israel. Replacement theology is being taught from many pulpits in South Africa, and from there has spread across the African continent.

Therefore, ICEJ leaders visited several cities prior to our own strategy meetings in order to bring a new and biblical view of Israel to the churches. African continental Director Mosy Madugba, International Director Juha Ketola and his wife, Kati, and ICEJ-SA Directors, Luba and Ncedi Mayekiso spoke in churches in White River, Pretoria, Durban, East London, Soweto and Boksburg. It was the first time the ICEJ could hold meetings in these places which were central in the uprising that caused the fall of the Apartheid regime some 20 years ago.

The ICEJ and local leaders hosted an event in Durban which focused on repentance for the infamous 2001 UN Durban Conference on Racism. The UN Resolution from that conference equaled Zionism with racism, and opened the door to labeling Israel an Apartheid state. Representatives of the local evangelical community repented on behalf of the city of Durban, the nation of South Africa and of the church.

The week concluded with “My Brother’s Keeper,” an open conference with more than 1,000 attendees. At the conference, Israel’s Ambassador Arthur Lenk brought with him a video greeting from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to ICEJ.
ICEJ JOINS THE PRESTIGIOUS HERZLIYA CONFERENCE

The city of Herzliya, located on the Mediterranean coast just north of Tel Aviv, earned international fame for its entrepreneurial culture, and since the year 2000, the city has hosted one of the most impacting policy conferences in Israel. Strategists, politicians, economic and community leaders come to the annual Herzliya Conference to discuss the current and future affairs of Israel, as well as the Middle East in general. The event is organized by the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya, one of Israel's most prestigious colleges.

This year the ICEJ was privileged to be a contributor at the conference. As a special guest of the ICEJ, former United States Governor Michael Huckabee presented his views on the current elections in the USA and its impact on Israel. As one of the early candidates for the US presidential election and as a strong evangelical leader, Huckabee was warmly welcomed and his insights were met with great interest. In addition, at another session ICEJ’s Executive Director, Dr. Jürgen Bühler, and International Director, Juha Ketola, shared their expertise on the state of Christians in Israel and the Middle East.

“It is a great privilege and a wonderful opportunity to be an active part of this strategic conference, and to bring a Christian perspective to it,” said Dr. Bühler, who also appreciated the insights he gained from the event.

Please keep our work in South Africa in your prayers and pray in particular for our leaders, Luba and Ncedi Mayekiso.

The Cape Town Declaration may be downloaded from the ICEJ website:
www.icej.org/CapeTownDeclaration
“We believe in living together in harmony,” said Salim Jaber, Mayor of Abu Gosh, an Arab village just outside Jerusalem. “In spite of the political pressures, we can create a new generation that will choose a different way – to live peacefully.”

Mayor Jaber speaks for more than himself. Teachers from his town, in partnership with educators and officials from the neighbouring, predominantly Jewish town of Mevaseret Tzion, joined hands in a project that strives to shape the worldviews of a new generation of Jewish and Arab Israelis. To move forward, they called on the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem to back them up.

Selected schools from both towns engage in a broad spectrum of endeavors in the area of art, music and sports, where the students begin to see each other as teammates and partners, rather than enemies. The entire program is bilingual, but it allows the students to put their languages – Hebrew and Arabic - aside, as sports and arts become a language of its own.

“Our vision is for every child in Israel to go through this experience,” said Omer Beziony, the manager of the project. “There is a vacuum in the society, because every ethnic group follows a different school system.”

The schools are the agents of change. The initiative was able to get off the ground because of the involvement of the teachers, but also the parents and city representatives. As the ICEJ, we believe that enabling the Israeli youth to work together is the best way to combat prejudices and fear between different groups in society. 😊

You can be a part of this venture and similar educational projects by supporting the ICEJ Aid work in Israel. To send a gift, go to our website: www.icej.org/learning-all
ISRAELI YOUTH MEET CHRISTIAN FRIENDS AT ICEJ

By Matthias Immendorfer

The ICEJ headquarters in Jerusalem recently hosted a group of 25 students and teachers from Karmiel, who are supported by our educational program to help Israeli youth reach their full potential. These young men and women, about to graduate high school, will soon be drafted into the Israeli army. By investing in their lives, the International Christian Embassy is investing in the future of Israel.

Through the ICEJ-sponsored Touching the Horizon program, students visit the “Friends of Zion Museum,” where they learn the stories of Christians who have stood with the Jewish people over the years, especially in the 20th century, and supported the modern-day State of Israel. Then they came to the ICEJ Head Office in Jerusalem, to meet the friends of Zion of today – the international staff and volunteers at the Christian Embassy.

As an ICEJ volunteer, I was privileged to address the group, sharing with them who I am and why I decided to come to Israel. I am convinced of God’s ongoing purpose for the Jews, and I see His hand and covenant-keeping nature in the regathering of the Jewish people to their ancient homeland. I believe in the Scriptural call to stand with God’s chosen people. I do not find it to be a burden, as I consider aligning with God’s plan to be a great privilege. The students said that in a world where anti-Semitism is on the rise again, they are encouraged that young people like myself choose to stand with Israel today.

The ICEJ currently funds several educational programs throughout Israel that reconnect Israelis with their Christian friends. Over the summer, the ICEJ will host five additional groups from different parts of Israel. The students left Jerusalem touched by the care and commitment of the global family of churches, and they are encouraged to have met Christian supporters of Israel in person! 🙂
ICEJ GOES TO CUBA!

The newest ICEJ branch was just opened in Havana, Cuba, by International Director Juha Ketola this April. For decades, Cuba was hostile to Israel, and there are still no diplomatic relations between the two nations. Nevertheless this Communist country went through an evangelical revolution in the last few decades, along with many other Latin American countries, and it is estimated that over 200,000 residents of Cuba are now members of the Assemblies of God Church.

The vast majority of evangelicals are supporters of Israel, and the inaugural ceremony of the ICEJ branch in Cuba was accompanied by a sea of Israeli flags. Rev. Moises de Prada, the Vice-Superintendent of Assemblies of God (AOG) in Cuba, was appointed as the official ICEJ Representative. Prada became a senior pastor of a local church in Havana over a year ago, when the congregation was around 350 people. Today, the church has 1200 members and keeps growing!

While in Cuba, Ketola also ministered in the city of Santa Carla and met with the staff of AOG head office, led by the Superintendent Rev. Eliseo Villar Acosta. In spite of the communist totalitarianism and dictatorship, evangelicals are boldly sharing their faith and standing with Israel. Christian communities in Cuba sing songs in Hebrew, perform Israeli dances, and most importantly, they fervently pray for Israel.

HAND IN HAND WITH BELIEVERS IN SPAIN

In the Spring, the ICEJ International Director Juha Ketola was invited to minister at the 37th annual National Conference in Malaga, Spain, organized by Rev. Daniel Del Vecchio, the director of ICEA (Iglesias Cristianas Evangelicas Apostolicas) and Asociacion Real (a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center). Vecchio, a missionary from USA to Spain for 50 years, under whose ministry Ketola got saved in the late 1970s, supports the mission of the ICEJ and welcomed our International Director with open arms and an open heart.

Moises de Prada was appointed to be the official ICEJ Representative in Cuba
India is the second most-populated country on earth. With more than a thousand languages in use, and 22 considered official, it is challenging to reach every state and territory with the message of the Gospel. And yet Pastor Meka Padma Rao, or ‘Dany’ as many call him, found a way to connect with people of different tribes and different backgrounds in 26 of the 29 Indian states. Currently about 140 people from 24 states work voluntarily with ICEJ-India, and over the past three years some 92 thousand joined the ICEJ to regularly pray for Israel.

As the Director of ICEJ-India, Pastor Dany shares with the people of India about our Saviour, Lord Jesus, but also teaches them about Israel. He speaks seven languages, which for most of us already sounds overwhelming, but in India seems like a drop in the ocean. Pastor Dany has experienced remarkable favor from God in connecting with people, enabling him to develop a nationwide network of Christian leaders who are planted in a wide spectrum of places of influence: In ministries and universities, throughout various businesses and industries, and even in local hospitals and law enforcement.

With pastors and leaders all over the country, Pastor Dany began teaching a simple message that is transforming churches all over India: “At every service, whether at the beginning or at the end, I ask pastors to take a minute to speak about Israel and pray for Israel. Just one minute! And let God do the rest.”

This spring, when Christians around the world were remembering Jesus’ sacrifice and celebrating His resurrection, Pastor Dany and ICEJ representatives from different states organized a rally in the capital city titled: Run for Jesus, Stand for Israel.

This event attracted hundreds of people and opened the door for the Christians to publicly speak about their faith, as well as demonstrate their allegiance with Israel. For the first time in the city’s history, the streets were filled with Israeli flags and resounded with Hebrew songs. What a time to be alive!

Prague’s annual rally organized by the local branch of the ICEJ again gathered hundreds of Israel supporters, and focused on the subject: Fighting Antisemitism through Culture.

Ninety-year-old Holocaust survivor, Doris Grozdanovicova, shared her experience from the Terezin ghetto where she spent her teenage years. Doris spoke of hope, and the positive tone of her speech was emphasized by the release of hundreds of blue and white balloons - the colors of the State of Israel.

“The existence of the State of Israel is the ultimate proof that Hitler did not succeed and a guarantee that no one will succeed with another genocidal plan against the Jewish nation,” remarked Majmír Kallus, director of ICEJ-Czech Republic.

Other dignitaries included Daniel Herman, government Minister of Culture, Adriana Knacova, the Mayor of Prague, and the Israeli Ambassador Gary Koren.
From Jerusalem to the Ends of the Earth

BY SERGUEI POPOV

Situated in the far east, just north of Japan, Sakhalin is the biggest island in the Russian Federation. The shape of this beautiful island resembles the Dead Sea, and its size is 4 times bigger than the entire State of Israel.

Many years ago the Tsar (King) of Russia used Sakhalin as an exile, and there were no churches there until 40 years ago. Now the island is home to more than a hundred churches, most of them Protestant.

The ICEJ held a series of ten meetings on the island, to help the churches there understand Biblical teaching about Israel and the chosen people, and also to encourage people to attend the Feast of Tabernacles celebration.

During one event, Pastor Elena Eremeeva of ICEJ-Russia was appointed as the official Representative of the ICEJ in Sakhalin Island, reflecting the increased interest in Israel among the local believers.

March of Life in Northern Ireland

Over 200 people gathered in Belfast to participate in Ireland’s first March of Life to commemorate Yom HaShoah this past May. The event began with violinist Vicki Schmidt’s beautiful performance of the theme song from Schindler’s List; marchers then began their walk, carrying the flags of the nations to demonstrate that the march was part of an international commemoration.

The march ended at the City Hall in the centre of Belfast, where “The Silence of the Bystander” by Elie Wiesel (Holocaust survivor and Nobel Prize winner) was read, followed by a corporate prayer in which the participants made a promise to lift their voices against every form of Jew hatred, modern anti-semitism and racism.

The commemoration concluded with singing of Hatikvah (The Hope), Israel’s national anthem. A reception was later held at Belfast Castle. The list of distinguished guests included Mr. Melvyn Goldberger, son of a Holocaust survivor, Otto Goldberger, and Rabbi David Singer.
Today ICEJ TV is a name you can trust. The rich collection of reports, interviews, short documentaries and appeals have traveled the world far and wide, showing what God is doing in Israel and how Christian love is impacting the Jewish people. Under the leadership of Ray Ramirez, ICEJ’s Creative Director, video production became a key part of ICEJ’s communication ministry.

In pursuit of excellence and continuous improvement, the leadership of ICEJ decided to expand the video team. At the 2015 Feast of Tabernacles, seasoned TV producer Amanda Joy Gross joined the staff of ICEJ and brought to Jerusalem her enthusiasm, expertise and, most importantly, her great faith in what God can do with willing hands.

When Gross visited Israel back in 2012, she felt God opening a new direction to her life. While praying at the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem she had a memorable experience with the Lord, remembering how at the age of 12 she prayed, ‘Here I am send me’, willing to serve God anywhere He placed her.

“I was loving my time in Israel and could even see myself living there one day, but I couldn’t figure out how it could all work. It brought me to this moment of surrender, making a commitment to the Lord again with the words: ‘Here I am send me’,” Gross recalled.

At the time, her Christian TV programs were broadcast into every nation, but she missed the experience of personally visiting these nations. “That’s when I heard Him say ‘I’ll keep sending you if you keep being available.’ So I returned to the USA with a new mindset: To be available for when Jesus would open this door.”

Today, Gross says living and working in Jerusalem is a daily reminder that God is faithful – to His Word, to His promises and to us, personally.

You can watch the ICEJ Report on Israel Now News on Daystar Television Network. The Word from Jerusalem program airs on the following networks: Alfa Omega (Romania), LMTV - Lumieredumonde TV (Ivory Coast), TV Genesis (Brazil), TBN Russia (Russia), IRR TV (Finland), Evangel TV (Nigeria), CMTV - Christian Missionary Television (Nigeria). For air times please check the network’s website.

ICEJ TV reaches tens of thousands of people through the weekly programs. Help us grow this vital ministry. Visit www.icej.tv to give your generous gift!
When the Jews went up to Jerusalem three times a year for the pilgrimage festivals, they were commanded to not appear before God empty-handed (Dt 16:16). Each feast was one of thanksgiving: For Israel to commemorate God's provision during their history as a nation and in their personal lives by bringing a generous offering to Him. Even Paul the Apostle, who we know was in Jerusalem for these holidays (Acts 20:16), must have presented the gifts he collected from the churches across Greece and countries in Asia, to assist the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

I encourage you today to prayerfully consider a special contribution this year during the Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles). As you come up to Jerusalem for the Feast, it is your opportunity to be a blessing to many here in the land. Bring a special offering to the Lord from your family, company, home group or even church, and dedicate it to the work that God wants to do in Israel. But even if you can't be in Jerusalem personally, the Feast of Tabernacles is still a special opportunity to bless Israel.

Also, I want to encourage you to send us your prayer requests before the Feast. Last year we brought more than 10,000 individual requests to the Lord. We know that God hears the prayers of His children, and we want to intercede on your behalf here in Jerusalem also this year.

May the Lord bless you richly out of Zion!

DR. JÜRGEN BÜHLER
ICEJ Executive Director

To give a special Feast of Tabernacles gift to our work in Israel, you can do it on our website: feast.icej.org/feast-offering
Or bring the gift with you to Jerusalem!

To send a prayer request, please fill out the form on our website:
feast.icej.org/prayerrequest
Planning for Feast of Tabernacles 2016 is underway and we want All the Families of the Earth to attend! If you will be traveling to Israel independently, but don’t want to worry about lodging, meals or transportation during the conference, this offer is for you.

**THE LAND PACKAGE INCLUDES:**
- Conference registration;
- Hotel accommodations in either 3 or 4 star hotels in Jerusalem;
- Half board – breakfast and dinner;
- Transportation to Feast events – includes round trip to outdoor program at Ein Gedi (Sunday, 16 October), Communion Service at Garden Tomb (Monday, 17 October), daily sessions at the Pais Arena, Jerusalem March (Thursday, 20 October) and closing prayer meeting (Friday, 21 October).

(The offer does not include: air transportation to and from Israel; transportation from Ben-Gurion Airport to hotel or return; tips; other meals not listed and other incidental expenses.)

**RATES PER PERSON IN USD:**

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<th>Hotel Level</th>
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Arrive in Jerusalem on Saturday, 15 October 2016 (evening check-in); Depart on Saturday, 22 October 2016 (morning check-out).

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE LAND PACKAGE IS 31 JULY, 2016**

For double occupancy, please provide the names of the people who will share the room. The ICEJ reserves the right to make room assignments. Additional nights prior to 15 October or after 22 October are available for an additional fee. Optional post-Feast Galilee tour will also be available for an additional cost.

Contact us for more details: Tel. +972-2-539-9700, E-mail: feastreg@icej.org
ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH

16-21 OCTOBER 2016

REGISTER TODAY
FEAST.ICEJ.ORG