ISRAEL
AN ONGOING MIRACLE

SPECIAL REPORT
World Holocaust Forum
and more. Pages 4-11
Dear friends,

I was blessed over recent days reading the Book of Ruth again. Ruth was a Moabite woman who accompanied her mother-in-law, Naomi, as she returned home to Israel. Naomi had left Bethlehem for Moab to escape a famine, but years later she returned in poverty, having lost her husband and both her sons. Her daughter-in-law Ruth made a bold and sacrilcious decision to join her, declaring: “... wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge: Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried.” (Ruth 1:16-17a)

Ruth fully identified not just with Naomi, but also with her people, Israel, and the God of Israel. This was not just a profession of faith, but faith in action. God led them to the field of Boaz, Naomi’s close relative. Ruth worked hard during the harvest to provide for her mother-in-law. Boaz noticed this and blessed Ruth. The story ends with Boaz marrying Ruth and producing the grandfather of King David, thus making her part of the Messianic lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).

What turned Boaz’s attention to Ruth? He said: “It has been fully reported to me, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know before.” (Ruth 2:11) Boaz saw that Ruth was dedicated to Naomi, her people and the God of Israel. This attitude of caring and blessing towards Israel has always brought God’s blessings to Gentiles.

One of the only Gentiles healed by Jesus was the servant of the Roman centurion in Capernaum. The elders of the synagogue insisted to Jesus: “He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue” (Luke 7:4-5). Jesus immediately healed the servant.

Another example is when Cornelius became the first Gentile saved and filled with the Spirit. The Bible says he was a God-fearing man who loved and blessed the Jewish people (Acts 10:22, 31).

Loving and blessing Israel in practical ways attracts the attention of heaven and makes you a candidate for God’s blessing. We heard at this year’s ENVISION conference the powerful testimony of Pastor Alberto Magno of Bolivia, who shared how God has changed his testimony of comfort and love, and how this for him, for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue” (Luke 7:4-5). Jesus immediately healed the servant.

As you read this issue of Word From Jerusalem, prayerfully ask God how you can practically stand with Israel. This can be done by supporting the ICEJ’s ministry, giving to one of the projects described in this magazine, or even by attending the upcoming Feast of Tabernacles.

I pray God will bless you as you bless Israel.

In His abundant grace,

Dr Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ President

COVER PHOTO:
Desert spring waters of Ein Avdat, Negev Desert. (Shutterstock)
(See article on page 4)

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WHEN THE LORD BROUGHT BACK THE CAPTIVITY OF ZION, WE WERE LIKE THOSE WHO DREAM.

Psalms 126:1

LIKE A DREAM. THIS IS INDEED HOW IT FELT HERE IN ISRAEL IN THE FIRST WEEKS OF 2020.

In the 72nd year of Israel’s independence, Israel and the world commemorated 75 years after the liberation of Auschwitz. Israel indeed rose like a phoenix from the ashes. From the lowest point of Jewish history, the Holocaust,

when hope was lost, Israel was resurrected as a nation state after 2000 years. On May 14, 1948, it was like the prophet Ezekiel declared: “... I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.” (Ezek. 37:11-12)

Israel started as a pioneering agricultural state, surrounded by enemies. The past 72 years the Jewish enterprise has become the most miraculous success story in modern history. Israel became a lead nation in many areas of technological advancement and became a leading contributor of quick and unbureaucratic aid whenever a natural disaster strikes around the world. Although for decades, Israel was an isolated state with virtually the whole world against it, this picture is dramatically changing before our eyes. Everywhere we see signs that not only has Israel’s restoration process not stopped nor slowed down but we see an acceleration of even more amazing changes taking place. Just during the first few weeks of this year we witnessed several amazing developments that underline the Lord’s continuing process of restoring Zion in our days.

HISTORIC DOWNPOURS OF RAIN

“For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.” (Isaiah 44:3)

The biggest and most important water reservoir in Israel is the Kinneret, the Sea of Galilee. The water level of this comparatively small

ISRAEL: AN ONGOING MIRACLE

BY DR JÜRGEN BÜHLER • ICEJ PRESIDENT
In spite of all these technological advances, the shore of the Kinneret continued to recede to dangerous levels, threatening a biological collapse of the lake. The past two years however saw record-breaking rainfalls, positioning the Kinneret on a fast pace to reach maximum capacity. When it is reached, the floodgates to the Jordan river will be opened to avoid flooding in the cities around the Kinneret. Already last year we witnessed a historic downpouring in Jerusalem, when rivers and waterfalls were seen all around Jerusalem. This weather not only impacts the Sea of Galilee but also the Negev and Israel’s aquifers have been receiving much-needed water. The desert is blossoming and ‘streams in the desert’ are frequently sighted in the Negev and Judean desert.

The prophet Isaiah foresaw such a time yet not just in the natural but also in the spiritual: “For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.” (Isaiah 44:3) Here in Jerusalem our prayer is this will remain not just a natural weather phenomenon but will also find a spiritual reality in Israel. Please pray with us.

THE GATHERING OF 50 WORLD LEADERS IN JERUSALEM “When the Almighty scatters kings there, let snow fall on Zalmon.” (Psalms 68:14)

Uniquely related to the weather was another historic event in Israel. On January 23 the Haaretz newspaper showed snow covered mountains across Israel on the same day world leaders arrived from around the globe to attend the World Holocaust Forum at Yad Vashem.

Close to 50 heads of State, Royals and Government leaders arrived in Israel to make a joint declaration that each one of them would stand with determination against all forms of antisemitism in their own countries. Seeing the snowy mountains of Israel I was reminded of Psalms 68:14 “When the Almighty scatters kings there, let snow fall on Zalmon.” Mt Zalmon is one of the mountains in central Israel. The sentence ‘the Lord scatters kings’ could also be translated as ‘when the Kings spread out’, like a bird spreading his wing. I showed the Bible passage to a Jewish orthodox friend.

“Jürgen this is exactly what’s happening today. The world leaders come to Jerusalem to spread their wings over us,” my friend said. “They came to Jerusalem with a confession to stand with the Jewish people in their countries and

湖区是出名的持续上下波动并偶尔甚至下降到红色警戒线以下：一条当不再有水可从基内雷特湖泵出，从而威胁到以色列的淡水供应的警戒线。这持续的水危机（像许多危机一样）导致了具有里程碑意义和创新性的政治决定。以色列回收了85%用于农业用途的水，是世界各国中回收率最高的国家，近几年，成为世界水淡化技术的领导者。今天90%的水来自水龙头、酒店房间和其他住宅的水，来自水淡化厂，这些工厂沿着地中海生产。以色列的水产量正在增长，使以色列成为地区的主要供水者。

A small river forms in the Negev desert after an historic downpour of rain over the winter season.

This ongoing water crisis (like most crisis in Israel) led to groundbreaking and innovative political decisions. Israel recycles 85% of its water for agricultural use, the highest rate of any nation worldwide and has, in recent years, become the world leader in water desalinization. Today 90% of the water coming from faucets of most private households and hotel rooms originate from the desalination plants along the Mediterranean Sea. Israel’s water production is growing and is turning Israel into a main water supplier for the region.

THE DESERT IS BLOSSOMING AND ‘STREAMS IN THE DESERT’ ARE FREQUENTLY SIGHTED IN THE NEGEV AND JUDEAN DESERT

lake is notorious for continuously bouncing on and off the lower red line and at times even dropping far below its red line: a line when no more water can be pumped from the Kinneret, thus endangering Israel’s supply of fresh water.

The gathering of 50 world leaders in Jerusalem

not to tolerate any form of antisemitism.” Their determination of course needs to be proven by practical acts in the years to come, but it was indeed a historic moment. Never before in Israel’s 4,000 year history have so many national rulers arrived in Jerusalem solely to show their support to the Jewish people.

The big litmus test of these nations’ dedication will be their stand against the most antisemitic nation in the world today: the Islamic Republic of Iran. The only international leader to address the subject in his talk was American Vice President Mike Pence, who called upon the world community to take a clear stand against Iran the only nation that calls for the destruction of the only Jewish State, the State of Israel.

In an almost prophetic call the former Chief Rabbi of Israel Meir Israel Lau, chairman of Yad Vashem, solemnly challenged the heads of State: “We heard your pledges today and we will remember them.” He continued, reminding them they are men of great power: “Your signatures can change the fate of people and nations.” He admonished when they leave Jerusalem to use their power to be a blessing for mankind.

Sitting at the ceremony witnessing this event, I was reminded of the prophets of old. I could not help but think of Isaiah 2:3, “Many people shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; …. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” For me it felt like a powerful foreshadow of days to come.

FURTHER ECONOMIC BREAKTHROUGH
“Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, And instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; Everlasting joy shall be theirs.” (Isaiah 61:7)

Israel’s economy has grown in recent decades, far outpacing the average OECD countries around the world to become a world leader in so many areas, including in the high-tech sector and research. With many global companies (Apple, Microsoft, Intel, BMW, etc.) establishing research and development centers in Israel, it has become a hub for new technology. Yet while Israel has an incredible pool of brainpower it always suffered a major lack of natural resources.

While neighboring nations enjoyed huge oil fields, it appeared Israel was left out of the wealth of this regional bounty. For many years oil drilling endeavors took place across several places in Israel, all to no avail. But a few years ago, off the Mediterranean coast, huge gas fields were discovered. The field has proven to be so big that it will not only provide enough energy for Israel for decades to come but will allow the Jewish Nation to become a significant energy exporter in the region.

This past January was a historic moment as Israel’s economy took a major step forward when the gas pipes were officially opened and gas exports are starting to flow to Egypt and Jordan. It is expected that the resulting billions of shekels will provide another major boost for Israel’s already strong economy.

THE DEAL OF THE CENTURY
“… for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.” (Genesis 13:15)

Towards the end of January another historic juncture arrived when the US government released what they called the ‘deal of the century.’ This new peace plan revealed by the Trump administration was historic in many ways, characterized by an entirely different spirit than all other plans presented in the past decades. The historic component was not only is this proposed plan not biased against Israel but is the first one perceived as even friendly towards the Jewish state. It was also the most realistic plan ever presented as it recognized certain facts on the ground over which Israel would never compromise, namely that Israel would never allow millions of Palestinian refugees to return after half a century of absentee to Israel. It recognized that the major settlements in Judea and Samaria would never be abandoned by Israel and that Jerusalem would always remain the undivided capital of the Jewish State. At the same time a historic high financial stimulus was offered to the Palestinians plus a land swap for what they would perceive as lost territory.

What was most surprising and equally historic was the reaction of the Arab world. Instead of the default rejection of Arab countries, they were this time the first to publicly endorse the plan. This was even more surprising as the plan declared undivided Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish State. These developments underline not only a shift on the international parquet but demonstrated also an even more significant and ongoing transformation within the Arab world. Israel had become – for many Gulf States and Egypt – not a liability but an asset to fight Islamic terrorism and a welcome ally against the regional rouge state, Iran.

This plan’s success still remains to be seen. Reading through the main points of this ‘deal of the century’ made me rejoice on one side that for the first time a plan emerged fully recognizing Israel’s security needs and its right in large part to the land they settled on. But at the same time I was concerned that the plan would keep ancient Jewish towns like Shechem, Hebron, etc. off limits for Israel by internationally recognized...
I was reminded that God calls this land ‘My land’ (e.g. Ezek. 36:5; 38:16; Jer. 16:18). Also, the prophet Joel warns against any nation trading off pieces of the land of Israel. God clearly warns the nations against this, through the prophet Joel who announced judgement on the nations because they traded for and divided ‘my land’ (Joel 3:2).

We need to recognize that it is not always wise for politicians to be making official decisions based on their interpretations of biblical prophecies. Thus this is definitely a matter we are all called to pray about, for discernment and for God’s will to be manifested on earth as it is in heaven.

A HISTORIC UNDECIDEDNESS

“And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.” (Daniel 2:21)

As Israel experienced these amazing developments, the nation also found itself in a political and equally historic limbo. After two elections within one year (2019), Israel was not able to establish a functioning government.

The surprising fact about this unique season is that the elected representatives (and their parties) did not disagree so much about political programs but more about personality. The big matter of contention was the person of Benjamin Netanyahu. The papers widely covered various corruption allegations leveled against Netanyahu, while at the same time recognizing that much of the current economic success story of this Startup Nation is due to his stellar leadership.

Many in Israel just desire change because they have become ‘tired’ of the same face in Israeli news. For many of the believers in Israel, Netanyahu has the best understanding of the strategic importance of the global evangelical movement. It is true that the relationship to President Donald Trump and his evangelical constituency was a key factor in the US embassy move to Jerusalem and the favorable paradigm of the new peace plan. The same can be said of the historically good relationship to Brazil’s president who enjoys great support of evangelicals and confessed just a few weeks ago in Brazil his personal faith in Jesus. Netanyahu is also seen by many as the architect of the historically good relations with Israel’s Arab neighbors.

The word of God reminds us however that the appointment of leaders is ultimately in the hand of God. The most important thing we can do in the nations is to pray for Israel and its leaders, and that God would appoint a man after his heart to lead the nation in justice and righteousness.

CONCLUSION

Exciting developments in Israel give us a lot to give praise and thanks to God. Israel continues to be restored even beyond what many hoped and dreamed. It is indeed a privilege to be alive in these historic days. Many prophets of old must have dreamed to see what we can witness with our own eyes.

But in spite of all these exciting developments, Israel needs our prayers. Israel urgently needs a functioning government. Wisdom is needed for any government that will be elected and formed in March this year. Israel will need to make strategic decisions that will alter the future of Israel for the decades to come. We all are called to stand with Israel in prayer and intercession as never before that God’s will be done ‘as in heaven so on earth’.

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As the world marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, an 89-year-old survivor of the Nazi death camp, Eva Erben of Ashkelon, toured public schools in Germany, telling enraptured students her life story of suffering and endurance on the perilous journey from Terezin to Auschwitz-Birkenau, Gross Rosen and finally the Death March.

In what has become an annual tradition around the January 27 Holocaust remembrance observances, the German branch of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem hosted a Holocaust survivor from Israel on a speaking tour in German schools and churches. But Eva Erben’s recent visit took on added significance as Germany wrestles with its rising antisemitism in the wake of the shocking terror attack at the Halle synagogue on Yom Kippur last October.

While Eva managed to survive the Shoah, she lost her parents and all of her extended family after the Wehrmacht occupied her native Czech Republic. For forty years, she did not talk about her ordeal and refused to speak in German. Now an aging matriarch with nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, she is determined to tell her story to one-and-all, driven by an urgency to combat both Holocaust denial and the resurgence of antisemitism.

At a school near Stuttgart, hundreds of students were hanging on her every word as an emotional Eva showed them faded photos of her relatives and said: “I want to make you understand that these pictures of my family before the war are pictures of a normal, happy Jewish family. This story is not just about me, but more about my generation and the generation of my parents. Why did they have to murder us, the Jewish people?”

“But you are our future,” she tells the schoolchildren. “Some of you will become politicians or leaders in other areas. You can do something about antisemitism. Hatred gives only tears. Hatred is destructive and destroys humanity.”

“Why did I come to Germany to share with you? You are not responsible for the Shoah, not for what your grandparents did. However, you are our future. You need to know what has happened, and that this can happen again, unless we tell the story and learn from it. I hope that you will make the right choice,” she concluded.

There is never time to tell her whole story, but Eva told the German schoolchildren mostly about the last months of the war. She and her mother were evacuated with other Jews from the Gross Rosen concentration camp and sent on one of the infamous death marches by foot in the dead of winter. Many were starving and sick,
and many died along the way. This included Eva’s mother, who died in her arms.

“Eva, you need to continue,” she told her. She had always tried to give her daughter hope that life would return to normal for them one day. But now Eva was left to give one last hug and kiss to her mother, and continue on with a broken heart and very little hope or strength.

One night, Eva slipped away from the march and fell asleep in a barn tucked near a cow under some hay, seeking warmth due to the bitter cold and her thin clothing. The next day a boy woke her up and warned her that German soldiers were still around. He gave her some bread and milk, but her stomach could not handle it and she almost died. Eva was down to only 25 kilos.

Later, she came across a German guard who pointed his gun at her ready to pull the trigger. But another guard quickly came and said, “Don’t waste your bullet, she will die on her own.” Shortly after, she passed out and the next thing she remembers is waking up in a barn, where a local Czech lady took her in and cared for her until the German army had withdrawn.

Eva Erben has compiled her entire life story in a book entitled “I Am Forgotten” (“Man hat mich vergessen” in German), which the ICEJ-Germany branch supplied to every student who came to hear her talk. They all waited in line for Eva to sign their copies, which she eagerly did, adding a trademark “Shalom” above her signature. Everyone let Eva know they were glad she came.

“Thank you, Mrs. Erben, for sharing your story,” one student remarked. “You are a courageous lady.”

“It touched me deeply what you have been through and your strength to live and help build up Israel,” said another. “Your story is a story of hope.”

“We have heard and read a lot about this war,” added a third student. “You share your story in such a way that I can picture it. I will never forget this and hope it will never, ever happen again.”

“Eva has a burning message on her heart as antisemitism is on the increase again,” noted ICEJ staff member Jannie Tolhoek, who accompanied Eva on her speaking tour. “While she shared her story at the different schools, you could sense their rapt silence. No one wanted to miss a single word. We believe it will make a difference in Germany’s future.”

Students line up to get their copy of Eva’s book signed.

### 800 ATTEND INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY IN GERMANY

**BY ICEJ GERMANY, ESTER HEINZMANN**

On Monday 27 January, around 800 Jews and Christians gathered outside the synagogue of Stuttgart to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust. The ceremony on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, marking the day of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp (1945), was organised by ICEJ-Germany.

Sara Granitz, Director of Christian Friends of Yad Vashem, and Stephan Lehnert (ICEJ Germany), laid a wreath outside the synagogue, followed by a “March of Remembrance” to the Liederhalle Convention Centre.

Gottfried Bühler, National Director of ICEJ-Germany, addressed the packed auditorium: “Only together we can counter antisemitism. Politicians, churches, the media, every single one of us – we must assume responsibility.” Remembrance alone is not sufficient: “Antisemitism nowadays appears under a new guise – Anti-Israelism. As Germans who were born in post-war Germany, we declare our solidarity with the Jewish people and Israel!”

Michael Kashi, board member of the regional Jewish community, pleaded not to forget what had happened: “Those who were brutally murdered deserve to be remembered.”

The guest of honour was Eva Erben, a lively and witty 89-year old survivor of Auschwitz concentration camp. Erben had travelled from Israel to speak in schools and take part in the remembrance ceremony. In 1941, she was deported to Theresienstadt Ghetto and later to Auschwitz. She lived through cruelties, hunger and sickness, and miraculously survived a death march. Erben and her husband, also a survivor, immigrated to Israel in 1949. Today, they have three children, nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. “We were the ones who built Israel – out of the ashes of the Holocaust”, Erben stressed. The evening was brought to a close with a standing ovation for Erben and the joint singing of the Israeli anthem *Hatikva.*

[Photo credits: Courtesy of ICEJ and Eva Erben]
HAIFA HOME
A STRONG START TO THE NEW YEAR 2020
BY YUDIT SETZ

Remembering the past and giving hope for the future

At the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors, it is our great privilege to not only remember those lost in the Holocaust but to provide daily care for elderly survivors, giving them hope and a future!

With a team of six wonderful Christian long-term volunteers along with intermittent short-term volunteers, our residents are in great hands. These faithful volunteers continually provide love, care, and specific skills which benefit the health and well-being of the residents. They also provide small repairs making the survivors homes even more accessible and safe to live in. And last, but definitely not least, there are always moments in the daily routine to stop and enjoy a cup of coffee along with lovely conversations that fill the hearts of both the survivors and the volunteers.

International Holocaust Memorial Day

A large gathering of Holocaust Survivors, their families, soldiers, police and Maccabi Haifa soccer team amongst many others, crowded the small street in front of the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors. Over 500 people, including dignitaries from the Haifa municipality, Rabbis, MKs, and Ambassadors of multiple nations came from all over the country to attend the ceremony.

ICEJ’s VP & Senior Int. Spokesman David Parsons, touched the hearts of many with his words:

“As I stand here today, I can assure you there are millions of Christians around the world who remember the horrors of the Holocaust. They also remember with deep regret the long, tragic legacy of Christian anti-Semitism. And we say to both: ‘Never again!’”

Many words have been spoken at different ceremonies in Israel and around the world this year, remembering the Holocaust exactly 75 years after the liberation of Auschwitz. However, nothing speaks louder to Israel than our daily care and love for those who have survived and are still among us!

Living Life to the Fullest

With thousands of supporters, our residents at the Haifa Home had the opportunity to kick off a very important soccer game and basketball game. Thousands of fans attended each game, and both were aired live on national TV. Afterwards, the survivors were invited to watch part of the game in the VIP section of the stadium.

The survivors thrive on attention, honor and respect, especially after a life of suffering and hard work to build up this nation. Opportunities like these motivate them to get up every morning and have a purpose in this life. Many of the residents are in their 90’s and still going strong, and we believe it is because of the love, support, and honour they have been shown in these latter years of their lives.

Music, balm for the soul.

The residents at the Haifa Home enjoy music; they even have a weekly dance party to enjoy listening to and moving to the music. Recently, a Christian organization from Denmark, Gideon’s Army, donated a brand new Camac Hermine Harp with 34 strings to the Haifa Home. On the day the harp was delivered, a concert was given by Olga, a professional harpist with the Philharmonic Orchestra in Haifa. The beautiful, delicate sounds of the strings touched many hearts. Olga promised to come with her students and perform a concert for our residents once a month. We also invite anyone who knows how to play the harp well to come to our Home and give a concert for our residents.
Passing On & Making A Difference:

As the years go by, our residents are slowly aging, and many are passing on. Another one of our long-term residents passed away this January. Leah Levi, who moved to the Home with her husband nine years ago, both survivors from Romania, succumbed to cancer and has left another empty space in the Home and in our hearts. We recognize now more than ever that time is running out for us to impact Holocaust survivors. Therefore, we invite you to partner with the ICEJ in continuing to provide the best care and love to Holocaust survivors in Israel today!

ZACHAR’S STORY
“I HAVE FOUND FREEDOM IN ISRAEL”

BY ICEJ HOMECARE,
MAXINE CARLLILL

Every week, Homecare climbs the stairs with a small bag of groceries to visit Zachar and supplement his meager cupboard. Since he is 94 and nearly blind due to a war injury, he carefully handles each item, which is the way he ‘sees’ these days. Afterwards, comes the most important part of the day for him: The cup of tea and a listening ear.

Zachar was born in the Ukraine and, along with many aging Russian immigrants, was part of what used to be called the “Unknown Holocaust”. Only with the fall of the Soviet Union did the stories of horror begin to emerge. Zachar’s story is one such story.

As a teenager, Zachar was placed in a Ghetto in Vinnitsa, Ukraine, but somehow managed to escape. This was an area where most of the Jews were massacred and buried in mass graves in surrounding forests during 1941 and ’42. However, he was eventually caught and by the end of 1943 Zachar found himself in a place of hell. The Pechora Concentration camp was set up in a former sanitarium for tuberculosis patients. The camp was packed with adults and children, and many died of starvation every day. Of the approximately 11,000 Jews crowded into the camp, only some 1,200 survived. Amazingly young Zachar was able to escape from this place as well. “I am not thankful for the suffering, but am very thankful to have survived it,” he told Homecare Nurse Corrie. He joined the Red Army along with 1.5 million Jewish soldiers to fight against Germany’s invasion. Zachar received many medals for his courage, including one of the highest orders.

After the war he did not return to Ukraine, but instead lived near Moscow for the next 50 years, until finally coming to Israel with his beloved wife. Sadly, his wife died after 60 years of marriage and his two children and their families still live outside of Israel. He feels lonely, but he does not regret his Aliyah. “I have found freedom in Israel,” Zachar said.

At the end of the visit, there is always the same request: “Come again soon, I am waiting for you.”

ICEJ Homecare takes the time to care for “the one” in practical and powerful ways with the love of God. Partner with Homecare today to continue to make a difference in the lives of Holocaust survivors and elderly immigrants in their homes right here in the land of Israel!
FOUNDATIONAL TEACHING  
5 BOOKS SERIES  
BY MALCOLM HEDDING

Discover God’s Purpose for Israel, the Church and the Nations Today. The belief system of ‘Replacement Theology’ is once again gathering traction in the Church, influencing a new generation of leaders who see Christian Zionism as the touchstone of everything that is wrong with the traditional evangelicalism of the previous generation. Christians, right across the denominational spectrum need to be equipped with the theological understanding to make an informed, balanced and biblically articulate defense of Israel.

BELIEVING GOD  
BY R.T. KENDALL

Hebrews 11 is a description of people who persisted in faith. With one or two exceptions (as Abel, verse 4) Hebrews does not describe saving faith but persistent faith. Saving faith does not guarantee our inheritance; persisting in faith does. Saving faith guarantees Heaven; persistent faith results in seeing God do in your life what he did in the lives of those described in Hebrews 11.

ENTER HIS GATES, TO YOUR JEWISH ROOTS  
BY SUSAN MARCUS

What is a Mezuzah? Is Chanukah the Jewish Christmas? Can I wear the prayer shawl? What every good Gentile should know... As you enter His gates on your journey, it is my hope that this book will encourage and enrich your spiritual walk. "Won't you follow me, please." If as a Christian, you have ever wondered about the Jewish roots of your faith, this book will help you explore this in a very concise, but yet in a rich presentation of the basics of the Jewish faith, where the Christian faith started. Very high quality book, cover made out of heavy varnished card stock, with great artwork! This will be a family keepsake for years to come!

REMEMBER, OBSERVE, REJOICE  
BY PETRA VAN DER ZANDE

This book gives background information on how the festivals and events were celebrated in biblical times, and how it is done today, in the re-born State of Israel. The guide will help to gain more respect and appreciation for the biblical festivals, the Jewish holidays, and the Word of God.

MIGHTY - כמים רבים  
WORSHIP CD

Enjoy these beautiful worship songs in Hebrew, produced by Pekka Simojoki and Vesna Buehler, featuring various worship leaders from Israel (incl. Shilo Ben Hod, Birgitta Veksler, Vesna Buehler) and choir of young believers from Israel.

JUST LOVE  
BY R.T. KENDALL

Kendall takes 1st Corinthians chapter 13 and shows how it should permeate every aspect of our life. He explains to us what is meant by love, a word stolen from its true meaning by our society, and how to practice it in our church, home and workplace. The central thesis of the book is that we have to show a unity of spirit in the church in order to be effective in the world, but one that is not based on compromising God’s word.

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ICEJ SHOMER PENDANT, 24K GOLD PLATED

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ICEJ CALENDAR 2020

New ICEJ Calendar “Israel’s Diversity”. Jewish and Christian holidays. 12 month Isaiah 62 prayer points every week. Torah portion and Haftarah. 14 beautiful pictures of Israel’s Diversity, special events of ICEJ Jerusalem. Each calendar day has a writing area.

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Available in two colors: black and white. Official T-Shirt of the Feast of Tabernacles “Beginnings” 2019

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THE NEW JERUSALEM - ANOINTING OIL BRIDAL GARDEN, ROSE OF SHARON • 10ML

This premium anointing oil has been hand crafted in Israel using extra virgin olive oil made from olive trees around Jerusalem. It has been scented and mixed according to ancient Hebrew recipes by using biblical essential oils and fragrances sourced from Middle and Far East. This bottle of anointing oil has been dedicated to God and soaked in prayer and it was officially tested for quality.

7 USD

FROM ENGLISH TO HEBREW ACTIVITY WORK BOOK 1

This book is intended for English speakers who wish to learn how to read in Hebrew, quickly and with ease. It should be understood that in the Hebrew language the vowels are not part of the alphabet. In Hebrew there are all kinds of signs, small lines, and punctuation that are added to letters in order to show the reader how the word should be read.

21 USD
Israel’s third election season in the past year started out fairly blasé, but it was jolted awake in late January when US President Donald Trump invited caretaker Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Washington to unveil his long-awaited plan for a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

After teasing us with his “Deal of the Century” for over two years, Trump released it in the midst of a close election campaign. The move certainly felt like election interference, but you did not hear many Israelis complaining. By inviting both Netanyahu and his main rival Benny Gantz to Washington to discuss his “Vision” for peace, it appears Trump sought to give Likud and Blue & White something around which they could coalesce in a unity government after the elections – finally delivering Israel from its prolonged political impasse. Netanyahu’s legal troubles will still be a major obstacle to that end, but the national ballot on March 2 suddenly became all about the Trump peace plan.

Trump’s plan is quite lengthy and complex, and it quickly emerged that Washington and Jerusalem had different understandings on the terms and timing of some of its main provisions, especially regarding “immediate” annexation of settlement areas.

The exact legal nature of the proposal also is still unclear. Normally, the US or another mediator has offered a suggested outline for resolving the core issues, which Israel and the Palestinians are then invited to hammer out in a final agreement through direct negotiations. But this appears to be more an adhesion contract – meaning “take it or leave it”.

For instance, plan architects Jared Kushner and David Friedman quickly chastened Israeli leaders for prematurely seeking to trigger the annexation mechanism, seeming to suggest they consider the deal to be set in stone, with the US team already installed as judges of compliance. Yet on the other hand, when the Palestinians promptly rejected the plan, as expected, Trump’s team urged them to come to the table and negotiate a final peace accord based on the American proposal.

Nevertheless, my initial reaction to the plan is one of cautious receptiveness. This is especially so as the plan continues to demonstrate that President Trump is a great friend of Israel, in line with his earlier landmark decisions on Jerusalem, the Golan, and the legality of the settlements.

The plan contains numerous elements which would be very beneficial to Israel, such as full sovereignty over Jerusalem and full security control from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, plus all air space above. There would be no mass return of Palestinian refugees to Israel. No Israeli settlements would be uprooted. It also dramatically reverses the trend of recent decades whereby the international community has slowly eroded away Israel’s rights and positions without requiring any Palestinian concessions. In addition, it truly tests – for the first time
in the history of the Mideast peace process – the real intentions of the Palestinian leadership, and appears to penalise them for rejecting peace with Israel.

However, if the Trump plan plays out as currently written, it would require Israel to permanently cede its claim to 70% of the West Bank (Judea/Samaria) for a Palestinian state, essentially dividing the Land in a way which is contrary to Scripture. It also holds out the possibility of statehood to a corrupt Palestinian leadership which remains firmly entrenched in its rejection of Israel and continues to squander the hopes and future of the Palestinian people.

Still, the plan has its merits and deserves Israel’s consideration.

Reversing the Trend
Ever since the Madrid Peace Conference in October 1991, the international community has been slowly but steadily trying to force Israel back to the pre-1967 lines in order to create a Palestinian state. The Oslo process culminated at Camp David in July 2000 with Ehud Barak’s offer to cede 92% of the West Bank to the Palestinians. After his talks with PLO chief Yasser Arafat collapsed, some of Barak’s peace team continued the talks at Taba in early 2001 and sweetened the offer to 95% of the West Bank. Around the same time, outgoing US President Bill Clinton set forth his suggested parameters for peace which called for negotiations based on the pre-67 lines with minor land swaps so Israel could retain the “consensus” settlement blocs. Eventually, Ehud Olmert upped the Israeli offer to a reported 97% of the West Bank.

Every time, the Palestinians rejected these generous offers and refused to even table a counteroffer, believing all the time that the international community would eventually deliver them 100% of the territory without having to formally end the conflict with Israel. This slow march back to what Abba Eban once described as the “borders of Auschwitz” culminated in UN Security Council resolution 2334, passed in December 2016, which declared that all the West Bank and East Jerusalem were “occupied Palestinian territory.”

But that reckless trend is now reversed, as Trump’s plan would only give the Palestinians up to 70% of the West Bank, and outlying slivers of eastern Jerusalem, for a Palestinian state. So in that sense, it is a welcome turnaround from what Israelis refer to as the “salami process” of the world powers slowly slicing away at their rights and positions.

Still, there are risks in the plan for Israel. It would provide US backing for Israel to immediately annex up to 30% of the West Bank where the majority of Jewish settlements are located, including the entire Jordan Valley. But doing so would lock Israel into a negotiating process that could lead to a Palestinian state. US recognition of Israel’s claims to the annexed areas would be conditioned on a four-year freeze of Israeli construction in some 15 isolated settlements inside the areas designated for a future Palestinian state, and Israel would be required to negotiate with the Palestinians the terms of statehood along the lines of the US plan.

Testing Palestinian Intentions
The Palestinians also would have a long list of limitations, requirements and conditions in order to receive American recognition of their statehood several years down the road. The Palestinian state would have no army, no security control of their borders or air space, and no right to form mutual defence pacts with Iran or other enemies of Israel. They also would have to end incitement against Israel, as well as ‘pay-for-slay’ welfare benefits to families of jailed or dead terrorists.

Perhaps the biggest test of whether the Palestinians truly want peace is the requirement that the Palestinian Authority disarm Hamas. Given that Hamas will never voluntarily lay down their arms, this would require the PA to launch a bitter civil war among the Palestinians to meet the Trump requirements for statehood. That is an enormously high, even unrealistic threshold for the Palestinians to achieve.

There are other problems with the Trump plan. For instance, Trump seems to have limited coattails when it comes to other nations following his lead. Only a handful of nations are ascending to Jerusalem with their embassies like the US, and no one has endorsed his recognition of the Golan as sovereign Israeli territory. I do believe more countries will follow Trump’s lead on these issues if he gets re-elected, but he first needs to win a second term. Otherwise, the plan is dead in the water.

I do not expect the Palestinians to buy into this plan, but rather they will wait out Trump’s fate come the US presidential elections in November. Yet the plan’s architects seem to have anticipated as much, and I believe they already have a tacit understanding with Israeli leaders on how the Palestinians will be made to pay for continuing to reject peace with Israel. Even so, we also can expect a number of world leaders coming to their rescue – starting with the European Union and Russia.

Meanwhile, Israeli leaders will need to utilise the Trump plan to solidify their hold on as much of the disputed territories as possible, even if it never gets fully implemented. Trump’s team appears to have designed the plan to provide for this contingency, and thus we can confidently say it is the most pro-Israel peace plan ever offered since Israel’s capture of these areas in June 1967.

David R. Parsons is an author, attorney, journalist and ordained minister who serves as Vice President & Senior Spokesman of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem.
Our God moved in mighty ways at the ICEJ Envision Pastors & Leaders Conference in January! There was a greater hunger in the hearts of these men and women of God from around the world to receive the Lord’s vision for this year of 2020 in the city of the great King, Jerusalem.

For four days, over 80 pastors and leaders from around the world experienced the land and people of Israel. Through targeted seminars, attendees received great biblical teachings from local Messianic and Arab pastors and leaders which touched their hearts deeply. Each afternoon featured a VIP excursion to hear about God’s heart for Israel as well as see and experience the Land.

The first adventure was to Efrat, a Jewish settlement in the West Bank, where resilient and peace-seeking Jewish locals shared their experiences living in an area under continual terror attack. As we stood at the border patrol check point in Efrat, we witnessed many Arabs returning back through the Israeli border control to go home after a long day’s work. Hundreds of Arabs with Israeli work permits cross the Israeli border patrol every day from their Arab city into the Israeli city of Efrat to work, because the pay is four times more than what they receive in their own town. These international leaders were able to see firsthand how Israelis and Arabs are peacefully working and interacting with one another on a daily basis.

Wednesday’s excursion to the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, provided greater insight into Israel’s innovative, curiosity-driven approach to scientific studies and Nobel prize-winning discoveries. A tour of the home of Chaim Weismann, Israel’s first President and founder of the Institute, provided a deeper perspective into the early days of Israel’s modern history.

The final excursion was to Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center, where many were deeply impacted by the stories, photos, videos, and information they discovered about the horrific suffering the Jewish people endured during the Holocaust. They saw the enemy try to wipe out the people of Israel, and yet on this trip they witnessed with their own eyes that God’s sovereign hand is over this nation, not only protecting them, but making Israel thrive and shine among the nations for His glory!

God spoke powerfully to many hearts this week: Sylvie from Central Africa shared how God did a miracle in just getting her to Israel for the Envision Conference, and during these days of the conference, God spoke to her more deeply about Israel. Sylvie explained, “God sovereignly chose me to represent Central Africa here in Israel at the Envision Conference. And now that I am here, I am learning so much about Israel. When I get back to my country, I will start mobilizing the top leaders in Central Africa to facilitate a highway between Central Africa and Israel.”

Birgit Kirsch from Germany shared a powerful testimony of how God spoke to her during a time of worship at the conference. “God gave me a vision during worship of an open heart that is powerfully alive, fresh and strong. On the inside of the heart I saw the golden ark of the covenant, and I felt like God was saying that He himself is dwelling inside our hearts!” Birgit also shared, “One really important thing for me of why God brought me here to this conference is to connect with all of these people from all around the world. I am so thankful for the ICEJ enabling all of us from around the world to come to this event to learn more about Israel.”

Thank you for all of your prayers for this successful conference, and we ask you to continue praying for each pastor and leader who attended the Envision Conference, that they would take what God showed them here in Israel back to their home country.

If you are a pastor or leader, plan now to join us here in Jerusalem for Envision 2021!
ICEJ HOLDS STRATEGY DISCUSSIONS IN JERUSALEM IN LIGHT OF 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY

In February the ICEJ’s Jerusalem leadership, international Board of Trustees, and 20 of our key international leaders gathered in Jerusalem to seek God and strategize about the future vision of the Christian Embassy. The meetings took place in light of the 40th anniversary the ICEJ’s founding, which the ministry is celebrating in 2020. The purpose was to position ourselves for the years to come. Among other exciting challenges ahead, Israel has become a one of the most successful nations in the world, there is a growing believing community in Israel, and we are witnessing dramatic changes in the Middle East.

In his opening remarks, ICEJ President Dr Jürgen Bühler spoke about the spiritual significance of 40 years in the Bible, which contains several important 40-year cycles. “We are standing at the threshold of a new season and we need to prepare ourselves”, he said. “What worked in the past might not work in the future, given the rapidly changing realities in Israel and the Middle East.”

ICEJ Board chairman Ingolf Ellßel, Finnish branch director Jani Salokangas, and former Executive Director Malcolm Hedding all shared inspiring thoughts from the Word of God, with each setting a strong spiritual tone for the three-day gathering. Two of the most frequently raised points were the need for continual prayer to undergird our ministry and the need to mobilize the next generation of Christians to stand with God’s purposes for Israel.

“After three days of much prayer and discussion, we all were blessed by the level of unity in spirit and purpose regarding the work of the ICEJ. God’s presence was clearly there and we all felt that He is launching us into an exciting season in the years ahead”, concluded Dr Bühler. Some of the changes and decisions will be announced in the coming weeks and months in more detail.

WELCOME TO CARLOS SALES

The ICEJ recently welcomed Carlos Sales from Bolivia to its Jerusalem staff. Carlos has been serving as Associate Pastor with First Baptist Church in Bolivia, after earning undergraduate and master’s degrees in Christian studies, music and pastoral care at Christ For the Nations International in Dallas, Texas. Carlos is currently in training to become head of the ICEJ’s Arise Youth Department. With his solid biblical background, Carlos also brings his creative skills in music and filmmaking to this new position. Carlos has a heart for youth and wants to see the next generation taking up the Christian Embassy’s mandate to comfort and stand with Israel and the Jewish people in the years ahead.

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FRUITFUL VISIT TO TANZANIA AND BURUNDI

Recently, ICEJ Vice President & Spokesman David Parsons was accompanied by Israeli-Ethiopian pastor Birlie Belay on a productive ministry trip to Tanzania and Burundi. Besides speaking in dozens of churches across Tanzania, Parsons also met with Tanzania’s President John Pombe Magufuli and encouraged him to move his nation’s embassy to Jerusalem. The ICEJ team was then hosted by the First Lady of Burundi, Denise Bucumi Nkurunziza, the only First Lady in Africa who is also an ordained minister. Rev. Nkurunziza invited Parsons to preach at the dedication ceremony for her impressive new 12,000 seat church in the capital city of Bujumbura. Overall, the speaking tour reaffirmed our sense that East Africa is experiencing a great revival which is also marked by a burning love for Israel among the people and their leaders.

David Parsons and pastor Birlie Belay with the First Lady of Burundi, Rev. Denise Nkurunziza.

CELEBRATING CULTURAL DIVERSITY AT THE ICEJ HEADQUARTERS!

By Camille Troc

Well-known as an international organization, the ICEJ reaches hundreds of nations worldwide. The staff at our Jerusalem head office represents 16 nations on six continents! The Embassy acknowledges culture as a precious gift from God and decided to launch a new series of “Culture Nights” for our Jerusalem staff, with the aim of celebrating this diversity and honoring cultural background. Once a month, one country or region is highlighted, giving the staff an amazing opportunity to share about their heritage, their national history and their personal stories. These fun and educational evenings are a great way to strengthen cultural understanding and friendship among all ICEJ staff members.

In January, the spotlights were on the islands and more specifically on Fiji, the Philippines, Mauritius and Vanuatu! In just a matter of minutes, our four island girls took the staff on a trip to the hot southern hemisphere and proudly introduced them to their traditional costumes, their exotic food and drinks, and their very festive dances and songs. In a room fully decorated with flowers and fresh fruits, the evening was punctuated with several games relating to their islands, a limbo and a very challenging food contest which may have upset a few stomachs! This colorful evening was wrapped up with a prize for the best male and female costumes and an island worship song giving thanks to the Lord.

We are already looking forward to celebrating another culture next month!
MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ICEJ AT FEAST 2020

FEAST OF TABERNACLES
PRESENTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN EMBASSY JERUSALEM

2 - 7 OCTOBER 2020
PREPARE THE WAY

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Contact us at feastreg@icej.org

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Join this monthly Prayer initiative!
icej.org/isaiah62

24/7 PRAYER MOVEMENT
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icejprayerwave.com

Register now at feast.icej.org
Contact us at feastreg@icej.org
ICEJ FEEDING STARVING JEWISH CHILDREN IN ETHIOPIA

In 2019, at the request of Isaac Herzog the chairman of the Jewish Agency the ICEJ donated $100,000 to provide emergency nutritional support to Ethiopian Jewish children and nursing mothers in the community in Ethiopia waiting to make Aliyah to Israel.

Medical teams working in Gondar reported that at least 22 children were saved from starvation by this program, while many more were saved from hunger and the onset of long-term health problems.

The program’s significant success has led to other children being referred by their doctors. Roughly 350 children – from newborn to five years old – and approximately 100 pregnant mothers receive ICEJ-sponsored meals daily.

“Based on the past 18 month’s experience, ICEJ’s supplemental feeding program has proven to be vital to the health of the children in Gondar and extremely cost effective,” the Jewish Agency leadership said in a letter to the ICEJ. “We deeply appreciate ICEJ’s past generosity.”

At the same time, the cost and availability of food throughout eastern Africa has risen dramatically due to a massive plague of locusts which has devastated agricultural output. Therefore, it is more urgent than ever for Ethiopian aliyah to resume and increase, bringing all those still waiting home to Israel at last!

GIVE TODAY TO THE ALIYAH WORK OF THE ICEJ.
DONATE AT ICEJ.ORG/AID/ALIYAH
Ezra 2:6 says “Ho there! Flee from the land of the north,” declares the Lord. “for I have dispersed you as the four winds of the heavens,” declares the Lord.

We are in a season of history when the Jewish people in “the Land of the North” are heeding this call!

According to the Jewish Agency, 35,312 people made Aliyah in 2019, and 24,586 of them were from the former Soviet Union (FSU). The megacity of Moscow, capital of the Russian Federation, sent 7,200 Jewish immigrants to Israel in 2019, more than the number of immigrants from Ukraine and France combined. The ICEJ continues to reach out to Jewish communities in Moscow as well as other parts of the FSU to assist them in making Aliyah to the Jewish State.

“In 2019 we assisted 3,844 Olim on their way to Israel,” said ICEJ Aliyah Director Howard Flower. “This is up 46% over 2018.” According to Flower, this brings the total number of Jewish immigrants assisted by the ICEJ to 156,916 since 1980.

“Our next ICEJ sponsored flight will be on February 20 from St. Petersburg and after that on March 17 from Helsinki, which marks almost to the day our 30th anniversary of Aliyah through Finland,” he continued. “The flights from Moscow will begin on March 1 to assist with the huge wave of Aliyah from Russia. Since 1990 we have brought more than 16,000 Russian Olim on ICEJ sponsored flights from the Former Soviet Union.”

The ICEJ hopes to sponsor flights for at least 1,000 immigrants from Russia in 2020 at $400 per person. Additionally, the ICEJ is working together with the Jewish Agency to sponsor three-day informational seminars in Moscow, at a cost of $150 per person. These seminars are crucial to assist people interested in making Aliyah to plan and prepare for their journey.

*These graphs were created from annual Aliyah reports provided by the Jewish Agency.
Looking forward to the Feast of Tabernacles 2020

The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem has been hosting a Christian celebration of the biblical Feast of Tabernacles for 40 years now. I have been privileged to take part in 25 of those Feasts and can attest there is something very prophetic in operation over this annual event. Every year, pilgrims tell us the Feast just seems to get better and better, and that is because each year we are getting closer and closer to the return of Jesus. In fact, the Feast of Tabernacles is all about the Second Coming of the Lord.

The prophetic uniqueness of the Feast of Tabernacles – or Sukkot – was impressed upon us in a fresh new way at Feast 2019 last October. Here at the ICEJ head offices, we had been praying for several years for more Arab believers from throughout the region to come to our Feast gathering in Jerusalem, and especially from Egypt – since they are specifically mentioned by name in Zechariah 14:16-18. Then it happened! Last fall, a group of 17 born-again Christians from across Egypt came to the Feast and testified that it was the words and vision of Zechariah which had drawn them up to Jerusalem at this special time. They were eager to fellowship with the Body of Christ from around the world, but they also wanted to make sure their dry desert had rain this year.

As these Egyptian pilgrims came onto the stage during the traditional Parade of Nations, one Egyptian brother received a text message from back home: It had just started raining in Cairo. God was affirming His word and gave rain to their nation three months earlier than normal. Then, as the pilgrims flew back to Egypt the next week, they landed amidst the heaviest rainstorm in Egypt’s modern history. The streets of Cairo were flooded, and all the schools and shops had to close.

This powerful sign has renewed our belief and expectancy that rains of revival will also fall on those nations attending the Feast, and upon Israel as well. It was on the last “great day of the Feast” of Tabernacles that Jesus stood in the Temple courts and proclaimed: “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” But this He spoke concerning the Spirit…” (John 7:37-39a)

So we are approaching Feast 2020 with greater faith and anticipation than ever for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our gathering in October this year.

After all, when Zechariah saw all nations coming up to Jerusalem to “worship the King, the Lord of hosts”, he did not see them coming at Passover or Pentecost. These were, are and always will be incredibly significant holy festivals. But Zechariah saw the nations coming up to “keep the Feast of Tabernacles.” Those earlier feasts are all about the first coming of Jesus, but Tabernacles is about His Second Coming! And that is reason enough for Christians everywhere to come experience the joy and presence of the Lord at Sukkot in the very city where he will rule and reign one day very, very soon.

Make plans now to be with us at the Feast of Tabernacles, 2-7 October 2020, here in Jerusalem! For more information, visit FEAST.ICEJ.ORG
HEALED AT THE FEAST: TESTIMONY OF NATHALIE VALCKE
FEAST TEAM MEMBER FROM BELGIUM

I was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 29 and with a degenerative disease called Ankylosing Spondylitis, which caused sciatica and constant burning sensations in my back. Six years ago, my husband and I received a calling for Israel and recently we got connected with the ICEJ.

2019 was our first Feast of Tabernacles, and even with my health condition, I wanted to serve as a Feast team member. You can probably imagine how challenging it was for me to be on the Ushering team, especially when this position involves long periods of time standing on my feet. This Feast would be quite an effort!

On the second night, my husband and I were asked to represent our country at the Parade of Nations, as we were the only people from Belgium at the Feast. The previous day had already exhausted me, but after the Parade on the second night, I was really worn out. Noticing how tired I looked, an ICEJ staff member forced me to sit down with her and to just enjoy the rest of the evening.

That very night, ICEJ President Jürgen Bühler made an altar call for those who needed prayer, but I didn’t have the strength to go all the way to the front. As he prayed, I heard a little “click” in my back and I realized the burning in my back which had ruined my life for the past 19 years had completely disappeared! I was set free and therefore was able to continue my service on the Ushering team for the rest of the Feast with no pain up to this day. All glory to God!

After the Feast, that same ICEJ staff member and I met in the Old City and I told her the burning back pain was gone, but I still had a lot of water retention in my legs and feet, which made it difficult to walk. She prayed for healing and when I woke up the next morning, all the water retention in my feet was gone until we left Israel two weeks later! Thank you, Lord.

I encourage you to come to the Feast, to serve as a Feast team member and to experience your own personal miracle! Jesus is alive and He will touch you just as He touched me!”

Delegates represent their nations during the Parade of Nations at the Feast of Tabernacles 2019.

Make plans today to join Tati and Roner in Jerusalem for ICEJ’s Feast of Tabernacles 2020: Prepare the Way!
40TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
Feast Package

9 NIGHTS · 1 - 10 OCTOBER 2020

• Full registration to the Feast of Tabernacles including Ein Gedi Desert Celebration, Parade of Nations, Communion at the Garden Tomb, and Jerusalem March

• Day tours to Shilo and Mt. Gerizim, plus a special ICEJ Aid trip during the week

• Northern Israel itinerary with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee including Tiberias, Mt. Beatitudes, Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, and Nazareth

• 3-star hotel accommodations including half-board meals and transport

Register now at bit.ly/Feast2020
Contact us at feastreg@icej.org

Let’s celebrate 40 years of God’s faithfulness together in the City of God!