NEW THINGS
THE NEXT SEASON FOR ISRAEL AND THE CHURCH
Dear Friends,

We are living in exciting times. Just a few weeks ago, we witnessed US President Donald Trump declare that he now recognizes Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and that he intends to move the US Embassy here.

Trump explained that he was merely complying with the Jerusalem Embassy Act, which Congress already passed with overwhelming support from both parties in 1995. The very first draft of that bill was co-written by David Parsons, who served in Washington at the time as a registered Christian lobbyist for strong US-Israel relations and today serves as Senior Spokesman for the ICEJ.

This shift in US foreign policy will have significant implications for the future. Other nations, such as the Czech Republic, Philippines, and Uganda, have already announced they intend to follow suit. The withdrawal of the last 13 national embassies from Jerusalem in 1980 was one of the main catalysts for the establishment of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles that year.

Since then, the ICEJ, and in particular our USA branch, have worked toward the move of the US Embassy to Jerusalem, knowing other nations were waiting for Washington to take the lead in returning to the holy city. Therefore, we rejoice in this historic development.

We are also thanking the Lord for all the wonderful things we were able to accomplish in 2017. Thanks to our faithful partners around the world, we impacted many lives in Israel. I hope you enjoy the special report in this month’s magazine.

Please keep us in your prayers. The ICEJ is at the forefront of a spiritual battle that has to do with God’s purposes for Israel and the church. A number of our leaders have been affected by life-threatening attacks. God enabled us to overcome them by the prayers of the saints around the world. We know that your prayers are like a wall of fire around our work.

Thank you for standing with us and may this year be a year of blessings and breakthrough for you!

In Christ our Savior!

Dr Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ President

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

COVER PHOTO:
Israelis celebrating Jerusalem Day 2017 at the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem.

FOR MAGAZINE ARCHIVES
visit www.icejusa.org/wfj
I WILL DO A NEW THING

ISAIAH 43:19

BY DR JÜRGEN BÜHLER
As we enter the new year, we are in the midst of a twelve-month period that is rather unique in Israel’s modern history.

During this year-long span, we are celebrating a remarkable series of anniversaries. It all began in May 2017 with the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Jerusalem’s reunification, and it ends in May 2018 with the celebration of Israel’s 70th year of independence. Never in my lifetime can I recall a period with so many remembrances of key historic events related to Israel’s rebirth. Each of these numbers bears a certain biblical significance and are important markers for the church and the nations. They include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>50 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>of a reunited Jerusalem</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>70 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since the United Nations’ plan for a Jewish state</td>
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<td><strong>70 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since Israel’s independence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>100 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since the Balfour Declaration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>100 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since Gen. Edmund Allenby liberated Jerusalem from Ottoman rule</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>120 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since the First Zionist Congress in Basel convened by Theodor Herzl</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>150 YEARS</strong></td>
<td>since Sir Charles Warren discovered the ancient City of David</td>
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Fifty Years – The Jubilee
Noticeable in these milestones are some fifty-year cycles, and according to Leviticus 25, every 50th year was to be a year of Jubilee. If an Israelite landing on hard times had to sell his land or even his own self into servitude, the 50th year represented a year of good news and renewed favor. His original inheritance would be returned to him and he would regain his freedom. It is indeed a season of God’s favor (Isaiah 60:1ff; Luke 4:18ff), when God restores unique blessings to His people.

In modern times, Jerusalem has gone through a whole sequence of these Jubilee cycles over the past 50, 100, and 150 years, indicating that there is a divine pattern of restoration and release operating over the city of God.

Seventy and 120 Years – A Lifespan of Completion
Seventy years represents a significant time span in the Bible. Moses gives 70 years as the lower limit of a human lifetime (Psalm 90:10). It was the period for which Israel was exiled to Babylon. Thus, they spent an entire lifespan in captivity. Then, after 70 years, God remembered His promise of restoration and the Jewish people began returning to their homeland under Ezra and Nehemiah.

The period of 120 years represents the upper limit for a human lifespan. In the times of Noah (Genesis 6:3), God gave humanity 120 years to live. Moses also died exactly at this age, and no biblical figure has ever reached this age since.

Thus, both 70 years (for the State of Israel) and 120 years (for the Zionist movement) represent a season of completion and accomplishment.
The Jewish Year

The Jewish calendar long predates our Gregorian calendar and counts the years since Adam’s creation. According to Jewish tradition, these amazing Jubilees have occurred in the Jewish year 5777 which then turned into 5778 at the last Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) last September. Seven is always a number of completeness. God created the world in 7 days. Jesus said that we are to forgive 7 times 70, representing complete and total forgiveness. The number 777 is one of ultimate completion. The first day of the week is also the eighth day. Jesus rose on the first day of the week from the dead and ushered in a new season. The passing from 5777 to 5778 thus indicates a new season has started.

A New Jubilee Season

In general, it is wise to be careful not to over-emphasize the symbolism of numbers. The concentration of anniversaries with highly symbolic numbers, however, does bear a message for Israel and the nations.

The period of 50 years speaks of restoration and return of that which belonged to its original owner. We see this jubilee cycle in operation over Jerusalem, as key events related to the city have lined up in exactly 50-year intervals, each ushering in a new season for its rightful owners. The discovery of the ancient City of David by Sir Charles Warren brought excitement to the Russian Jewish community and led to the very first wave of Aliyah from Russia in the years following. Allenby’s liberation of Jerusalem, together with the Balfour Declaration 100 years ago, brought a new season to Jerusalem’s inhabitants and laid the foundation for the State of Israel. And of course, the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 meant the biblical Old City was back in Jewish hands for the first time in almost 2,000 years.

It is therefore no surprise that again, at this year’s Jubilee, another landmark of restoration has occurred for Jerusalem. The decision by the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel finally affirms what the Knesset decreed back in July 1980 in the Jerusalem Law—that Jerusalem is the eternal and undivided capital of the State of Israel. The international community unduly withheld this recognition until now, leaving Israel as the only nation in the world not given the right to choose its own capital. As the prophet Zechariah foretold, Jerusalem became like “a cup of drunkenness” for the nations of the world.

But this latest move by the US administration represents a new level of international recognition for Jerusalem. It is a “game changer” in the way nations will deal with Israel in the future. Other nations are expected to follow suit, yet at the same time it also will result in new levels of hostility by others. In any case, this move will significantly strengthen the historical connection of the Jewish people to their national capital. It also underlines that the biblical principle of the Jubilee is still in operation today.

A New Season Coming for Israel

As we mark the 70th anniversary of Israel’s rebirth as a nation during this coming year, we also can look forward to a new season, a new level of prophetic fulfilment for the nation of Israel. The general idea of 70- and 120-year cycles is that a season has been completed and now something new can be expected. The prophet Isaiah repeatedly declares a new season coming to Israel: “Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” (Isaiah 43:19; see also Isaiah 42:9; 48:6).

Over the past 120 years, God has already opened an exciting new chapter for the Jewish people. The headline for this chapter was “Restoration.” A poor, agricultural pioneer state has become the start-up nation that is today a world leader in medical and scientific research and can compete in innovation and efficiency with Silicon Valley or any other hi-tech region of the world. Israel also experienced a number of seemingly hopeless wars and emerged as the unexpected winner. Today, it is uncontested in its neighborhood militarily and has recently become a strategic partner for Sunni Arab nations against the growing threat of Iran and its proxy terror militias.

Now, as we enter this new season, we can expect an even deeper level of restoration. It will continue to strengthen the national and physical restoration of the Jewish State. Yet at the same time, especially after the United States’ recognition of Jerusalem, we can expect a “new thing” that goes beyond the natural and political realm. We do know that one of the greatest outstanding promises God gave to the Jewish people is that of a spiritual restoration for Israel. Almost every Hebrew prophet who foresaw the Jewish physical return to the homeland also foresaw a spiritual return to God on a national scale.

“For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land . . . I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; . . . I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes” (Ezekiel 36:24–27; see also Isaiah 44:3; Zechariah 12:14; Jeremiah 31:31ff).

According to the apostle Paul, this also means the release of an unprecedented blessing to the entire world. “For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?” (Romans 11:15; see also v. 12).

Israel’s revival will release a new level of blessing and
resurrection life among the nations. In the past 120 years since the Zionist dream took shape, we have already witnessed the greatest Christian revival this world has ever seen. In particular, over the recent decades since Jerusalem’s reunification, we have seen dramatic growth in the evangelical churches of the Global South. Today, church growth experts assess the evangelical movement has well over 600 million believers. What a spiritual revival in Israel will mean for the world is beyond imagination.

**Battles and Judgment Ahead**

New seasons for the believer—new levels of glory and spiritual depth—are often preceded and accompanied by seasons of battle and even suffering. The birth of the Zionist movement was triggered by a severe wave of anti-Semitism in Europe, including pogroms in Russia and the Dreyfus Affair in France. The state of Israel was established out of a fierce battle in 1948, and Jerusalem was reunited during the Six-Day War. Both of these wars appeared to be hopeless battles for Israel, as most military experts did not give the small Jewish nation much chance of survival either time.

Yet, any new level of divine restoration always results in loss for God’s enemies. Satan will do anything to contest and stop this new season. That there is now opposition to the latest developments on Jerusalem should not surprise us. Both for Israel and the church, it means we must not just prepare to receive the great “new things” from heaven, but also brace for a new wave of opposition and struggle. Paul states: “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Romans 8:18). There will be seasons of victory but they might come at a price. Jacob’s encounter with God was a fierce battle, and he came out victorious, yet also limping.

The season we are entering will see further breakthroughs for Israel and deeper levels of authority and God’s glory in the church. But it will be accompanied by global shakings and battles that are unprecedented.

Therefore, as we enter this new year, we should steady ourselves for new challenges ahead but at the same time expect great new things from the Lord. God encourages us to dream His dreams. While the world might shake, God is at the same time building a kingdom that cannot be shaken. The restoration of Israel will gather greater momentum, leading to the promised outpouring of His Spirit. And, we can also expect an overcoming church entering into a new season of holiness, authority, and blessing.

Let me suggest the following action points for you to consider:

- **Get behind what God is doing in the church and in Israel.** Ask the Lord what His purpose is for your life and find your place in God’s kingdom. This will be the most fulfilling life you could ever live.

- **Make sure that your foundations are solid and unshakable.** Be part of a church that builds your life and faith, and challenges you to believe for greater things and to walk in holiness before the Lord.

- **Spend daily time with the Lord, praying and reading His Word.**

- **Carry the armor of God and use it!** Our battles will increase and they are “not against flesh and blood but against spiritual principalities.” Be equipped for the days ahead!

As we enter new and exciting seasons, let us together carry out great exploits for our King!
The recent decision by US President Donald Trump finally to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and move the US Embassy here was a very courageous and long overdue act. This issue goes to the core of the historical national identity of the Jewish people. It also goes to the heart of the calling of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, which was founded as an act of Christian solidarity with the deep Jewish attachment to Jerusalem.

Vindication vs. Vengeance
The response among Israelis to this decision by the United States was more relief than elation. When the United Nations is constantly denying the Jewish connection to Jerusalem, it was nice to hear someone affirm their special bond with this place. Time and again, they have been strangely accused of “Judaizing” Jerusalem. Some even consider it a “war crime” for a Jewish family in eastern Jerusalem to add a balcony to their home. So, it was comforting to hear a major world leader warmly and calmly validate their ancient connection to this city.

The Palestinian reaction to Trump’s announcement was largely one of disappointment, as most seem resigned to the fact that it was going to happen eventually. Still, Palestinian and Arab/Muslim leaders voiced their anger and threatened to derail the embassy move through violent protests—and perhaps worse. Apparently, some feel they must prove their reverence for Jerusalem through bloodshed.

Spurious Claims and Historical Fallacies
The heart of the problem is that the genuine Jewish claim to Jerusalem is being challenged by rival claims of questionable origins, including a nationalist one asserted by the Palestinians that the city is the capital of their state and a religious one advanced by Muslims that the al-Haram al-Sharif (Temple Mount) is the third holiest site in Islam, and thus, exclusively theirs. Both claims have been repeated enough over time as to be believed by billions of people worldwide.

Yet according to leading scholars, Muslim veneration of Jerusalem has political origins dating to several decades after Muhammad died, when the Umayyad Dynasty ruling in Damascus lost control
of Mecca and decided to elevate Jerusalem as a place of Muslim pilgrimage. To do so, they linked the prophet’s mythical “night journey” to the newly built al-Aqsa mosque, located on the Temple Mount. Yet, many Muslims down through history have rejected this as a later hadith (tradition) of Islam, since they know al-Aqsa did not even exist yet and that Muhammad turned his back on Jerusalem when he changed the direction of prayer (qibla) toward Mecca. Moreover, the Koran does not contain even one single mention of Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, credible accounts from the early 1920s trace the Palestinian nationalist claim to Jerusalem back to certain British Mandate officials who opposed Zionism and sought to frustrate the implementation of the Balfour Declaration. These British anti-Semites promoted local Arab leader Haj Amin al-Husseini to the lofty title of Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and turned the Dome of the Rock into a symbol of the new Palestinian nationalist movement. The mufti eventually wound up in Berlin supporting Hitler’s genocidal campaign against the Jews, even while the Muslim waqf in charge of the Dome of the Rock published tour guides which acknowledged “beyond dispute” that it was built on the site of Solomon’s Temple.

Universal Reverence for Jerusalem
One cannot ignore that today Jerusalem holds great historical and religious significance for billions of people of faith all around the world. Yet, this universal reverence for Jerusalem originates with the Jewish people and their close spiritual ties to this city. Without that foundational divine connection between the Jews and Jerusalem, no one else would have cared about this remote city nestled away in the Judean hills.

The Case for the Jewish Capital
The Bible itself makes hundreds of references to Jerusalem. Historians have scoured through ancient Greek and Roman writings and they all refer to Jerusalem as a “Jewish city” and the “capital of the Jews.” During their many centuries of exile, the Jews always longed to return to Jerusalem and restore its past glories. For seven decades now, Jerusalem has served as Israel’s capital—even when enemies precariously surrounded it, and even though the nations refused to recognize it as such. This steadfast devotion to Jerusalem has again demonstrated its centrality to the Jews.

Spiritual Conflict to Shake the Nations
Still, it should come as no surprise that there is now a serious global dispute over the rightful Jewish place in Jerusalem. The Bible is clear that a great “controversy” over Zion would arise one day among all nations (Isaiah 34:8; also Zechariah 12:2–3). Yet, God would settle it by placing “My king on My holy hill of Zion” (Psalm 2:6). This refers to that blessed time when the Messiah comes to take up the throne of his father David, which clearly will be located on Mount Zion in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:1–4, 9:7, 16:5, 24:23; Jeremiah 31:6; Joel 3:17; Micah 4:1–7; Zechariah 8:3; Luke 1:32; Revelation 14:1).

The Bible also foresees the Messiah’s arrival preceded by a rival claimant to the throne—a false Messiah or Antichrist (Matthew 24:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12; 1 John 2:18, 4:3; Revelation 11–20).

These Scriptures suggest it also involves a false claim to the actual site of that throne in Jerusalem. How this may be linked to the current competing claims to Jerusalem and the Temple Mount is not quite certain. But we can already see how such a controversy over Zion has the power to shake all nations.

Until then, each and every nation must choose whether to align themselves on the right side of Scripture concerning Jerusalem. This comes down to whether they fear God and honor His Word more than they fear and honor men.

Jerusalem’s Redemptive Destiny
From the start of 2017, the Lord has been showing us that there is a Jubilee cycle in operation over Jerusalem in modern times, whereby every 50 years something dramatic happens to release the city further into its prophetic destiny. So, for months now we have been declaring that there would be yet another Jubilee release for Jerusalem this very year, and it appears to now be upon us. President Trump has made a geo-political decision, but it also signals a shift in the spiritual realm. We do not yet know what all the consequences of this move will be and how long they may play out. But we are convinced that Jerusalem is now being released even further into its redemptive destiny, and that we will see a tremendous impact in the global church as well.

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The unified voices of members of the ICEJ and the American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLI) network significantly influenced President Trump to officially recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and place the US Embassy there. He had agreed to do so when some 40,000 ICEJ members and 650 Christian leaders had requested this during the 2016 Presidential Campaign. In gratitude for his historic recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital on December 6, 2017, letters were sent to the president expressing thanks for keeping his campaign promise. The ICEJ thank you letter was signed by
ICEJ staff celebrated the hallmark decision by US President Trump to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem, rejoicing with the Jewish people that their beloved city is finally getting its due recognition. This was also a day of rejoicing for the ICEJ’s own ministry, as the Christian Embassy has been at the forefront of Christian efforts to convince the community of nations to grant full diplomatic recognition to Jerusalem as Israel’s capital.

Special honor was due to VP and International Spokesman David Parsons, drafter of the original bill from 1995, to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Israel’s rightful capital.

SIGNERS INCLUDED:

Tony Perkins
President, Family Research Council

Susan Michael
USA Director, ICEJ

Dr. Charles Stanley
President, In Touch Ministries

Mark Tooley
President, Institute on Religion and Democracy

Linda Smith
President, D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship

Jane Hansen Hoyt
President/CEO, Aglow International

Star Parker
President, Center for Urban Renewal and Education

Dr. Jim Garlow
Senior Pastor, Skyline Church

Kay Arthur
Co-Founder, Precept Ministries International

Mario Bramnick
President, Latino Coalition for Israel

Dr. Joel Palmer
Chaplain/VP Ministry Relations, The Christian Broadcasting Network

Robert Stearns
Founder/Exec Director, Eagles Wings

Richard Bott II
President/CEO, Bott Radio Network

Dr. John Garr
Chancellor, Hebraic Heritage Christian College

Gary Bauer
Washington Director, Christians United for Israel Action Fund

Dr. James Dobson
Founder/President, Family Talk

Michael Little
Chairman, National Religious Broadcasters

Penny Young Nance
CEO, Concerned Women for America

Dr. Jim Showers
Executive Director, The Friends of Israel

Janet Parshall
Nationally Syndicated Talk Show Host

Dr. Jerry Johnson
President/CEO, National Religious Broadcasters

Andrea Lafferty
President, Traditional Values Coalition

Robert Combs
President, Christian Coalition of America

Dr. James M. Hutchens
President, The Jerusalem Connection, International

Eric Metaxas
New York Times Bestselling Author, Nationally Syndicated Talk Show Host

Mathew Staver
Founder/Chairman, Liberty Counsel

Scott Phillips
Executive Director, Passages

Becky N. Dunlap
Former Senior Advisor to President Ronald Reagan

For the full list of signers go to www.aclforisrael.com/move-the-us-embassy-to-jerusalem/
Your Love, Your Voice, Your Embassy

The ICEJ is a force and a voice to be reckoned with, but in truth it’s really your voice—because you enable us. We like to think of ourselves as your voice for Israel internationally and your hands and feet in the Land domestically. Four decades of honest advocacy for the Jewish nation has established a firm bedrock of trust and dependability in the eyes of our Israeli partners and friends. The ICEJ impacts a broad spectrum of people and projects, enabling, supporting, and caring for God’s people and His little ones. We can’t do any of this without you and we gratefully and humbly rely on your support in prayer and finances. This is why we are proud and happy to share 2017’s achievements and highlights with you.

JANUARY

• Thousands of Bibles were mailed to UNESCO highlighting the Jewish people’s link to the Temple Mount.

• Medical kits for Magen David Adom; furniture and new mattresses for ministry outreach program; food items for the needy and addicts.

• Envision Pastors’ Conference – Inspiring and equipping Christian leaders from all over the world. Thirty pastors and school of ministry students attended from the United States.

FEBRUARY

• The ICEJ supplies critically needed baby food to beleaguered families in Syria in close cooperation with the IDF.

• Day Care Subsidies for poor Orthodox children; support to Educational Center for the Blind; scholarships for vocational training for young adults.

• US Israel Encounter Tour to Israel for 40 Southern Baptist pastors.
MARCH
• Oslo Symposium – High-impact Israel conference with esteemed and anointed speakers.
• New Pots ‘n’ Pans practical welcoming gifts) for Ethiopian Jewish immigrants.
• Purchase of a new apartment, along with renovated clubroom, for the Haifa Home.

APRIL
• Helping Jews in need honor their biblical feasts through Passover distribution/Seder meals.
• Upgrading and improving the internet system for a school for the deaf in Jerusalem.
• Reaching out to Israel’s Arab population: New music room for Druze school in Abu Sna’an.

MAY
• ICEJ partners install much-needed bomb shelter for Bikkurim School for the Arts in the Eshkol Region.
• Following ICEJ-led push, Czech parliament resolves to respect Jerusalem as Israel’s capital.
• Dozens of Israeli officials visit the ICEJ grounds for Jerusalem Day Events.
JUNE
• ICEJ reaches 138,000 mark in aiding new Jewish immigrants to make the journey to their ancestral homeland.

• One-thousand mark in ICEJ-assisted Aliyah for the Bnei Menashe—the secluded Jewish community from northwestern India.

• The ICEJ expands its global impact and now has branch offices or representatives in a total of 90 countries.

• US Leadership Briefing and Summer Conference drew hundreds in Tennessee.

JULY
• Temple Mount Crisis–Critically needed knife and bulletproof vests provided to elite volunteer police. Aid to family of police officers killed in Temple Mount attack.

• Summer outreach for children: Furniture for residential flats of children’s home in Kiryat Gat; donations for a new playground; school bags and shoes donated to children in need in Nazareth.

• US Branch takes 50 young adults to Israel on the Israel Impact Tour and the Arise Summer Tour.

AUGUST
• New ambulance donated via donors in Canada for MDA.

• March in the Footsteps of Heroes—Holocaust Remembrance event at Auschwitz.

SEPTEMBER
• ICEJ-sponsored medical team enters Syria to provide life-changing medical care and to show the love of Jesus.

• ICEJ partners in Exodus Ceremony to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the sinking of the Exodus refugee ship.
OCTOBER
• Feast of Tabernacles 2017 - Best physical attendance in a decade, as well as 500,000 viewers tuning in online.
• Installed two new bomb shelters at Kibbutz Tze’elim - Eshkol Region; new steel shelter ordered for the South.
• Subsidized educational expenses of local believing children.

NOVEMBER
• Keynote Christian address by ICEJ President, Dr. Jürgen Bühler, at the Balfour Centenary Celebration in London’s Royal Albert Hall.
• Upgrades and renovations for Haifa home apartments against the winter rains.
• US Branch takes the 140th pastor to Israel on an Israel Encounter Pastors Tour.

DECEMBER
• Sponsoring Christmas gifts for kids, gift baskets for families, and more in Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem.
• Hanukkah gifts to welcome new immigrant families.
• A total of 1,300 Ethiopian immigrant flights sponsored throughout 2017.
The ICEJ will continue to pursue our biblical mandate through prayer and timely action on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people, but we can only do so in partnership with your faithful prayers and financial support. Please pray about how you can partner with the ICEJ—your Embassy—to continue to impact Israel and the body of Christ. Please donate today!

SEND YOUR GIFT

You can send your most generous gift to the ICEJ in any of the following ways:

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Visit www.icejusa.org/donate and click on the DONATE NOW button!

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BY TELEPHONE
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FAITHFULLY SUPPORTING ISRAEL

Be a part of that future generation spoken of in Psalm 102 that is partnering with the Lord in His work to restore Zion, for the set time has come.

PARTNER LEVELS

Covenant Partner
Show your love and support for Israel by partnering with the ICEJ. Become a Covenant Partner at a giving level of at least $30 a month. In appreciation, you will receive the following resources:

- A Partnership Certificate
- The Word From Jerusalem magazine
- A year-end gift of appreciation

Ambassadorial Partner
Partnership in ministry is a gift God gives to strengthen and undergird His work. Become an Ambassadorial Partner with the ICEJ at a giving level of at least $100 a month. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Covenant Partnership level plus:

- Exclusive access to ICEJ’s quarterly Mid-East ministry update conference call from Jerusalem
- An invitation to attend our ICEJ-USA leadership briefing during our national conference

Builder of Zion Partner
Isaiah declared the Lord will call Zion’s walls “salvation” and her gates “praise” (60.18). As we walk together side by side, the ICEJ would be honored if you would become a Builder of Zion Partner at a giving level of $2,500 a year or more. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Ambassadorial Partnership level plus:

- A discount of $200.00 on a pilgrimage tour to Israel during the Feast of Tabernacles or other qualifying tour
- An additional gift acknowledging you as a Builder of Zion Partner

Gateway of Zion Partner
Show compassion for Zion and bless the people of Israel. The ICEJ would be honored if you were to become a Gateway of Zion partner at a giving level of $20,000 a year or more. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Builder of Zion Partnership level plus:

- The opportunity to meet with ICEJ leadership and/or receive personal briefings on ICEJ projects that are of interest
- Special invites to exclusive events such as pastors’ lunches and VIP meetings that are held in your area or community
- An additional gift acknowledging you are a Gateway of Zion Partner

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO
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Phone: (615) 895 9830 • Email: info@icejusa.org
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President Donald J. Trump made history on December 6, 2017 by announcing the United States was officially recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The president also directed the State Department to begin preparations to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Christian leaders had made it clear to the White House that this issue was important to them, beginning with a petition during the 2016 presidential campaign that 650 Christian leaders, representing some 60 million evangelical Christians, signed. The American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLI) petition asked the candidates to adopt five guiding principles in relation to Israel.

One of those principles was the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and to relocate the US Embassy there. After the election and prior to each waiver deadline, follow-up letters from these leaders reminded the president of his campaign promise. A hearty thank you was issued after his December 2017 announcement demonstrating the importance of Jerusalem to American Christians. There are a number of reasons for this.

Implementing US Law
It was in 1995 that a majority in Congress passed The Jerusalem Embassy Act recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and calling for the US embassy to be moved there. However, the Act included a security waiver which every president since had used to delay the move, citing national security concerns or possible impacts on peace talks between the Israelis and Palestinians.

US law had therefore not been fully implemented for a period of some 22 years. Some in Congress were not happy with this and held hearings in November 2017 to pressure the White House to proceed with moving the embassy. The president agreed that it was time to implement the 1995 law.

An Opportune Moment
Many experts believed the negative reaction to moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem would be much less violent than in previous years, because the presidency of Donald Trump had opened a door of opportunity in the Middle East that no previous president had achieved. He had tremendous leverage in a region that was now aligning with Israel against Iran. The Palestinian issue paled in comparison to the threat of Iran to the rest of the Middle East.

Voices opposed to the announcement claimed it would kill any chance of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians. However, a peace agreement had not come about after 25 years of multiple attempts. The only way there could be real peace between the Palestinians and Israel was by requiring the Palestinian Authority to stop inciting violence and to prepare its people for peace with proper education in schools, universities, mosques, and the media. It would take several decades to raise up a new generation prepared for democracy and peace.

In the meantime, US foreign policy should not be decided by those who threaten and carry out violence, but by the US government. Trump’s announcement sent a strong message to the Palestinian Authority to come to the negotiating table before they lost even more leverage. Time will tell, but Trump’s recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital may have actually increased the possibility of peace talks.

Recognizing a True Ally
Israel is the only country in the world where the United States refused to place their embassy in the capital city. Yet, they are the only true democracy in the Middle East, a country and people who share our values and who love America. Recognizing their capital was the right thing to do for our greatest ally in the region.

Rewarding Just Custodianship
The issue was also important to these Christian leaders on a more personal level. Jerusalem is a significant city in the Christian faith with many historical sites and great spiritual meaning. Only a free and democratic Israel could be trusted to protect Jerusalem for all peoples of faith. The Israeli government had demonstrated its trustworthiness by safeguarding biblical and archeological sites, and allowing freedom of religion and freedom of access to all holy sites and places of worship. Christian leaders wanted to recognize and solidify Israeli sovereignty over all of Jerusalem, including the eastern part of the city which includes all of ancient biblical Jerusalem.

Making History
Through this bold and courageous declaration, President Trump has secured his place in history. Making this declaration in 2017—the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty in 1967—especially timely.

The actual date on which the announcement occurred also had profound significance in Jewish history. It was already night in Israel when President Trump signed the proclamation, and on the Jewish calendar, the 19th of Kislev had begun. It was on the 19th of Kislev in 1949 that David Ben Gurion, the first prime minister of the Jewish state, wrote that the Israeli government had unanimously decided to make Jerusalem the capital.

Many Christians recognize the hand of God in all of this and will expect to see many blessings on the United States. In Genesis 12:3, God states about the Jewish people: “I will bless those who bless you and curse him who curses you.” On December 6, President Trump blessed the Jewish people by recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and in so doing will now be a significant part in their history.
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Summit continues with Jerusalem Day Celebration / Capitol Hill

To register please visit www.icejusa.org/acli2018

American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLI) is a project of the US Branch of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ)