They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. 

Isaiah 51:11 (NIV)

ADOPT A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

TEN REASONS TO SUPPORT ISRAEL
Dear Friends,

The LORD has anointed me... to comfort all who mourn, to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness... (Isaiah 61:1-3f).

This issue of the Word from Jerusalem magazine highlights the plight of the remaining Holocaust survivors that are still alive in Israel. This last generation of survivors were either children, adolescents, or young adults during the Holocaust.

Esti, one of the residents in our Haifa Home, was a young child when the Nazis invaded her village. She saw her parents killed and had to flee with her older sister through the forests of Poland, where eventually her sister died in her lap. Running from one village to another, she managed to survive, and as a young teenager moved to Israel. She told us recently that the horrible images from more than 70 years ago are still alive in her mind, but living in the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors, gives her new hope.

The warm atmosphere of the Home, regular visits from our caring staff, along with regular international guests – Christians from around the world – make the Home a joyful place that brings healing and excitement to this unique group of 70 survivors.

Please pray for our staff as they reach out to these broken-hearted people. At the same time, as you read this Word from Jerusalem, please consider partnering with us and taking this last opportunity to bless these courageous people who have suffered through so much. There are substantial costs involved with running this facility, and there is still a great need to expand the Home, as the waiting list for accommodation is long.

Time is running out and there is only a small window of opportunity left to show Holocaust survivors the love of God. Thank you for standing with us at this crucial time!

Yours in Christ!

Dr. Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ Executive Director
CONTENTS

4 TEN REASONS TO SUPPORT ISRAEL

6 WELCOME TO THE HAIFA HOME

8 PASTOR LARRY BOOTH

11 ADOPT A SURVIVOR

12 CAPITOL HILL HEARS FROM THE ICEJ
When asked why a person supports Israel, most Christians respond with Genesis 12:3, the biblical verse where God tells Abraham that He would bless those who blessed them and would curse those who cursed them. While certainly a pertinent scripture, it alone cannot satisfy either the more curious or the antagonist.

There are actually many reasons why Christians support Israel and the Jewish people, and an advocate should be ready to articulate them all.

**PERSONALLY** – Millions of Christians have visited Israel and its holy sites, and experienced their Bible coming alive in profoundly transforming ways. It only stands to reason that these pilgrims return with an excitement about Israel and deep appreciation for the country.

**GRATEFULLY** – All Christians should support Israel in gratitude for the protection the State provides to Christians living there and the atmosphere of peace and security they enjoy as full citizens of the Jewish state. While religious minorities face intense persecution across the Middle East, Israel provides the only safe haven for Christians and is consequently the only country in the region in which the Christian community is growing.

**PRACTICALLY** – Israel’s incredible contributions across the fields of healthcare, agriculture, and technology are saving lives, creating jobs, and enriching communities across the United States. With advances ranging from text messaging to cancer research, and from drip irrigation to the flu vaccine, odds are that innovative Israelis have improved life for you and your family!

**POLITICALLY** – It is vital for all Americans to maintain support of a strong alliance with the only liberal democracy in the Middle East, a country that advances our national interests and shares our values of freedom of speech, freedom of worship, and human rights. Israel is the one stable, pro-American country in a hostile region and deserves a strong and committed friendship with the United States.

**ECONOMICALLY** – Support of Israel is a good investment, not just for the investor, but for the blessing of the region. The greatest blessing for the Palestinian people lies in an alliance with Israel through which they would enjoy the benefits of her strong economy and free society. Instead, every terrorist or military campaign against Israel has resulted in the weakening of the Palestinian economy and the deterioration of the society at the hands of despots.

**BOLDLY** – One can boldly support Israel whose founding was completely legal and formulated by the community of nations as reflected in the 1917 Balfour Declaration, the 1920 San Remo
Conference Resolution, and the 1922 League of Nations vote. After the declaration of statehood in 1948, Israel was admitted into the United Nations in 1949 with a majority vote.

**EMPATHETICALLY** – After two thousand years of persecutions, expulsions and attempts at annihilation, it is time that the world says “enough!” Israel’s founding brought justice to the Jewish people who were never allowed to defend themselves or determine their own future. That has now changed.

**MORALLY** – The tragic history of Jewish-Christian relations – a history that has been plagued by anti-Semitism perpetuated by confessing Christians – should cause all Christians to seek ways to establish a new relationship with the Jewish people based on mutual respect. Likewise, they should condemn the demonization of the Jewish people and delegitimization of the Jewish state as nothing more than modern expressions of anti-Semitism.

**BIBLICALLY** – Genesis 12 is clear that God chose Abraham and the nation that would descend from him for the purposes of world redemption. That is why God declared that those who blessed His plan and choice of Israel would also be blessed. The return of the Jewish people to their ancient homeland is proof of the faithfulness of God to His promises to Abraham and as such, demands our support.

This explains why Psalm 122:6 commands us to pray for the peace and well-being of Jerusalem, and as watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem in Isaiah 62:6-7, we should pray with great fervor and persistence until all of God’s promises to the Jewish people are fulfilled. In Romans 9-11 of the New Testament, the Apostle Paul is clear that the church should honor the Jewish people as the root that supports the Christian faith, because everything we hold dear as Christians has come from them.

**HISTORICALLY** – With such a firm biblical foundation for support of the Jewish people, it is no surprise to find that many of the fathers of the Bible-based Evangelical Christian movement preached from the scriptures the return of the Jewish people to their ancient homeland and the blessing this return would bring upon the world. Modern Christian supporters of Israel follow in the steps of great Christian leaders such as John and Charles Wesley, Robert Murray MacCheyne, Charles Spurgeon, and many of the Puritan preachers, to name a few.

One must conclude that while the biblical basis for Christian support of Israel is extensive, there are also a variety of other convincing arguments based on history, morality, and plain old common sense.

We were first introduced to Shimon Sabag in December of 2009, when a few representatives of the ICEJ visited a small home in Haifa, which housed several Holocaust survivors. As an initiator of this endeavor, Shimon was already a man who had vision as well as a huge heart to help Holocaust survivors live out their last years with dignity, love, and care.

A wonderful partnership was born between the International Christian Embassy and Yad Ezer L’Haver – the organization started by Shimon. With Christian support from all around the world, ICEJ was able to acquire buildings and apartments to house survivors who needed care, and a secure place to live. As the Home grew, it became a well-developed assisted living facility for elderly survivors, which its director often calls, “A house of God.” We have seen God’s hand over this project and His continuous, wonderful provision.

Over the years, new residents have moved in, more staff have been hired, and additions and renovations have been made. It has become a Home that is “one of its kind” in all of Israel, and it has also become known not only in Israel, but all over the world.

As this special Home does not fit any recognized category in Israel for a center for the elderly, it does not receive any government support. However, it is under close supervision from the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and thus fully complies with all statutory standards and implements the ministry’s rules and regulations.

When residents come to live in the Home, they are usually still fairly independent and relatively healthy. However, with time, as most of them are in their 80s and 90s, we see a significant decline in their health, which can happen quite suddenly. Every case is unique; therefore creative solutions have to be found to take care of the needs of every resident.

We are thankful for every donation that we receive for this remarkable project. Your support is invaluable, and it is a huge blessing toward the continued running of the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors! 🙏

Adopt a Holocaust Survivor by visiting: www.icejusa.org/adopt
THE SEPTEMBER Word from Jerusalem magazine introduced a new program called Peacemakers, which was initiated in July by the ICEJ-Czech Republic Branch in Prague. After first connecting in Europe, the participants flew over to Israel to continue on their journey with the objective to better understand the history of World War II, and the relations between the European countries and Israel.

An important part of their visit was time spent at the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors. The young people were touched by the stories they heard at the Home, and at the same time, they themselves were a blessing to the survivors. The visitors were divided into smaller groups, in order to have more personal time with the survivors, and to listen to their testimonies.

One of the groups met with a survivor named Manya. To express her feelings, Manya draws and paints, writes poems and songs, and has also authored books about her life. In many of her paintings, Manya has drawn her mother with her hands raised to the Heavens. As she shared about the miracle of how she and her parents survived the war, she added with a smile, “Maybe it really was thanks to the prayers of my mother.”

The Peacemakers project is all about learning from the past, and the young Europeans said they would never forget the testimonies they heard. “[The survivors] told us their stories,” shared David from the Czech Republic. “And the interesting thing was they were not bitter. After the program finished, we left touched by their kindness and happiness.”

After the time of testimonies, the group and the residents gathered together in the main hall. The young visitors sang some songs in Hebrew, which they had just learned on their bus ride to the Home; this brought smiles to everyone’s faces. Soon the residents joined in and everybody got up to dance, young and old, and with great joy the residents joined the singing. These moments also moved the hearts of the Home’s staff. ”

Manya (middle), a Holocaust survivor, learned to deal with her difficult past through art.
PASTOR LARRY BOOTH, friend and Board Member of the US Branch of the ICEJ, was promoted to Heaven August 16, 2015. The love and prayers of the ICEJ family go to his wife, Linda, their four daughters and ten grandchildren.

Larry was a very loving and caring man who served God and others. Over the years he did this as a teacher, college professor, church planter, missionary, police chaplain, and finally as the pastor of Our Father’s House in Satellite Beach, Florida.

Larry came out of the hippie culture and made a commitment to follow the Lord in the spring of 1975 which radically changed his life forever. After several years, and as a result of this radical change, both he and Linda felt a need to prepare for full time ministry. He resigned his teaching position at the Florida Institute of Technology in Jensen Beach and packed up and moved to Memphis. There he studied for his Master of Divinity degree from Mid-America Baptist Seminary. While there, he and Linda sensed the call to serve in Central and South America as church planters. To better prepare them for this area of ministry Larry transferred to Southeastern Baptist Seminary where he completed his Master’s degree.

As a friend and co-worker together in ministry I’ve watched him over the years, and he always demonstrated a love and concern for people. He offered assistance, encouragement, and prayer, whether it was to the server in the local restaurant, a fellow minister, or a member of the church. It was expressed at his retirement party that his name should be changed from Larry to Barnabas, meaning “son of encouragement,” because he always tried to encourage those around him.

One of his passions was to bring the body of Christ together and to impact Brevard County, Florida with the love of God. Realizing this could only be done by a unified body he offered his church to host monthly county-wide prayer meetings for ministry leaders,
provided leadership to an annual pastor’s prayer summit, and made it a point to join with the ministers throughout the county whenever he had the opportunity. To illustrate just how important this was to him, even when he was very sick, his strength gone, and he needed assistance, he joined with the ministers of South Brevard for their monthly meeting.

Larry also had a passion for Israel and the Jewish people that was birthed out of his love for the Word of God and his studies. For many years he wanted to travel to Israel but his financial situation made it difficult for him. However, in 2004 God made a way for him to travel with the ICEJ to see the Land of Israel and to attend the Feast of Tabernacles celebration sponsored by the ICEJ.

This first trip to Israel changed his life and ministry. Linda Booth, in speaking of Larry’s first visit to Israel said, “the impact of his visit to Israel was expressed in many ways: His quiet time and study of the Word became more alive than ever, His preaching was affected as he contemplated scripture in light of the understanding he gleaned while in the Land, his political views were heightened as he gained a deeper knowledge in the global role of Israel, and his love for Jesus escalated.”

This trip to Israel with the ICEJ was just the beginning of his journey with the ministry. As pastor of Our Father’s House he hosted ICEJ speakers, led annual tours to the Feast of Tabernacles, spoke in churches for the ICEJ, served on the US Advisory Board, and later joined the Board of Directors for the US Branch. Because of his ability in the Spanish language he was instrumental in publishing ICEJ’s Biblical Zionism Series in Spanish.

One of the highlights of Larry’s trip to Israel was the Feast of Tabernacles. He spoke of how glorious it was for believers from the nations to come together to worship in the city of God. He was challenged by the messages he heard from leaders around the world and was moved by the fellowship of Christians from many nations. He loved going into the streets of Jerusalem to proclaim solidarity with the Jewish people at the Jerusalem March. What a joy it was for Larry to join his voice with the ICEJ and others from around the world in support of the Jewish people.

In fact, one of the most significant moments of his ministry was preaching at the Feast of Tabernacles. He said, “It was a humbling experience to preach before thousands of believers from the nations.” It was this opportunity where he felt his vision, to challenge leaders, was fulfilled on a global level! What a divine appointment!

I asked Linda, if she knew of any final words Larry would want to say to pastors, and she shared with me how much Larry enjoyed his teaching role with the ICEJ. He considered it a joy to share with churches the importance of understanding the times and supporting Israel. She went on to say, “Larry would want to encourage every pastor to go to Israel and take his wife with him. He wanted to say ‘WAKE UP! The time is short! Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!’”

In conclusion I would like to encourage you to follow Larry’s example: be men and women with a passion for the things of God, the people of God, and for Israel. Larry is home now, but the work he started is not completed. Help the ICEJ to carry on his heart’s passion for getting pastors to Israel.

We want thousands of pastors to have the same life-changing experience and empowerment for ministry that Larry had in 2004.

Rev. John Small handles Pastoral Relations for the US Branch of the ICEJ and can be reached at churches@icejusa.org.

MEMORIAL FUND

Please give to the Pastor Larry Booth Memorial Fund to carry on the great legacy of his life and passion.

www.icejusa.org/MemorialFund
Send Your Pastor to Israel!

ENVISION
2016
PASTORS CONFERENCE AND ISRAEL TOUR

JOIN US IN ISRAEL JANUARY 19-29

There is no place in the world like Israel! Join the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem for a life-changing tour of Israel and international pastors conference in Jerusalem, where you will renew your vision by hearing what God is doing in Israel and among the nations.

It will be an unforgettable eleven day pilgrimage to the birthplace of your faith, as you follow in Jesus’ footsteps from Nazareth to Jerusalem. You will also experience first hand the modern day miracle of the nation of Israel, attending high level briefings from Israeli officials and scholars.

Special rate for pastors only $1750
Space is limited!

HIGHLIGHTS:
• Unprecedented time of ministry and fellowship
• See the land of the Bible with experienced leaders and guide
• Visit the Knesset, the Israeli Prime Minister’s office, and attend special ceremony at Yad Vashem.
• High-level briefings from Israeli officials and scholars
• In-depth conference sessions with global pastors
• Pray at the Jerusalem Prayer Tower, participate in a Bedouin style dinner in the Judean Desert, float in the Dead Sea, and much, much more!

For more information or to register please contact Pastor John Small at churches@icejusa.org or call 888-772-7732 ext.738
ADOPT A SURVIVOR!

The ICEJ is dedicated to caring for the Holocaust survivors in Israel and we are grateful for your partnership with us in this endeavor!

OVER THE YEARS we noticed that social activities and companionship are some of the most important aspects of the Haifa Home. Loneliness is one of the most difficult challenges that the elderly Holocaust survivors have to deal with. With age, their short term memory is weakened, but the long term memory becomes very sharp, so the memories from their past return to them with great intensity and detail, appearing in nightmares and thoughts. Loneliness amplifies this trauma and makes it almost impossible to deal with.

The Home in Haifa provides a much needed community for its residents. Most of them have forged close relationships with other residents. “We are a family,” – we often hear, not only from the residents but also from the staff.

The recreational facility, one of the newer additions to the Haifa Home, has been a tremendous blessing and is used daily, buzzing with activities. Here the residents and other survivors from the area can sit down for coffee together, participate in gym classes, go to Bible (Tanach) teachings, learn English, and even move their feet at special folk dance evenings. There are also joint activities with young people, e.g., a group of students teaches the elderly computer skills.

With no government support the Home is completely dependent upon donations. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to join the mandate that God gave the ICEJ to “Comfort Ye My People!” We invite you to stand with us in providing these elderly survivors with a Home where they can feel secure and are surrounded with loving care. 😇

HOW TO ADOPT A SURVIVOR

The average cost per resident is $2,250 per month. You can make a monthly commitment in the amount of your choosing to help offset the costs of providing essential care to the residents of the Haifa Home.

PLEASE DONATE: HTTP://WWW.ICEJUSA.ORG/ADOPT
OR EMAIL US AT: ICEJUSA@ICEJUSA.ORG
LEADERSHIP OF THE US Branch of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem held high level meetings on Capitol Hill representing over 60,000 signers of the ICEJ’s petition to the White House opposing the Iran Agreement.

The petition was delivered on September 3rd to the White House as well as Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell; Senate Minority Leader, Harry Reid; Speaker of the House, John Boehner; and House Minority Leader, Nancy Pelosi.

Just one day before the Senate and House votes on the Iran Agreement began, ICEJ’s Susan Michael, US Director, and Daryl Hedding, US Deputy Director, met with Senators Ted Cruz, Lindsey Graham, Bob Corker, and Jeff Sessions as well as Speaker of the House, John Boehner.

At many of these meetings, the ICEJ leadership was joined by various other Christian leaders who signed on to the American Christian Leaders for Israel petition against the Iran deal. Those leaders included Linda Smith, National Religious Broadcasters; Earl Cox, Israel Always; Roberta Combs, Christian Coalition; Coach Mike Gottfried, Team Focus; and Mario Bramnick, Hispanic Israel Leadership Coalition.

“Before we arrived on Capitol Hill we had already heard the news that the Senate had failed to get a veto-proof majority to vote against the deal,” said Susan Michael. “So, we used these meetings to let these pro-Israel members of Congress know that the ICEJ, and other ACLI leaders representing Christians opposed this very dangerous deal with Iran, and we asked them to do everything they could to mitigate this deal with further legislation.”

We would like to thank all of our supporters who rose up at this time to be an active voice in defense of Israel and the United States. While we did not achieve the result we wanted, we will continue speaking up for what is right and trusting in the God of Israel, who is ultimately in control.”
In recent months, the ICEJ has formed a network of American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLI). ACLI is made up of pastors, organization leaders, as well as business, and community leaders, and represents tens of millions of grassroots Christians.

Their first initiative was a petition to the White House against the Iran Agreement that had over 650 signatures of Christian leaders and was delivered to the White House as well as to Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell; Senate Minority Leader, Harry Reid; Speaker of the House, John Boehner; and House Minority Leader, Nancy Pelosi.

In addition to signing the petition, many of these leaders have made statements and efforts of their own in opposition to the proposed agreement. Together they issued millions of emails, spoken to vast audiences on-air, generated tens of thousands of emails and phone calls to members of Congress, and informed their constituencies on the contents and problems of the agreement.

The day before the Senate and House voted on the Iran Agreement ACLI members walked the halls of Capitol Hill voicing concern for the deal and letting Congress know about the millions of Christians who also opposed it.

Other groups that conducted hundreds of appointments with members of Congress were AIPAC, Act for America, and Concerned Women for America.

While all of this effort still did not stop the deal from going forward, it did help educate the nation and members of Congress about the dangers of a nuclear Iran, which in turn has encouraged them to continue enacting legislation that will strengthen this weak deal as well as provide greater security for Israel.
There is perhaps no place on earth more controversial and more important than Israel – a tiny state – the size of New Jersey — in the heart of the Middle East. But for all the controversy, what is Israel? And why is it so important?

Israel is a living, breathing testament of God's faithfulness. The Jewish people's sacred relationship to the land of Israel has remained unbroken since God bequeathed it to them in His covenant with Abraham. Despite many expulsions and millennia of persecution, Jews have maintained a continuous presence in the land and Jerusalem, their eternal capital, ever since. Israel's rebirth in 1947 is a manifestation of this powerful bond between God and the Jewish people.

Israel is a champion of Christian values. In a region torn by violence, tyranny, and oppression, Israel stands out as the only democracy and a beacon of human rights, with a free press and vibrant civil society. Jews and Arabs; Christians and Muslims; and men and women enjoy equal rights of citizenship and the freedom to worship as they please, all contributing to the rich tapestry of Israeli culture.

Israel makes our world a better place. In just 67 years, Israel has contributed far more to mankind than any other country of its size. Israel's inventions and forward thinking impact our lives everyday in multiple ways.

Israel makes us safer. In the post-9/11 world, the forces of radical terrorism threaten our very way of life. There is no nation who contributes more meaningfully to fighting against this evil than the United States' closest ally in the world: Israel. For example, the US and Israel share intelligence, jointly develop military capabilities, and share technology such as Israel's remarkable Iron Dome defense system that will soon be used to guard American troops abroad.

More than ever before, it is important that Christians are educated about Israel, America's greatest ally in the Middle East and a living, breathing testament of God's Covenant with the Jewish people.
Join the growing number of Christians worldwide who are partnering with the ICEJ to help Israelis in need and who understand the biblical significance of the modern ingathering of the Jews to the land of their forefathers.

COVENANT PARTNER
Show your love and support for Israel by partnering with the ICEJ in ministry. Become a Covenant Partner at a giving level of at least $30 a month. Supporting Israel and the Jewish people through your Embassy in Jerusalem, will provide Christian love and comfort to His people. In return we would like to encourage you with the following ICEJ resources:

- A beautiful partnership certificate
- The Word from Jerusalem magazine
- Online access to free teaching from the ICEJ’s annual Feast of Tabernacles celebration in Jerusalem
- A special 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 with support at a giving level of at least $100 a month. Together, we will defend and support Israel and comfort His people. In return we would like to encourage you with the following ICEJ resources:

Everything in the Covenant Partnership level plus:
- Exclusive access to the ICEJ’s quarterly Mid-East Update conference call from Jerusalem
- An invitation to attend our annual ICEJ-USA Leadership Briefing

BUilder of Zion Partner
The Lord will call her walls Salvation and her gates Praise. 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. Together, He is increasing our efforts to restore His people, and bless the nation of Israel. In appreciation, you will receive from the ICEJ the following resources:

Everything in the Ambassadorial Partnership level plus:
- Opportunities to meet with ICEJ leadership or receive personal briefings on ICEJ projects.
- An additional gift acknowledging you as a Builder of Zion Partner.

Send in your commitment for 2016 today to icejusa@icejusa.org or go to www.icejusa.org/partner or call us at (615) 895-9830. You will receive a beautiful partnership certificate.
Saturday, Oct 31 • Arvada, CO
Discerning the Times Seminar
Speakers: Susan Michael, George Michael and Michael Mott
Faith Bible Chapel - East Side Auditorium
6210 Ward Rd
Arvada, CO 80004

Sunday, Nov. 1 • Scottsbluff, NE
8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am & 6:00 pm

Sunday, Nov. 1 • Scottsbluff, NE
2:00 - 5:00 pm

Saturday, Nov 7 • Opelika, AL
9 am - 12:30 pm

Sunday, Nov 8 • Enterprise, AL
10:00 am

Sunday, Nov 15 • North Hills, CA
10:30 am

Sunday, Nov. 15 • Huntsville, AL
10:30 am & 6:00 pm

Monday, Nov. 16 • Huntsville, AL
2:00 pm

Wednesday, Nov. 18 • Atlanta, GA
7:00-9:00 pm

Thursday, Nov. 19 • Atlanta, GA
6:00 am & 10:00 am

Sunday, Nov. 22 • Powder Springs, GA

Speaker: Juha Ketola
The Dwelling Place Church
2550 Redstone Rd. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803

Speaker: Juha Ketola
The Dwelling Place Church
2550 Redstone Rd. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803

Speaker: Juha Ketola
Mount Paran Church
2055 Mount Paran Rd. NW
Atlanta, GA 30327

Speaker: Juha Ketola
Mount Paran Church
2055 Mount Paran Rd. NW
Atlanta, GA 30327
Chapel in the Walker Center • 6-7:30 am
Thursday Word Men’s Bible Study
10 am • Rm 201 across from the Walker Center

Speaker: Juha Ketola
Lost Mountain Church
5400 Old Dallas Rd
Powder Springs, GA 30127