**For Zion’s Sake**

Ministry and Teaching Magazine in Prophetic Times

First Quarter 2023 Jewish Year 5783

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**Shalom from Jerusalem**

**DIRECTOR’S LETTER**

Dear Christian Friends of Israel:

***“For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel”* ( Luke 2:30-32).**

As we live through the darkest and shortest days of the year, it is encouraging to reflect upon God’s light, the light of whom ***“…shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it”* (John 1:5).** Whether we celebrate Chanukah and/or Christmas, it is a time of year for many of us to consider ***“the brightness of His coming”* (2 Thessalonians 2:8).**

In Israel today, just as in all nations of the world, we see the darkness becoming darker as iniquity and lawlessness gallop over the face of the earth. Yet we can continue to give a good report, because we yet witness the radiance of the light of God burning brighter, and brighter, and we are reminded of this timeous exhortation:

***“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (*1 Peter 2:9).**

Your precious gift of prayers and finances, volunteering and advocacy to the Lord’s work and ministry in Israel, through the hands and feet of many Christian Friends who are part of us here in Israel as well as in the nations, reaching out to the Jewish people with Christian love, is helping that light to shine and be seen by many, as a light on a hill shines out into the darkest valleys beneath.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you with deep sincerity for standing with Israel in practical and meaningful ways in these extraordinary times. We pray that as you have been a blessing to many here, so you too will receive His many blessings, **in *“…good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over…”*  (Luke 6:38).**

As we celebrate the Light of the World, may the Lord make His face to shine upon both you and your loved ones. Blessings

**Tristan Hall**

***International Executive Director***

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**The Halt**

The Triumphal Entry

Jesus Fulfilled the Torah’s Prophetic Words of the Promised Coming King

Prevailing winds of antisemitism blow more brutally aggressive each week around the world and opposing and unfavorable headlines soar. The vicious storm gusts, forceful enough to create strong opinions against Israel, appear both from the secular and religious worlds. Israel bashing seems to be one of the longest running themes of journalistic and media headlines in history. Our hearts are troubled at the continual assaults and antagonistic misinformation about Israel which we read on the internet news—much of which is twisted and outright lies.

As a believer in Jesus, this article is written from a serious Christian point of view and based upon direct quotes from New Testament scriptures. For me, it is so sad to hear Christians bashing the Jewish nation. Even more distressing are age-old allegations that “the Jews killed Christ” and “the Jews rejected Jesus” which are frankly inaccurate. For instance, we will see clearly that on the day Jesus came into Jerusalem on a donkey, He was fulfilling the Torah’s prophetic words about the Coming King. ***“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey”*** **(Zechariah 9:9).** The biblical truth is that He was cheerfully welcomed by most of the common Hebrew people who did everything they could to greet Him. However, the indictment *“the Jews rejected Christ!”* was thrown like a rock at the Jewish people and the condemnation of Israel was set in stone. My defense of Israel is because the actions of the crowds on the day of triumphal entry were anything but rejection. I guess it needs presenting. I hope the fog that has clouded our understanding will clear and an understanding of that day will open our spiritual eyes. Let’s take a look into the texts and listen to the eye-witness conversations from the crowd at that event.

I became so intrigued by the conversations. The discussions that took place went on record in the New Testament. I saw Bible passages fit together and it was if I was listening in on the people talking to one another. The conversations were not in any way indicating displeasure of Jesus until a certain point. In fact, all four gospels reveal that Jerusalem was welcoming Him as the children shouted *“Hosanna”* applauding His arrival. Listen to the dialogue. A beautiful plan which only a Merciful God could have conceived pushed some kind of a heavenly pause button. It was the appointed day foretold by the prophets of Israel. They were gathered on the streets of Jerusalem as far as Temple Mount. Now we join the crowds.

**The Common People Loved Him**

Scripture says, ***“Many of the authorities believed on Him”* (John 12:42).** The Jewish crowds loved Him and were asking their leaders ***“What miracles do you leaders expect the Messiah to do that this man has not done…”* (John 7:31).**How could the common people not love Him? He had healed their sick, raised their dead and brought healing to many people. He gave them a taste of the Kingdom to come. The religious rulers were observing closely on the sidelines—they saw how the crowds loved Him. Earlier they had said ***“If we let Him alone, everybody will believe on Him. Then the Romans (the ruling authorities) will come and take away our place and nation”* (John 11:48).** Hours later they were in shock at what was taking place and said ***“Look, the whole world has gone after Him!* (John 12:19).** What world? The Jewish world! It appears that at the moment the Messianic Welcome **(Baruch Ha Ba B’Shem Adonai)** was beginning to be cried out…like a photographer clicks a freeze frame—the pause took place. In the middle of this prophetic fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9 and **Matthew 21:5** something puzzling occurred. Israel ***“halted”* (Micah 4:7)**. Jesus then said ***“from now on “…I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” (*Matthew 23:39).** If you listen very closely you can hear the welcome and then silence. If God did not push a pause button in Heaven—then I don’t know what transpired because they came so close to crowning Him their King but…it was not the time.

**A Royal Path was Set Before Jesus**

The shalom of God reigned that day. The donkey and colt were perfectly at peace with their rider reminiscent of the day when the ***“…the wolf shall dwell with the lamb: and the leopard shall lie down with the kid…”* (Isaiah 11:16).** Kings and prophets often rode horses to announce their arrival into a city. Jesus chose the donkey because He knew he was not coming as King that day; however, the Jewish people laid their clothing on the donkey for Him to sit upon **(Matthew 21:7-9).** Isn’t it interesting that it was a custom at that time to place a person’s clothing on the animal as the rider sat upon it— indicating submission to the one being honored. They were making a statement. They also made a royal path strewn with palm branches. He saw crowded multitudes waving the palm branches (symbolic of victory and triumph). When we travel up the Jordan Valley there are hundreds (if not thousands) of lush palm trees growing for many kilometers. It is as if they are “waiting” to be used (again) on a day in the future when Israel’s King will come to Jerusalem.

Derek Prince frequently said, *“We owe the Jewish people a great debt.”* I think I know the reason why. The Jewish people stopped temporarily. God caused a mysterious condition of a spiritual pause ***“For the Lord has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, namely, the seers”* (Isaiah 29:10).** A seer is an interpreter of truth. My heart was crushed when I learned that the historical church treated the Jewish people unmercifully for 2000 years and marred the name of Jesus by cursing the Jews and declaring the notorious words **“You (Jews)** rejected Jesus…God is finished **with you**!” The Jews bore this accusation for centuries. It actually shows the shallowness of the faith of those who slandered the Jewish people. If Jesus had been crowned king on that day, then salvation would have been only for Israel. Jesus said He had ***“other sheep”*** He needed to bring into the Kingdom. He also was born to die in order to save Israel and the nations **(John 3:16).**

It was that day of His Triumphal Entry that…Jesus walked away. The rest is history. Christians should never have cursed the Jewish people nor allowed men to write accusations against them in the history books. Why? Because the New Testament tells us ***“For truly against your holy Servant Jesus, who you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together, “to do whatever your hand and your purposes determined before to be done”* (Acts 4:27-28, NKJ).**The truth is that the Jewish people did not reject Jesus as a nation. It was an angry crowd of mostly religious leaders. The court where they cried **“Crucify!”** was not large according to recent reports from archeologists. **(Matthew 27:16-26, Mark 15:7-15, Luke 23:18-25, John 18:40)** reported that Jesus was the “lamb slain” from the foundation of the world **(Revelation 13:8)**. Israel gave the command but never touched His Body. The Roman soldiers mutilated Him beyond recognition. Israel had to be the ones to *offer* the sacrifice—the lot fell to them for the Temple services (Romans 3:2). The price Jesus paid met the Torah’s requirements that the innocent die for the guilty. Multitudes of Jewish people have been murdered through the centuries hearing the last words of their life on earth “**You** killed Christ!” In truth: what needed to happen did!”

**The Other Sheep Could Enter In**

The plan of God included the gentiles, not just the Jewish people, and Jesus made a way for all to enter. Gentiles were to follow the Judaism of Jesus – God’s Commandments and His teachings made--not the traditions of man (both Judaism and Christianity developed their own). Because of Jesus, nations of nonJews have become a part of the Israel of God that will be established in the Coming Kingdom on earth. The Apostle Paul reminds us that there was a time when every gentile was prohibited from entering the Temple unless they were Jewish. He proclaimed that gentiles were ***“excluded from the Commonwealth of Israel* (Ephesians 2:12).** Every one of us were strangers to the covenants made in the Torah (to the children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob). The Jewish people turned away– until the “other sheep” finish coming into the sheep pen. There is **One God** and there must be **one flock** and **one shepherd (John 10:16).** One day when Messiah returns, just as the early believers, everyone will be ***“of one heart and one soul…”* (Acts 4:32).** Today Israel and the Church are totally separated. God and God Alone—will make us all “one” as the true church begins to turn toward “home”—Jerusalem.

Shrouded with secrecy, the halt challenges us to grab hold of the church’s inaccurate mind set and shake it off. Without His death, there would have been no victorious resurrection! It may be a hard pill to swallow but I think there is a hidden message between the passages, and we just don’t understand all of it. This ministry does not believe in dual covenant theology but neither do we believe in playing God and condemning His Chosen people (which would be a curse on Israel). Scripture just does not reveal every detail—we leave what we do not yet understand to the Lord. Yes, the Jewish leaders “stumbled and were disobedient” but they also were *“appointed to do so.”* The Jews ***“offered Him up”* (Psalm 118:22).** ***“They stumbled because they disobey the Torah which is also what they were destined for”* (1 Peter 2:8).**We read that severity fell on Israel as prophesied in **(Isaiah 8:14 and Romans 11:22)** and mercy on the gentiles. Therefore, we have a high responsibility to show mercy to the Jewish people as we were shown mercy. The difficult part of **Romans 11:22** is that if we do not show mercy to the Jewish people we could be “cut off” from the kingdom **(Romans 11:22)**. This is Bible!

**Five Thousand Repented**

Jesus on the cross said ***“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do!”* (Luke 23:34).** Why can’t the church do the same? When Peter reprimanded the people of Israel, He said to them they had helped to kill Messiah **(Acts 3:15)**. Once that soaked in, the Jewish leaders were stunned and said, ***“what have we done?”* (Acts 2:22, 38)*.*** They were ***“cut to the heart”* (Acts: 2:37)*.*** We read in the New Testament that thousands of Jewish people repented. Scripture records about 5,000 people asked for forgiveness immediately **(Acts 2:36-44)**. That is no small number—just look at how quickly they wanted to be right with God!  **(John 12:39)**. We must realize that the deep sleep upon Israel in regard to Messiah is ***“from the Lord”*** according to the Torah **(Isaiah 29:10; I Samuel 26:12 and John 12:39-40).**

Scripture reminds us ***“It pleased Him to bruise Him…”* (Isaiah 53:10).**NonJews were never to boast against the branches **(Romans 11:18)** ***“…blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so, all Israel will be saved as it is written…”* (Romans 11:26).** If the Jews paused for a purpose, then will a Just God not show Justice and Mercy? I certainly do not have all of the answers…but I will not curse the Jewish people. “Nestled like a dove shielding her little ones in their nesting place, semi-camouflaged and somewhat of a paradox is the “halt” of history **(Micah 4:7)**. We bear witness to His Word.

A genuine apologetic is one that is true to the texts and the history, akin to the speeches of a defense Attorney with integrity.” (Professor/Rabbi Daniel Boyarin, University of California, Berkeley)

**Sharon Sanders**

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**THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL**

**Myth-Busting Tabernacles and the Fall Feasts**

***Continued from last FZS issue***

**Myth 2: Tabernacles is only for the Jewish people, not for Christians**

Another scripture that speaks of the time yet to come when **“the LORD will be King over the whole earth” is Zechariah 14 (v.9).** Take a moment to read the whole chapter if you can. It should go without saying that these events have not yet taken place. The Mount of Olives has not yet been split in two, and much as we would like it, neither is there living water flowing from Jerusalem into the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean (verses 4, 8). Rather, this speaks of the time of Yeshua’s return, when “His feet will stand upon the Mount of Olives”(verse 4), which links to Acts 1, where we saw Yeshua ascending from the Mount of Olives into heaven and were told by the angels that He “will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven” (verse 11). In this passage, we are told that all nations, “all the families of the earth,” will come up, year after year, to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles and worship the Lord in Jerusalem and that those who do not will receive no rain (verses 16-17). As all nations are commanded to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, it cannot only be for the Jewish people.

**Myth 3: God has done away with Appointed Times, every day can be just as special now**

Another fiction I’ve heard spoken by those who do not understand God’s appointed times is to quote Colossians 2:16 to let no one judge you “regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths,” intending this to justify the complete irrelevance of the festivals spoken of in Leviticus 23. Yet they miss the context of the very next verse, which says they “are a shadow of things to come” (not past tense, but present and future) and that “the substance is of Christ.” In other words, the substance of these festivals and Sabbaths is all about Yeshua! How they are observed may be subject to different opinions, but the important takeaway is that they are fundamentally all about our coming Messiah, Yeshua. Sometimes Romans 14 is quoted, but the context of this passage was not about God’s appointed times nor the Sabbath (neither of which are mentioned) but about personal eating and fasting days observed, or not observed, towards God, and how believers should not judge or despise each other about such things.

Sadly, this understanding, that the substance of the High Holy days is Messiah, seems to have been lost by the many who argue that, ‘Tabernacles is just a faded old shadow that was fulfilled long ago.’ However, they can’t say when, while pointing out that the believer can come to worship God every day of the year, so we have no further need of “Jewish Feasts” or special Biblical occasions. However, often some of these same people celebrate Christmas and Easter with gusto, and sometimes Lent, Advent, Thanksgiving, “Pancake Day,” New Year’s Eve, Halloween, and various other extra-Biblical festivals as well, wielding the same scripture (Colossians 2:16) to cast aside any judgment. I do not judge them. Rather, my spirit grieves for them because in metaphorically throwing Tabernacles in the bin, along with the other Fall Feasts and possibly even all of the Biblical appointed times, they are missing out on so much spiritual gold, spiritual treasure, spiritual riches!

**“The Substance is Messiah” Colossians 2:17b**

Our God speaks to us through parables, symbols, types, and shadows; there remains so much precious meaning to be understood from God’s calendar of set-apart times*.* ***“It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.”*  (Proverbs 25:2).** The substance of the Feast of Tabernacles is Yeshua. It is all together about Him! It is an integral part of our blessed hope and why our spirits cry, Maranatha! **“Even so, come, Lord Yeshua” (Revelation 22:20).** The Feast of Tabernacles, in its glorious and ultimate fulfillment when He comes, will be a time of joy and gladness like no other this world has ever witnessed. A time set aside for the world to worship the King of Kings in spirit and truth, such as never before. Will I see you there?

**Tristan Hall**

*International Executive Director*

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**FORSAKE THEM NOT** *Bringing Comfort to Survivors*

**His Workmanship Created for Good Works unto God**

***“For I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord, I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked.”* Jeremiah 15:20-21**

**There is** so much evil and darkness in the world around us that many lose all hope or faith for things to get better. Nevertheless, thicker darkness creates opportunities for the light to shine more brightly. I believe there will be many more opportunities to reflect the light of God in the days to come. The words of Yeshua come to mind, ***“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work”* (John 9:4).**

**God’s Work of Love: 410 Visits**

As a team at CFI in Jerusalem, we are well aware of the urgency for God’s work of love and compassion towards our precious friends – Holocaust Survivors – while there is still time. We are grateful for every visit we made this past year, for every hug and every smile we saw on tired faces. By the grace of God, we are aiming to complete over 410 visits by the end of 2022. Yet, there are still so many lives to reach and eyes to look into. We feel the urgency to expand our team in the coming months. We are taking this step of faith in asking the Lord to send us “called” people after His own heart so that our light can shine brighter. In November, we spent four days in the northern town of Karmiel, enjoying sweet fellowship and so much joy with our dear friends, including Yakov, the head of the local organization of the Association of Concentration Camps and Ghetto Survivors. After we got back, Yakov sent us this thank you letter, which I would like to share with you.

**To Our Christian Friends:**

“The leadership of our organization expresses a deep appreciation for the attention you are giving to the members of our organization. We thank you for the warmth and care with which you treat each of us. You delight us with your visits. With anticipation, we always look forward to meeting our long-standing good Christian friends – representatives of CFI. We prepare for these meetings. We even forget about our ailments. In our conversations, we share news, reminisce, and listen to the words from the Bible: the Psalms that you always prepare for us. It is impossible to overstate the importance that these visits hold for us - already elderly. Your activity fully and entirely reflects the name of the project - “Forsake Them Not.” Thank you for your devotion. Thank you to all Christians from all over the globe who love and support Holocaust Survivors. We hope that we will continue to meet for a long Time. Wishing you wellbeing and health. **Yakov Z**.

I would like to express our gratitude for your faithful stand, prayers, and support for the Holocaust Survivors – people, who have suffered so much, and who need simple love and attention in their sunset years. The Apostle Paul said, ***“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them”* (Ephesians 2:10).**As the darkness covers the earth and everything around us is shaken, let us stand together in the task laid before us. We cannot do it alone.

**Olga Kopilova**

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**FIRST FRUITS** *Strengthening the Household of Faith*

**Sincere Love of The Brethren**

**Project First Fruits (FF)** has been working very hard, helping to strengthen and meet the needs of individuals in local congregations in Israel who needed encouragement in their faith. We must consider helping our brothers and sisters in their walk with their faith as many often feel alone. It has been our honor and privilege to cover the country with our visits to local pastors, leaders and congregations who need encouragement and prayer as well as our financial backing personally and for the coming together in the Lord.

Project First Fruits is blessed to come alongside the believers in Israel to uphold their weary hands. Providing funding for one congregation and another Christian Arab congregation, we are blessed to aid them in their struggle. Recently we sponsored an organized conference for an entire congregation who also invited their families and friends to a special gathering in the Lord. What a blessing it is to assist our brethren***. “Lord, you have heard the prayer of the humble; You will prepare their heart, You will cause Your ear to hear…” (Psalm 10:17).***

**Shelter for Abused Women**

Project First Fruits is helping to provide for a ministry that aids poor and needy Israelis and those who are homeless or in bondage to various addictions. Recently, we helped them open another shelter for women abused by their husbands. They understand that the emotional scars go very deep and that only the Lord can heal their memories.

From leaders of the ministry, we share their thoughts: “Praise God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Many believers were strengthened and encouraged. Glory to God, and thank you, CFI and its supporters, for your ongoing support and prayers.”

***“In that day the remnant of Israel…will no more lean on him who struck them, but will lean on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel,***

*Outreach Supervisor*

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DAVID’s SHIELD *Supporting Brave Soldiers in Israel*

**Thanking Israeli Soldiers for Keeping Us Safe**

**“SOME TRUST IN CHARIOTS AND SOME IN HORSES, BUT WE TRUST IN THE NAME OF THE LORD OUR GOD.” PSALM 20:7**

**Praise God** for CFI’s Project David’s Shield which stands against terror and violence in Israel. CFI’s work began in 1987 when the Sanders visited their first army base. Until today, approximately 25 army bases have been assisted with ordinary but necessary items which the soldiers need that are not supplied, such as t-shirts, sox, back-packs, knee pads, special helmets, and the like.

We rejoice that today we have built relationships with retired Generals of the IDF, Yatar Special Security Forces and Lone Soldiers. Since that first visit, years of building relationships with IDF bases have born much fruit and we rejoice that Israel’s armed forces today know us well and that the soldiers are prayed over. Most recently, CFI was able to help sponsor retired IDF Commanders and leadership in bringing better education to all new recruits to understand why they need to defend Israel from a Biblical point of view.

**Encouraging Those in Harm’s Way**

Project David’s Shield has the privilege of supporting the work of Yatar (one of the Guardians of Israel) by helping to supply two-way radios for lightweight all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Many Israeli citizens, especially those living in Judea and Samaria and the Gaza peripheral and other areas all over the Land, have constantly been exposed to the danger of terrorist attacks. Yatar’s mission is to intercept terrorist attacks before they happen, rather than just responding to attacks after the damage has been done. YATAR exists to defend the rough terrain of Israel’s borders from terrorism, arms smuggling, fires from balloon attacks, and illegal border crossings. Yatar protects Israel’s borders and requires two-way radios to communicate with one another, especially on dangerous missions to protect innocent people.

Project David’s Shield also continues to help meet the need of lone soldiers. Recently we assisted retired Generals in Israel who are working to encourage recruits as to “why” there is a great need to protect the Land of Israel according to the scriptures: Torah/Bible. Many of these long-term soldiers want to bring back the spirit of guardianship according to holy commandments—this we can support. **We are touching one soldier at a time with care.**

*Project David’s Shield*

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**STEPPING STONES** *Strengthening Those Who Believe in the Torah and are Possessing the Land*

**“…I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, in a straight way in which they shall not stumble.” Jeremiah 31:9**

**Walk With Us in Our Work**

**Learn how we approach the Jewish people, break through hard ground, soften soil of hearts that have been hurt by Christianity. Twenty centuries of Christian antisemitism has left very hard hearts towards believers. We need to put ourselves into their shoes.**

**Stepping Stones: Traveling to Remote Pioneering Communities**

**Our Journey** into Judea-Samaria was on long and bumpy dirt roads. We were on another specific assignment from the Lord. As we watched the majestic landscape of the desert unfolding before our eyes we were wondering what our delivery of new refrigerators, stoves and washing machines from Christian friends in the nations– to young pioneering famers would produce. When CFI began in 1985, we were told by survivors of the Holocaust “You are the first Christians to come to us with open hearts…you have changed our hearts toward your people!”

**CFI Traveled to the Heartland**

CFI Executive Director and Staff Media personnel recently travelled to Israel’s “Heartland.” We traveled to repair damage done by historical Replacement Theology Christians. We were on a mission of healing the broken relationships between Jews and Christians. Come with us (through the photos) to watch the faces of a wounded people, by the organized church of the centuries, who finally see that our love is unconditional, and we had come in God’s Love. The pictures tell the story of the difficulties we have faced, encountering a wounded nation, caused by Christian antisemitism for centuries. The following is the typical first reaction, response, gratitude, finally acceptance and the repair work started. Once again we became the “first Christians “ to visit these trailblazers breaking new ground in the desert—young families possessing God’s Land according to the Torah-Jewish Scriptures. Sadly, Christians call it the “Old” Testament when it is alive and producing daily miracles in Israel today.

There is absolutely no doubt in the minds of Christian Friends of Israel that God is planting

His People with His whole heart and if He is doing this now, should we not be partnering with the Lord God whom we also love? We are honored to bring a blessing and not a curse to the People of Israel to repair damage of the past and to honor the Name of the Lord Jesus. ***“I will bless those who bless My People…”* (Genesis 12:3).** “Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul” (Jeremiah 32:41).

*Project Stepping Stones*

*(a subproject of David’s Shield)*

**Sharon Sanders/***Project Coordinator*

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**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE** Helping Jewish Ethiopians

**A People** **Beyond Question: Life-Giving *Help Needed!***

**One of the newest** staff members arriving within just weeks is **Dr. Parthenia Antoine Pharmd**, who will be joining the CFI family as the Coordinator of Project Hope for the Future, our life-sustaining work in Israel to assist the poorest community in Israel, Ethiopian Jewish immigrants.

Parthenia is from the United States and will assume her position in the fall. Her professional background includes being a registered pharmacist, a Doctor of Pharmacy, and a 4th to 8th-grade math teacher. “I am excited to combine my professional and life skills to serve in this position. I look forward to ministering to the needs of the Ethiopian immigrant community and engaging even if language and cultural barriers produce unique challenges. As Coordinator, assistance will be provided to individuals and families in the form of food vouchers, payment of rent, utility, medical bills, and tuition support at all levels of education. HFTF may join hands with community services and afterschool resource centers to co-sponsor community events with other nonprofits and agencies. We are inviting the American Christian black Communities in the USA to come alongside us in our sincere endeavor to make a difference in underprivileged communities in need.”

**Thank you for Hearing our Hearts**

We kindly ask that you remember the Ethiopian Jews who have suffered so very much on their way home to Jerusalem. Mostly every family has experienced persecution, torture, and near-death experiences on their way from Ethiopia. Many did not know that the temple was no longer here, but they came expecting to see it. Many have a deep faith in the God of Israel and are very special people. So many of the youth have so many problems adjusting; however, a substantial number are educated and working in medical and scientific fields, graduating from special schooling such as legal and medical.

CFI has been able to help so many of these immigrants to find a job as many realize it was GOD who has helped them. The Ethiopians are shy people who do not demand anything but realize how He is watching over them when presented with the unconditional love of God and real-time help. Our CFI Ethiopian Learning Center will soon receive this new leader who has such a heart for Ethiopian Jewry, and we need to fill up her project with financial resources for her project. Won’t you consider helping us with the new Sewing Center and Computer classroom? Someone is just waiting to know that you care. ***“…Ethiopia will quickly stretch out her hands to God.”* Psalm 68:31**

*Project Hope for the Future*

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**STREAMS OF BLESSING** *Encouraging those who struggle*

**Touching the Lives of Autistic Children**

***“Kindness to the poor is a loan to the LORD, and He will repay the lender.”***

**Proverbs 19:17**

**Practicing God’s** commands Project Streams of Blessing visited recently several struggling young single mothers, with their autistic children. Because of your support, we continue to implement our personal traveling visits and help the people generously. As we feel God’s Presence with us, all are deeply moved by the kindness that CFI’s Project Streams of Blessing extends to them in their homes.

**Hardship of Single Mothers**

Julia finally made *Aliyah* to Israel in 2017 with her eldest son. She met her second husband in Israel and gave birth to Shaul. Her husband became abusive. He took out loans leaving her with two large outstanding debts and other expenses. Her youngest son (2 ½ years old with autism) is disabled. Her eldest son (11 years old) was also diagnosed with autism and suffers from trauma, mental problems, and depression. This single mother is raising two children with special needs by herself. It was a complicated process for Julia to get her children into a special education system. Julia realizes what it means to exist on a small amount of money. She is a full-time caregiver making it difficult for her to find permanent work, especially when she cannot lift heavy items and struggles herself with trauma. Fortunately, she is very diligent in managing her finances wisely. We spent quality time listening by the Spirit to her story of hardship and encouraged and comforted her. She was overjoyed with our personal attention and generous help, which we could give because of you, our faithful friends and supporters.

**Marriages Under Attack**

Project Streams of Blessing team visited Anastasia, Tatiana, and Aleksandra. The enemy of God has been attacking marriages. Once there is a breakdown, the family often falls apart. Many young women are left to raise their children alone. ***“If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”* (Psalm 11:3).**When the foundation of marriage is not honored by one or the other, only GOD can restore the families.

Through our prayers and the love of God, we can bring healing to many struggling hearts. While listening, speaking, and sharing our hearts of God’s Love, each mother and child opens up and participates, sometimes emotionally, in what is in their hearts. Sometimes tears flow. Thank you for enabling us to comfort and help single mothers and their children in difficult situations. May God move in the hearts of all we visit.

**Tiina Danilevski**

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*streams@cfijerusalem.org*

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**COMMUNITIES UNDER ATTACK** *Responding with Relief Funds to Rocket Targeted Areas*

**Their World of Trauma**

***“…His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting***

***Father, Prince of Peace.”* Isaiah 9: 6b**

**Israel is praised** for having a very powerful and highly ethical army which protects Israel from attacks. When rockets fall on innocent people and communities with children, It causes injuries, damages and death of the Israeli civilians, the IDF combating soldiers and reservists are called up to restore peace and security to Israel. However, the resulting repercussions mean many of the warriors of Israel have suffered so much. Our hearts are saddened whenever we hear of rumors of war for Israel, as that means there will be more injuries, trauma and even death to those whose courage and sacrifice we often take for granted--as they protect us so that we can live In peaceful security. Praise the Lord for all the open doors we have at CFI in Project Communities Under Attack.

As a team we reach out to countless traumatized heroes of Israel to comfort them in every way can. Many of them are deeply moved by our visits as we recognize their sacrifice and honor and thank them for the prices they paid to protect Israel.

**Intercession for Traumatized Guardians in Israel**

Please lift up our Project CUA team to give us God’s words of comfort for each victim as they often relive each painful event. Pray for healing and restoration from post trauma which a high percentage of the former Israeli warriors have been suffering from. Praying for their encounter with the Prince of Peace who alone can restore the peace to their minds and souls (Isaiah 9:6).

Thank you to our supporters for your prayers and entrusting to Project CUA your faithful financial support needed for this important work. God will help us as we continue to reach out and minister to those suffering emotionally as well as in body and soul. **God bless each of you. May He establish the work of your hands.**

**Maggie Huang**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Communities Under Attack*

*CUA@cfijerusalem.org*

**Pages 15**

**MEDIA NEWS**

**Christian Media Summit**

***“…a time to be silent and a time to speak…”* Ecclesiastes 3:7-8**

**The sixth year** of the annual Jerusalem Christian Media Summit was held recently in December sponsored by the Israeli Government Press office. The summit brought together 150 Christian news executives and public opinion leaders from around the word along with world-renowned Christian media outlets. Dialogue and key topics, relevant to Israel and the Christian world, were the key discussions and lectures of the day. The goal of the summit is to foster better understanding and strengthen the friendship between Christians around the world and the State of Israel.

The purpose for this event is to yield cooperation with the Christian community and strengthen the alliance between Christians and Israel. Israel views the Christian media as a vital and professional channel of information to Christian viewers, readers and internet users across the globe. The summit featured an in-depth encounter with Israel’s political, civic, cultural and religious leadership. It was a wonderful opportunity for Mrs. Hall (Head of Public Relations) to be present at this prestigious event in order to network with other Christian ministries and media outlets and to share more about the work of Christian Friends of Israel.

**Keep our Media Team in Prayer**

as we continue to provide the nations of many languages truthful information about Israel, correct Bible teaching and understanding of God’s plans and purposes for Israel and to utilize every aspect of media today; to not be silent in regard to the Jewish people and to be certain to report the truth at all times.May God give us tongues of righteousness and the courage to speak the truth in a world of lies and propaganda against Israel. This is the Lord’s people, and we must bring a blessing through every means possible to those called by God “chosen.”

***“For you are a holy people to the Lord your God, and the Lord has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth”* (Deuteronomy 14:2).**

**Galya Hall**

*Head of Public Relations*

**Pages 16**

**PRAYER MINISTRY**

**How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity. Psalm 133:1**

**Inundate the Earth with My Word Ushering in the Second Coming of Jesus and His Millennial Reign**

**Prayer Focus 2023**

**The Worldwide Bible Reading Marathon and Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem are partnering in this great reading of God’s Word around the earth.** Dianne Bentley, State Leader of the World-Wide Bible Reading Marathon is believing for all USA states and all nations to be represented in the 2023 Prayer Focus. Diane says “2022 has afforded us a beautiful opportunity to partner with **Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem**. It is located in the Jerusalem Gateway, if you are looking for a place to sow seed, I recommend this ministry. Be sure to join in.” CFI’s Wall of Prayer Coordinator, Linda McMurray and Co-Founder Sharon Sanders, are featured on this program.

**Details:**

7/14 @ 7:14 am Worldwide Bible Reading Marathon (CST)

Conference call number: 425-436-6375

Code: 300288

July 14/7/14 @ 7:14 am Worldwide Bible Reading

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/worldwidebiblereading>

**Pages 17**

**PODCAST/RADIO**

**Heartbeat for Israel Podcast**

**Listen to our in-depth Bible Podcasts on the Jewishness of our Faith**

**wherever you are in the World**

Wherever you are Podcast “teachings” on the “Missing Link” in your faith will trigger your heart beat for what Christianity has left out of their chain of faith for centuries. There will be no boredom as you learn…about one of the most important pieces missing in our faith communities and churches—it’s what has been missing and you need to hear this! Let the Bible speak to your heart. This is where we talk about things you do not hear in church. You listen. We talk. It will be content you will love because each new session will be new and interesting to your walk with God. Sunday is too late to listen---you need to hear this now! Once we begin, all you will have to do is hit the “record button” and send it to an email address in the states. Once we get going, and we build a stronger media team, we can probably do it from here.

**Bringing Heartbeat to You**

CFI Jerusalem leaders are preparing to bring to you and your community directly from Jerusalem, “Heart Beat for Israel.” It is for the entire church around the world—not some exclusive group. God wants us to return home to our foundations. Without these teachings, your faith will never be as rich as Jesus wants you to have it. Drop whatever you are doing and hear God’s Heart Beat: you will find it is Israel and the Church (the followers of Jesus). Hear what few will teach. The greatest of Christian men

of God down through time knew that Israel had to be included in our faith. Why doesn’t the church teach this? Learn why. Let God open up a whole new sphere of depth to your faith in Jesus and all He taught us. It will make your heart beat more for God! ***“This is the mountain which God desires to dwell in,Yes, the Lord will dwell in it forever”* (Psalm 68:16).**

We need your help! This is for all of our Christian Friends of Israel supporters around the world. If you have a radio station or a podcast address, let us know what it is. We will sign you up free-of-charge to receive that which God wants every nation to hear before the Coming of the Lord. It will be Bible Prophecy as you’ve never heard it straight from Scriptures. **Send your radio station contact information or your podcast channel or email address to: podcast/radio @cfijerusalem.org.**

Cofounder/ International Speaker/Writer

CFI Heartbeat Producer

**Tristan Hall**

International Executive

Director and Writer/Speaker

**Pastor Robbie Coleman**

Pastor Conference Speaker

Church of Development Churches for Israel

**David Soakell**

CFI UK International Liaison Teacher and Director

**Pages 18-19**

**WALL OF PRAYER *Praying for Israel***

**Keep on Praying TOGETHER!**

**One of the** great joys of serving God through the Wall of Prayer outreach is regularly praying for Israel with groups of Believers from around the world. Some gatherings are face-to-face in Israel, and other meetings are video conferences with prayer warriors from the nations. In the nation of Israel, a group of pastors, leaders, and intercessors assemble monthly, driving throughout the country to meet at different congregations. These are Jewish Believers, Arab Christians, and Christians from the nations who gather to pray for the spiritual restoration of Israel. Joel 2:28 prophesies, **“After this, I will pour out my Spirit on all kinds of people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will have dreams, and your young men will see visions. In those days, I will pour out my Spirit even on servants, both men, and women.”**

**Praying under Open Heavens**

Occasionally this prayer team meets outside under the open heavens. Before the November election, we gathered outdoors by the huge bronze menorah opposite the Knesset, worshipping the Lord and praying for the Israeli government. Keeping these prayer appointments often requires traveling and overcoming obstacles, but we always leave the sessions spiritually enriched and empowered. Here we experience God’s presence, pray for one another, and hear reports of the move of the Holy Spirit in Israel and the world. What sweet fellowship with other believers!

Our most recent gathering reminded me of Acts 4:31, which says, “After they had prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke God’s word without fear.” Although the building we were in did not physically shake, there was a power surge of the Holy Spirit among us as we joined hands in prayer. Perhaps that is why Apostle Paul urged the Jewish believers to continue gathering. In Hebrews 10:25, he wrote, “Some people have given up the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep encouraging each other, especially since you know the day of the Lord’s coming is getting closer.”

**Pilgrims Coming to Jerusalem**

Praise God for answering our prayers to open travel into Israel! Throughout the summer and the Fall Feasts, pilgrims from the nations flooded into Jerusalem. We rejoiced in many glorious worship and prayer sessions with pilgrims from Finland, Germany, Kenya, Uganda, the Philippines, the UK, and the US. As they visited our office and saw the Israel Watch world map, they wanted to add their photos alongside others praying for Israel. We are happy to see new faces and countries represented on our international prayer map; meanwhile, new people have also become active participants in our online prayer meetings. It was exciting to hear new voices and meet more prayer warriors from the nations as we took turns praying aloud for Israel and their countries!

**Coordinating the Wall of Prayer outreach allows me to connect with prayer warriors from different parts of the world.** Ethel, an intercessor from the UK, served with us for a week. She offered a powerful prayer for Israel on the streets of Jerusalem and gave individualized blessings to each CFI donor as we mailed their thank you letters. Upon her return to the UK, Ethel joined our online prayer team.

**Hineni (Here I am)**

Recently I received a message from Mayla, a Brazilian prayer warrior who visited with us this summer. Back in Brazil, she gathered for prayer with the CFI Brazil intercessory team, where they used prayer points from our monthly Watchman’s Prayer Letter, translated into Portuguese. When Mayla heard the topic was ‘Hineni’ (Here I am), she was delighted and proudly displayed the necklace she had purchased in Israel. It said ‘Hineni’ in Hebrew (הִנֵנִי). The prayer time and necklace reminded her to be available and obedient to the voice of God, continually praying with others for Israel.

**We sincerely thank our donors and prayer partners for their intercession and financial support of this vital ministry.** Prayer is a foundational support for all that CFI does in Israel. As we pray together, we move forward by the power of God. Your generosity allows us to continue the work the Lord has placed in our hands: traveling, praying, meeting with other believers, and proclaiming God’s promises over the land He gave to Israel. When you bless us, you are blessing Israel. The Lord said he would bless those who blessed Abraham and his descendants, the Jewish people. **“I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you, all the families of the earth will be blessed” (Genesis 12:3).**

**To receive our monthly prayer newsletters, join our online prayer sessions, or add your photo to our “Israel Watch” prayer map, contact us at prayer@cfijerusalem.org. Shalom!**

**Four Primary Responsibilities of the Prayer Coordinator:**

Host online international prayer meetings

using Zoom & PowerPoint.

Write two newsletters, a monthly report and quarterly magazine articles.

Travel to pray onsite weekly.

Lead weekly fervent prayer time with

“in-house intercessors” at CFI.

**Linda D. McMurray**

*Wall of Prayer Coordinator*

*prayer@cfijerusalem.org*

**Pages 20**

**Become an Online Distributor For**

**CFI *Online* Teaching Magazine**

**Here’s all You have to Do:**

Email sharon@cfijerusalem.org

Be recognized as a National Distributor for ‘For Zion Sake’ magazine

Email all of your friends in your nation and worldwide

We will list you in Jerusalem as an Official For ‘Zion Sake’ Distributor

You will receive a lovely Certificate of Affiliation with CFI

You will receive the link to forward to your friends everywhere

HELP US BRING CHRISTIANS THE TRUTH

**Be a Partner in CFI Ministry**

**·** It is free-of-charge

**·** It takes only a minute

**·** It takes God’s Truth to the World

**·** It will help CFI grow globally

**Consider signing up! Email sharon@cfijerusalem.org**

With each quarter you will receive the link to our ‘For Zion Sake’ magazine to send

 to your friends around the world. Will you help us to spread God’s Word about Israel?

**Pages 21**

**Welcome We’re Glad you are Here**

**CFI often** hosts tour groups and special visitors as well as the general public and Israelis in the Land. Recently Hugh Kitson, renowned producer and writer of award-winning documentaries and writing popped in to see us recently. It was a joyous time together. How about you?

On your next trip to Israel, please make time to stop in to see us. We will roll out the red carpet and we will welcome you with open arms.

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Painting of Lions by Artist:

*Rabbi Reichel Zeira*

**Pages 22-23**

**A JOURNEY TO ISRAEL**

**A Phone Call from Heaven**

***“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet My unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor My covenant of peace be removed,’ says the Lord, who has compassion on you.”* Isaiah 54:10**

I truly loved my work promoting Israel in the UK and Cape Town, South Africa

**About** thirteen years ago the Lord spoke to Tristan and I separately regarding Israel. We were not yet married and had both come to the end of our respective seasons volunteering in Israel. As our relationship developed, we discovered that we had each received the same word, the same promise and the same call from our Heavenly Father … that one day, in His time and His way, we would return to His Land.

**God Leads the Way**

For over a decade we have carried this promise and vision in our hearts. At times it has seemed an impossible mountain to climb but nevertheless we continued to bring our hearts before the Lord and remind Him of the words He spoke to us all those years ago. We did not know how or when we would return … but we knew that we would! All we wanted was for Him to lead the way, pave the path and open the door. It had to be in His time and for His purpose.

Since leaving Israel back in 2009 we have been on an adventure with the Lord that saw us living all over Great Britain and in South Africa!! Since our wedding in 2011 we have been blessed with three little girls who bring us so much joy and keep us on our toes! Something we have always marveled at is that wherever we lived in the world, Israel and the Jewish people have always been at the center of our lives. After-all, the call of the Lord is irrevocable. We may not have been in Israel but our work and focus always centered around this beautiful land that we are now able to call home once again.

Whilst in the UK we were involved with different Israel-related organizations and prayer groups. During our seven years in Scotland, we were blessed to attend the CFI prayer meetings and also to be on the Committee of the Highland Friends of Israel group. With the latter, we organized a conference each year, hosted Israeli speakers and helped at a street stall where we engaged with people about Israel

and tried to provide a more honest and factual account on topical issues. We were also thrilled to be able to host many people in our home to pray for Israel and celebrate the Feasts of the Lord together….although I must admit we were never brave enough to sleep in our sukkah whilst we were based in the north of Scotland!

**An Incredible Encounter**

Just a few weeks after moving into our home in the Highlands of Scotland, we discovered that an elderly Holocaust survivor was living in the same street as us. Miriam came from Hungary and lived in Israel for about 30 years before moving to Scotland. She has an incredible story of how she survived the Holocaust but sadly, lost her parents and siblings in that very dark chapter of human history. Miriam became a firm friend and we enjoyed weekly visits where she would teach our children some Hebrew and give them lots of ice-cream and chocolate! Even way up in the north of Great Britain, the Lord placed us in the same street as this precious Jewish lady who became like family to us and whom we were privileged to love and support in various ways.

As I said before, no matter where we have been in the world the Lord has ensured that Israel and the Jewish people have featured in our lives. It is His call and His mandate for our lives to stand alongside the land and the people of Israel, and we are deeply honored to do so.

Whilst in Cape Town, South Africa, I had the great honor of working as the Media Liaison for the South African Zionist Federation and before moving to Israel this year, I was working for the incredible organization, WIZO (the Women’s International Zionist Organization). It was a true privilege to work in the realm of ‘hasbarah’ (advocacy) for Israel and to find my place and role within the Jewish community of Cape Town. During those years I had the opportunity to form very close friendships with some incredibly inspiring people and I truly loved my work promoting Israel in South Africa and battling the venom and lies of the BDS movement.

After many years of waiting and trusting, here we are back in Jerusalem. Some days we have to pinch ourselves! Is this really happening? Are we really here? Yes, we are….and we remember that, ***“Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass”* (1 Thessalonians 5:24).** As we look forward to the future of Christian Friends of Israel it is imperative to both Tristan and I to always maintain and uphold the foundation and original vision for this ministry, namely, to stand alongside Israel in the spirit of Ruth. As Ruth stood firmly by Naomi’s side through the good times and the bad, so will we align ourselves and position ourselves alongside Israel and the Jewish people. CFI is all about building relationships, one person at a time. We seek to work at the grassroots level developing true, lasting friendships and good fruit that will remain. We are excited to expand our reach via different media platforms and look forward to developing our external relations at CFI so that we can continue to partner with local organizations in the land.

**We will Continue to Love and Support the People in this Land**

At our office in Jerusalem, we are blessed beyond measure with staff from all over the world, men and women who have dedicated themselves to serve at CFI and who we are so thankful for. Together and with the Lord’s help, our Team will continue to love, continue to comfort and continue to support the people of this beautiful land. Together and with the Lord’s help, our Team will stand steadfast declaring to this nation that they are not alone, but that God sees them and cares for them. God’s love for Israel is unfailing and the heart and soul of this ministry is to be an honest and loyal friend to Israel and to that end, by the grace of God, we will never waiver.

**Galya Hall**

*Head of Public Relations*

**Pages 24**

**Your New Yea Support**

**MAKES A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE**

We thank God for you as your support for our ongoing ministry is made possible through your generous giving.

At CFI a supporter is not just a donor—each of you are our partners-in-ministry. In these difficult days of financial uncertainty and a surge of antisemitism around the world, our vitally important work of reconciliation must go on. Someone once said, “Generosity of spirit is best done cheerfully.” To that, we say a big amen. Those of us on the frontlines also believe “Generosity of labor is best done with a cheerful heart.” Hand in hand we remove the mask of centuries and become the unconditional love of God and the face of Jesus to a world who has rarely seen His true identity.

Go to: www.cfijerusalem.org to send your New Year offering to contribute to His Vision and work in Israel today

**Thank You for Making It All Possible**

**Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem**

**Pages 25**

**Books of the Month on Intercession**

**MY HOUSE SHALL BE A HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**–Lance Lambert**

There has never been such a time when being effective prayer and intercession could be more strategic, more necessary, and more essential than now. In relation to the return of the Lord and the events that would precede it, He told us emphatically to watch and pray, and to make supplication to Him. The sad fact is that the Church in the Western nations is by and large complacent; it is lukewarm and in a Laodicean condition. At this time of crisis and confusion, when even more than normal genuine intercession is required.

**INTERCESSION: The Call to be Watchmen**

**–Lance Lambert**

Lance Lambert was one of the greatest teachers on intercession for Israel. He not only taught on why we should be interceding for Israel but at times in an amusing way he engaged us all as he taught on the various ways believers enter into prayer. One of Lance’s most delightful messages on prayer and intercession was given at a Christian Friends of Israel conference. Join us as you read this unique booklet with those who are awakening once again--to build a Wall of Prayer around the world for the chosen nation.

**Price: $20 US**

**(Includes postage and mailing charges)**

**Kids For the Kingdom**

Give your Sunday School or your grandchildren the opportunity to learn about Israel—a phonetic coloring book that will change their young lives. To receive our illustrated coloring book “TELL THE CHILDREN” email us at:**cfi@cfijerusalem.org**

**Price: $15US**

**(Includes postage and mailing charges)**

**Pages 26**

**A CHURCH FOR ISRAEL**

**Why Become Church for Israel**

***“Oh, bless our God, you peoples!”* Psalm 66:8**

**Some Israeli** **ministries** raise their annual budget by showing you pictures of poor Jews that need financial help to survive. That tactic has worked well, with millions of dollars raised yearly. Christians are one of the most benevolent resources in the world. Jewish organizations and governmental officials will confirm that statement. The former mayor of Jerusalem, Nir Barkat, said, “The Evangelical Christian is Israel’s best ally.” I pray we never lose that quality.

**We are Here to Help**

We emphasize the importance of assisting the descendants of Abraham in their journey back to Israel because of God’s plan for her future. CFI is here to facilitate your desire to help in this prophetical mandate. When the Iron curtain fell in 1990, CFI was there to bring many home from the Soviet Union. When it was time for the Ethiopians to return, we were there. Recently, we were there as the Jewish Ukrainians escaped a war-torn homeland. At the time of this writing, we are seeing a new influx of Russian immigrants, and again, we are here to help. As important as it is to help the poor, there is no greater blessing than to assist in helping the displaced Jew from around the world to find his way back to his homeland.

I recently met with a medical doctor, her husband, and three small children. She was a practicing physician in St. Petersburg, Russia, and is hopeful of practicing medicine in Israel but must complete two years of training in Jerusalem before continuing her practice. This family is not poor; however, when we help make things a little better for returning Jews regardless of their financial status, we are pleasing the Lord by fulfilling **Isaiah 40:1-2** *“Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, and that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”*

A volunteer with Holocaust survivors recently said she was insulted by how some Christian ministries portray these elderly people as poor and pitiful. She said, “They are heroes. We should show honor instead of pity.” The Holocaust should never be used for selfish gain. When you become a “Church for Israel” with CFI, you bring your church into integrity and a greater alignment with God’s heart for Israel.

**Pastor Robbie Coleman**

**Director of International Development**

**Churches for Israel**

**Here is the link to our exciting upcoming**

**2023 Israel Tour. Share with all your friends,**

**family and contacts across the world.**

**https://youtu.be/1dE07cTAhf4**

**Pages 27**

**A Principle and A Promise**

***Sharon Sanders brings not only the scriptures to life but also shares intimate details***

***of how she has walked out the principle and teaches you how you can also.***

**Imperative for Days Ahead?**

**“This book is very important** and needs

to be in libraries everywhere!” **(Canada)**

**“Your new book we have just read—**

your insights are so encouraging. Thank you!” **(UK)**

**“I could not put this book down** and

read it several times. ‘A Principle and A Promise’

has so many nuggets and promises that I was

able to understand what God has for us through

His instructions... I realized He really wants to

bless us by standing with Israel.” **(USA)**

**A Guarantee for the Future!**

Go to [www.cfijerusalem.org](http://www.cfijerusalem.org)

**A Principle and A Promise**

***by Sharon Sanders***

**Now available on Kindle edition and paperback**

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in French and German languages. This book has also been translated into Polish, and

Romanian. If you are interested in translating Sharon’s new book in your language, apply for an ISBN from your country. For information please contact: **sharon@cfijerusalem.org.**

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**Come with Sharon in this adventure and encounter a fresh perspective of being such a blessing to God’s Chosen People.**

**Click Here button**

**Pages 28**

**HUMAN RESOURCES *God’s Servants Serving with Zeal***

**Living Examples of God’s Love**

**Perhaps** you have felt that God has more for you to do! However difficult it has been in finding God’s Will for your life—He has a great plan. Serving God in the City of the Great King is not just a “young person’s” thing…It must be a “call from God.” Here at CFI Jerusalem, our leadership believes that the professional experience and skills that many mature Christians have should definitely be considered. CFI offers both short or long term experience in Israel today. Therefore, whether you are young or mature—YOU can serve the Lord Jesus in Israel today.

**“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord…” Colossians 3:23**

**CFI Positions Now Available**

**Processing applications takes a considerable amount of time so apply today! Write for more details to:** **personnel@cfijerusalem.org**

**KEY MANAGEMENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE NOW!**

 **Assistant to the Executive / International Director**

**Financial Assistant**

**Events Coordinator**

**CFI is Expanding and Now is the Time to Apply!**

**Media Director**

**Operations Manager**

**Cook**

**Christian Bookstore Manager**

**Stepping Stones Assistant**

**David’s Shield Coordinator**

**Executive Administrative Assistant**

**Contact:****personnel@cfijerusalem.org**

**Pages 29**

**OPEN GATES *Assisting New Immigrants***

**The Floodgates Are Open!**

**With Jewish** immigrants from war torn countries like the Ukraine, Russian Jewish immigrants, newcomers from the United States and so many other visitors, the CFI Distribution Center never has a dull moment. We are always welcoming new guests coming to us for help or stocking the shelves or renewing the Center after a busy day. Tiina is one busy person. Her sacrificial work is a sweet-smelling savor to the Lord as she continues to meet the needs in so many ways of people who are hurting not only practically and economically, but emotionally. She binds up many wounds and gives the love of the Lord to every person entering our doors. ***“…that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble…”* (2Corinthians1:4).**

**Emergency Parcels**

**CFI Open Gates** staff have been busy working to prepare additional emergency help for new Russian immigrants fleeing from the conscription and a war-torn land. Emotionally scarred and abused on their traumatic journey to Israel, tears often flow when the El Al aircrafts flying them to their homeland takes off from harm’s way. The relief brings the tears of joy and grateful hearts but the whole event of being uprooted from their homes, their families, their friends and leaving everything behind takes its toll on many whom we minister God’s Love to. Gratefulness for even the smallest of gifts is acknowledged with wonderment and grateful hearts to God. Your help to support our work among the Ukrainian Jewish *Aliyah* rescue efforts when they

arrive at our door is greatly appreciated.

About two weeks ago I received a phone call from a lady who works in the municipality of Jerusalem. She already knew about us and about the Startup Store of CFI. She asked if we could give some help to new immigrants who had just arrived in Israel from Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. They were located in a hotel about 300 meters from us. I was glad to answer: “Yes, we can.” I praised the Lord, because we had already prepared 50 care packages for people who ran away from the mobilization, which is taking place in Russia and Belarus, and for those who just escaped the terrors of war from Ukraine.

People started to come that same afternoon. Couples, families and single people filled our welcome room. The same thing happened for the next two days. These immigrants were surprised by the generous gift of Christian Friends of Israel. In addition to the care package, they were able to shop in our Store right away.

**Tiina Danilevski**

***Outreach Supervisor / Project Open Gates***

***gates@cfijerusalem.org***

**Pages 30-31**

**OPEN GATES *Operation Start Up continues***

**Invaluable Help in the New Beginnings**

**“...love is patient, kind...Love never fails.” 1Corinthians 13:4-8**

**\*\*\*NEWS FLASH\*\*\***

**Preparing for a Huge Wave**

“We expect tens of thousands to arrive in the next few months,” says Israeli leader. We welcome this...even though it will pose a great challenge to the Jewish nation, as the rate of immigration will continue and even increase due to geopolitical developments in the countries of the former Soviet Union and the continuation of the war in the Ukraine. The country is preparing (bracing) for a wave of tens of thousands of immigrants who will come in the coming months.” (Aryeh Savir, Israel Today)

CFI Start-Up Store continues to be a place of blessing for hundreds of new immigrants.

Numerous families and individuals in the Land need different household items. Those who escape the war from Ukraine or Russia have almost nothing when they start their new life in Israel. We, as Christians, can significantly help these people in their time of trouble. We understand that they did not come here by accident. God uses different circumstances to bring His people back to the Promised Land. We can see with our own eyes how His promises are coming true.

***“Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered”* (Isaiah 56:8).**

**Final Journey to Israel**

Alexey and Alexandra, a young couple from Saint Petersburg, planned to do *Aliyah* much earlier this year. Their documents were now ready, and they were waiting already half a year to get an appointment at the consulate of Israel. On the 21st of September, all their plans changed at once. The Russian army started the mobilization. So, nobody knew who was going to be called to fight against Ukraine. It took a day or two for Alexey to quit his work at a local bank. He bought a flight to Omsk, Siberia, and from there, he traveled by train to Kazakhstan. His four friends also did the same. They rented a flat together for a month. Alexandra stayed in Saint Petersburg. She began emptying their rental apartment in four weeks, packed the most necessary things into two suitcases, and followed her husband to Kazakhstan. After one week, they flew together to Israel. Just before the flight, they got a long-awaited invitation to the Israeli consulate in Saint Petersburg. However, it was too risky to go back to Russia. They decided to go through the immigration process in Israel. It took about one month.

**God Meeting their Needs**

Alexey and Alexandra are still staying at their friends’ place here in Jerusalem. Thank God they already got all the needed documents. They hope to join a program for young adults that provides a place to live, a special education, and workplaces in High Technology. May the Lord open the needed doors for them. This young family visited our Store recently and received our gifts. Like so many other new immigrants, they expressed their warm thanks to everybody involved in this work and ministry. ***For the needy will not always be forgotten; nor the hope of the oppressed forever dashed. But God***

***will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish. But the needy will not be ignored forever; the hopes of the poor will not always be crushed* (Psalm 9:18).**

**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: OUR GUESTS SPEAK**

“We thank Christian Friends of Israel for the help that they give us with love.”

***Vadim and Olesia***

“We are very grateful to this organization for the help to our family. Thank you for receiving us!” ***Katerina and Iliya***

***“***A great thankfulness for the invaluable help in our new beginnings what a blessing.” ***Olga***

**Thank God for this great opportunity to bless these precious people.**

**Tiina Danilevski**

***Outreach Supervisor / Project Open Gates***

***gates@cfijerusalem.org***

**Pages 32**

**BRIDAL SALON *Helping Jewish Brides Plan Weddings***

**Embracing Each Other and Israel**

**Ezra and Tehilah Adler** gotmarried here in Jerusalem at the very end of October 2022. We were so privileged to serve both in our CFI Bridal Salon. Their story is fascinating. God is the One who brought them to Israel and made them one in their Promised Land.

Ezra was born in Germany and reared as a gentile. As an adult, he discovered that he was Jewish and began searching for his roots. The Jewish faith became important to him. Ezra became a student in a religious school (Yeshiva) in Jerusalem in 2019. He understood that Israel was the only place he really wanted to build his future.

Tehilah was born in Saint Petersburg, Russia. Her mother told her that they were Jews, but she didn’t show it publicly to spare her daughter from possible harm. When Tehilah was six, they moved to Germany. While growing up there, she got to know many other Jews and participated in various events. Special programs were also available to strengthen the ties between Germany and Israel. In 2013 Tehilah took part in one of those programs and visited Israel for the first time. For her, embracing her Jewish heritage and identity was a long process.

**God’s Hand on Their Lives**

Ezra and Tehilah never met in Germany, although they lived in the same area, only 28 kilometers from each other. God planned that they would get to know each other here in the Land. Tehilah came to Israel with another program in 2019. At the end of the year, she started to study at the Hebrew University. She also had a job connected with religion and tourism. They needed more German speakers in that organization. Later, Ezra heard about it and applied.

In 2020, Tehilah visited Germany and was forced to stay there for many months because of the Corona restrictions. While there, she contacted Ezra about his application, and they started to chat. Ezra encouraged Tehilah to come back to Israel. Ezra had a firm goal to get Israeli citizenship despite all the difficulties. Finding all the needed documents to prove his Jewishness was difficult. I have left out many details, but you can see God’s hand over this young couple’s lives. Finally, they met each other here in Israel. From the first meeting, Tehilah knew that Ezra was to be her husband, but it took about two years until everything was ready and straightforward for them to get married as Israeli Jews.

**Gifts from CFI Store**

“This is what the LORD says: ‘You say about this place, “It is a desolate waste, without people or animals.” Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted…there will be heard once more the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom…***For I will restore the fortunes of the Land as they were before,’ says the LORD”* (Jeremiah 33:10-11).** It delighted us to provide Ezra and Tehilah with beautiful wedding garments for both Bride and Groom as well as other needed accessories. As new immigrants, they also received wedding gifts from our Start-Up Store. Thank God for His wonderful works! Your gifts can be carried through to us with travelers or by sending beautiful jewelry and wedding accessories for a special day in the lives of many here in Israel.

**Tiina Danilevski**

***Outreach Supervisor, Project Bridal Salon***

***bridal@cfijerusalem.org***

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**The Favor of Zion**

**Tour to Israel**

**May 2-10, 2023**

**You are Invited to Help Us Celebrate**

**Israel’s 75th Anniversary**

**Register by March 15**

**$1950**

**This may be your time to favor Zion. Register at www.cfijerusalem.org. Psalm 102:13**

**Experience Israel** at her best, beautifully dressed in array of native flowers and vegetation nurtured from the spring rains - the perfect backdrop for the bible to come alive. Walk the paths of Yeshua, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**Revisit God’s promises** to Israel and see prophecy already fulfilled. We are limiting the CFI Tour to 50 people to allow for a personalized learning opportunity blessed with teaching, prayer, and worship along the way. Our experienced guide and tour host will take you to some of the most important sights and locations.

**“THE FAVOR ZION”**

Included are the tips, entrance fees, nine nights, breakfast, and dinner as listed in the brochure. This tour is an excellent option for newcomers and experienced travelers alike.

You will find the registration information and flyer on our website. **Go online and register today at:** www.cfijerusalem.org

**ISRAEL ENTRY FORM** - No longer required as of October 9, 2022. Let’s Meet Together in Israel once again as the **“Gates of Israel are Open!”**

**$1950.00**

***Does not include airfare. Non-refundable deposit: $100 due upon registration***

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**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Logo Christian Education Department**

**Resources and Commentary Books authored by Jewish and Christian Authors and Scholars on Israel and the Church**

Christian Friends of Israelwould like to offer to our Representatives, supporters, and all Israel lovers some of the finest books written on Jewish-Christian relations. Some are great scholars, Bible teachers, Authors, preachers and teachers. Some have written only a few books, but all are great writers on the subject which we desire the church to know more about: The Jewishness of Christianity and Jewish perspectives on vitally important subjects. As we build upon a strong foundation and as help and support from our faithful partners-in-ministry, we will continue to add more important resources for your home and church libraries. You will be able to order the books of these authors from our bookstore in our headquarters here in Jerusalem. As you order, you will grow in your faith and deepen your understanding of Jesus and His People, the Festivals of God, and much more! We need your help to launch our new department and to begin offering our first books by the time of the first of 2023. Please pray about this important part of our ministry and that is our arm reaching out to the worldwide church as well as Israel.

**We Need Your Help to Build this Resource Center for You!** **When you send your offering or gift, please designate it for: Christian Education.**

**For more information please contact: sharon@cfijerusalem.org**

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**CFI Jerusalem — Welcome to Our Family of Nations**

**cfi new zealand**

**An Evening with Ambassador Ran from Israel**

**hosted by CFI New Zealand**

**Christian Friends of Israel New Zealand,** Mr. and Mrs. Dennis McLeod hosted recently a

private home gathering with the Israeli Ambassador to Israel. A very special relationship has

been built between the beautiful country of New Zealand and a government ambassador from

Israel. In the fall CFI New Zealand leaders hosted a wonderful event which was requested by the

Honorable Ambassador Yaachov.

A wonderful relationship has been built and we pray for more and more New Zealanders to “STAND WITH ISRAEL” at this time for the sake of the LORD. Successful events and meetings

are being hosted by our NZ Representative and guests from the Jewish communities also are

attending. The blowing of the shofar can be heard as far as down under, and we are proud of our

New Zealand supporters who are faithful lovers of Zion according to God’s Word. The feedback from the meetings continue to be encouraging and excellent reviews. Send your reservation to

CFI New Zealand now to be able to join in the NZ Celebration of a Night for Israel’s 75th Jubilee

to proclaim, “Next Year in Jerusalem.” **Ran Yaachov**

**Contact Dennis McLeod at:** **dpmcleod2@icloud.com**

**“God said that through Abram, all the other “families of the earth” would be blessed.” Genesis 12:1-3 This is where the (CFI Family of Nations) come into play.” (israelbiblicalstudies.com)**

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**cfi bulgaria**

**Teaching Churches on Jewish Roots**

**CFI Bulgaria’s** Representative Atanas and Mitka Atanasovi are often invited to churches and other gatherings to preach about the relationship between Israel and the Church and to lead prayer for current events in Israel. These invitations are wonderful opportunities to distribute CFI publications and to introduce and increase new people in the CFI Bulgaria Family of Nations.

**New Church Dedicated**

Recently there was an invitation to the dedication of a new church building for a church named “El Shaddai” CFI Bulgaria presented the pastor and the church with an Israeli flag and unleavened bread to be used for the Lord’s Supper. The pastor said: “We are pastor Krasimir and Maria Partovski. We believe that God is Almighty and All-sufficient, His mercy and promises are eternal and irrevocable. God’s Word is studied thoroughly in our churches, and we know the roots of Christianity in Judaism and believe that in the end times Christians and Jews will be faithful witnesses for Christ.”

CFI Bulgaria continues to reach out to the lost in Bulgaria and other nations to whom God has sent us. They take time to help spread the right knowledge and attitude toward God’s chosen people, (the Jewish people) and we have firmly maintained a stand against antisemitism. We have organized meetings of Christians with Jewish preachers and teachers. We participate in seminars and national events dedicated to Israel. We have helped in initiatives of the Jewish community in Bulgaria, such as the distribution of flowers in gratitude for what the Bulgarian people did during World War II and commemoration of anniversaries of the rescue of Bulgarian Jews during the Holocaust. In us, the Jewish people have faithful friends who pray for peace in Israel and the return of the Jews to the Promised Land. ***“Rejoice with the daughter of Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her”* (Isaiah 66:10).**

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**CFI Maharashtra**

**Celebrating the Feast of Trumpets**

Feast of Trumpets **(25th and 26th September):** At five different locations, we did teachings and celebrations of the Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah) through the CFI outposts in the cities of Mumbai, Daund, and Pune. At each CFI outpost, celebrations, teachings, Shofar blowing, and activities were organized through the local churches and pastors, which was a great time of blessing to all who came.

Yom Kippur **(5th October):** This day was observed at the same above locations/cities, similar to the Feast of Trumpets, where several people fasted and prayed for 26 hours, and we were able to get people to introspect, repent, pray for the Nation, pray for Israel, for the Russia-Ukraine war, and the world at large.

Sukkot **(10th to 17th October):** Once again, in all the above mentioned locations/cities, this Feast was celebrated with much joy, dancing, and great excitement, along with the profound teachings of the value of Booths/Tents/Sukkahs, as a reminder that we are all pilgrims. For all the Feasts, online Zoom sessions were held as well as visits to local churches and some outstation churches where teachings in their own language were also imparted on the Feasts and their prophetic aspects/fulfillment. For more information please see below.

**Contact: Ephrain Smith**

**Email: zion\_india@yahoo.com**

**Pastor Sonny Chandra,Maharashtra**

**Email:** **nirmalkchandra@gmail.com**

Top: Pastor Sonny Chandra celebrating Sukkot

Top second photo: Pastor Chandra with the

Chazan of Pune Succoth Shelemo Synagogue

Middle left: CFI Mumbai Sukkot celebration

Middle right: Pastor Yoseph Pawar with family

Bottom: Shofar blowing at the Sukkot service

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**CFI GERMANY**

**Building Partnerships**

**Recently** during our time in Dallas, Gateway Church hosted our family on their Southlake Campus. Front-row seats were reserved by our dear friend Mary Beth Miller. Meeting with Gateway’s Jewish Partnerships Associate Pastor, we were greatly encouraged regarding our projects and updates from CFI Jerusalem. We are so grateful to God for the open hearts of Gateway and the possible working together with them in supporting partnerships.

A double blessing for CFI Germany was our time at Christ For the Nations Bible College in Dallas. Amber Sutter and family from CFI Germany connected with Hawni Lindsay, whose grandparents, Gordon & Freda Lindsay, founded the Bible College Christ for the Nations in Dallas many years ago. Ray and Sharon Sander’s life was blessed while they attended CFNI before leaving for Israel in 1985. CFI Germany’s Director also attended CFNI. We are all excited about what the Lord wishes to do with CFI Germany/Jerusalem and CFNI in the future. Christ for the Nations flies the Israeli flag over their campus along the Dallas highways. It was exciting for CFI Germany to see CFI Jerusalem on the wall in the main building on campus, with a picture of Sharon and Ray portrayed as an Israel Ministry that CFNI supports.

**Planting of the Lord**

It is such an exciting time to witness my generation taking their position in leadership roles across the globe. Those who have led before us are allowing the Lord to move them into different phases of their lives, and they are confident enough in the Lord, and us, to make room for the younger generation to step up. Tristan and Galya in Jerusalem (Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem), the Lindsay “kids” in Dallas (Christ for the Nations Bible School), Robert Morris’ son, James Morris, at Gateway, and my siblings and me in Germany (Derek Prince Ministries-Germany and Christian Friends of Israel-Germany). What a declaration of His faithfulness to see new leaders arise to continue where others have built and to recognize that the Lord has planted a vision and love for these ministries in the hearts of those being raised up in my generation.

My prayer is that we might be part of the big plan of God’s restoration of the body of Christ in its fullness and that fullness is found in the unseen bonds of love forged amongst His children through His Holy Spirit and relationships He leads us into. When Nehemiah was rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, every section of the wall was built up by a different group of people: a clan, a family, and a community. And they were all building at the same pace because their individual sections had to merge into each other seamlessly. No one was rushing ahead; no one was lagging behind. And I believe their success was all because the Lord had given them one mind; everyone had the same goal in sight: build up the wall.

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**CFI FRANCE**

**CFI France Invited to a Prestigious Conference**

**CFI France** answered the invitation recently by the new President of the C.R.I.F. (Representative Council of French Jewish Institutions) by Mr. Yonathan Arfi to represent CFI France at a special conference with Serge and Beate Klarsfeld in Paris. We were accompanied by Fabienne residing in Paris and responsible for the Francophone French Wall of Prayer. The distinguished symposium took place in a beautiful hotel near the Parisian Opera house. We desired to speak and listen to the people who did an extraordinary job defending the cause of the Jewish deportees in France during WWII. “Together they carried out a militant action for the recognition of the Shoah, of the responsibility of men and states in its implementation, of the rights of survivors and their descendants” (Wikipedia).

**Remembering the French Holocaust Victims**

Thanks to them, names and faces could be put on the majority of the victims of the Holocaust in France (76,000 deportees). They hunted down former Nazis hiding in South America. In France, Serge Klarsfeld created in 1979 the association sons and daughters of Jewish deportees from France (F.F.D.J.F.), whose aim was to defend the cause of the descendants of deportees. In 1978, he published Le Mémorial de la déportation des Juifs de France, drawn up from the list of deportees (76,000), classified by convoy. In The Children’s Memorial, he tries to find the photo and identity of each of the 11,000 children sent to die. His work represents one of the most accomplished research on the Holocaust in France. “In 1981, the association inaugurated in Israel the Memorial to the Deportation of Jews from France. A vast monument bears the name, date, and place of birth of the 76,000 French victims of the extermination. Around 76,000 trees form a Forest of Remembrance. He also published The Calendar of the Persecution of the Jews of France in 1983 and Vichy-Auschwitz in 1985” (Wikipédia) It was a privilege for the C.A.I.France leadership to be present to honor such people who, despite their advanced age, are still as determined to reveal the truth despite great battles.

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**Internet Podcast news**

**True Christian Friends of Israel Podcast with**

**Jonathan Feldstein**

***“And He has exalted the horn of His people, The praise of all His saints, of the children of Israel, a people near to Him.” Psalm 148:14***

Christian friends of Israel is a general term encompassing tens of millions of people, or more. It is also a ministry that’s based in Jerusalem, one of the pioneers from among the nations, placing themselves at the center of Jewish life, in the eternal capital of the State of Israel and the heart of the Jewish people…for Sharon Sanders, and her husband Ray, coming to Jerusalem, worshipping the Lord, and standing with the people of Israel, as true friends of Israel, has been their life, for decades.

They were called to establish Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem, now a global organization. Passing the torch, Tristan Hall recently assumed the position of International Executive Director of CFI, bringing his heart for Israel with a long-term outlook to a new generation. They, and everyone they represent are true Christian Friends of Israel, and inspiring role models for us all. This is an important conversation for Jews and Christians. **Please enjoy and share.**

https://www.charismapodcastnetwork.com/show/inspirationfromzion/22e2c71d-13a6-42d8-be6a-e74c3dc2b1cb/True-Christian-Friends-of-Israel

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**Galya and Tristan Hall**–**our New Generation Transition**

**Ray and Sharon Sanders Co-Founders of CFI Jerusalem**

**On becoming a CFI Representative contact:** **internationalreps@cfijerusalem.org**