

ENCOURAGERS JOURNAL

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Between Holland and Israel



Dear friends!

What a turbulent year 2015 was! The world was in an uproar and the forces of evil and destruction were making haste to do as much harm as possible. Although Israel was hit by a new round of terrorism by the so called 'knife-intifada' we went this year four times to the Holy Land, each time for about a month.



In spite of these troublesome times it was a joy to go to Israel this year. We had the privilege to reach out to many people and traveled through the Land as 'emissaries' for the Kingdom of God. Since we come back often, we see that our relation with the pastors and leaders of the Messianic Movement is getting stronger. In 2015 training seminars were conducted in places like Ashdod, Ashkelon, Karmiel, Haifa and in Migdal.

Back to the roots

We also went back to a type of ministry that we used to do for many years. We speak with people in the streets, at a parking lot, in the back-alleys of Tel-Aviv, when we walk on the Gospel-trail in Galilee, or on the top of Mount Bental in the Golan near the Syrian border.

Each day there are plenty opportunities to share about the living Messiah in the Land of Israel!

Teen Challenge

We also assist Teen Challenge Israel with giving advice to the national board, making contact with rehabilitation centers and the training of workers.



on Mount Bental



Veterans

Each time we are in Israel, we visit two Dutch veterans of the Kingdom: Annie and Lidy. They should not be forgotten, since they were many years

a great blessing for Israel as midwives in the region of Tiberias.

From Israel to the Church

We also serve as a liaison for the in Holland based 'Committee for Congregational Assistance' to the Messianic Movement in Israel. This ministry is blessed to serve the believers in Israel for over 30 years. Jan has written many articles for the CGI magazine.

Beth Ha Kerem (House of the Vineyard)

In Israel we have the privilege to stay just above the Sea of Galilee at a beautiful retreat center in the town of Migdal. We are serving here with the 102 year old Pastor-founder Ellen Blackwell and her associate, Bina Richardson. Beth HaKerem is located just 4 kilometers north of Tiberias. It is an ideal place for physical and spiritual restoration for church groups coming from the USA and Europe as well for Pastors and leaders of the Israeli congregations and their members.



More information?

Look at page 4. We 'd love to meet you in Migdal!

Ukraine: Christians are the hope of the nation!



Good news coming from the Ukraine is hardly heard in in the Western world but the National Teen Challenge Conference in Kiev in May 2015 showed a different reality. Here Teen Challenge workers and leaders - speaking Ukrainian or Russian - all worshipped in true spiritual unity. There was intensive intercession for the nations represented: Ukraine, Belarus and Russia. The worship was dynamic and sizzling. It was a privilege to speak at 6 sessions about Biblical Principles of Leadership. It was so inspiring to hear the testimonies of all these leaders and workers. All of them have been heavily addicted to drugs and alcohol. Between the sessions, Jan offered counseling to many, especially to workers who came from the war stricken Donbas area of Eastern Ukraine.

PREACHING AND TEACHING IN BERDITCHEV

Together Jan and Mies went the last days of October to Berditchev in Ukraine. During the Holocaust 30.000 Jews of this famous Hasidic town were killed. The last 20 years new Jewish life is blossoming here. There is a large Messianic congregation in Berditchev, a new dynamic Pentecostal congregation and a Teen Challenge rehabilitation center for men. Leaders were trained, the New Covenant preached and there was great rejoicing!



Rehabilitation Center Berditchev



With Pastor Leonid Zhuchov and his wife



Training Church leaders



Messianic Congregation



Leadership Training Rehab Center



Turkey: Encouraging the small Body of Believers at the Expect Conference in Istanbul



In March of 2015, Jan, son Jan and grandson Peter went to Istanbul, Turkey for the Expect Conference. Jan junior has built up a strong relationship with the small minority of Christian believers in Turkey and has a heart for the pastors. He shared their need with Pastor Gary Wilkerson who presides World Challenge. Gary decided to hold an Expect Conference for the Turkish leaders and Jan senior was invited to be the co-speaker. This coming year we hope to continue to strengthen the Turkish Body of Christ with teaching and training leaders.

We thank God for our family!

Tabitha and Gerhard and their children Peter, Mareike, Christina and Sarah



From the right to the left: Tabitha, Jan, Philip, Stephan



Jan and Alla with Rafael



Philip and Minke with Christian



Stephan and Marianne

Reaching the Nations (starting with Israel)
Strengthening the Body of Christ
Training workers and Leaders



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If you wish to support us, sent your gift to:

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Activities in The Netherlands and Germany

When we are in Europe we live in in Amsterdam, only 15 minutes from Schiphol Airport. Jan speaks regularly in churches all over Holland and also in Germany in the weekly Sunday morning services.

Besides this Jan holds various training seminars. Subjects are:

- Israel and the Church
- Jesus was a Jew
- The Gospel: To the Jew first
- New Covenant Living and Relationships
- Spiritual Leadership
- Pastoral Counseling
- Missions and the Church
- Ministry to troubled youth
- The Ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Rehabilitation of people with life-controlling habits
- Evangelism to different people groups



Together Jan and Mies offer counseling and mentorship to couples in the ministry, following our mandate to encourage workers in the Kingdom of God.



The Migdal Retreat Center Beth HaKerem

In Migdal at the Sea of Galilee Jan and Mies Barendse cooperate with Beth HaKerem (House of the Vineyard). This retreat center was found under the eminent leadership of the now 102 year old Pastor Ellen Blackwell and her associate Bina Richardson, who functions as the director of operations of this wonderful complex of five lofty mansions. Church groups from the USA, Europe and from Israeli congregations come to Beth HaKerem for retreats and training seminars. Visitors experience a wonderful peace and refreshing for the spirit, body and soul at this place. Churches who are interested to come to Migdal with a group up to 35 people as a part of their visit to the Holy Land, can contact us . We can send you brochures and bring you in contact with Bina Richardson.