YANIY



TIME TO STAND WITH ISRAEL

For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession. PSALMS 135:4 (ESV)

A Christian organisation helping the Jewish people return to Israel



INTERNATIONAL



PHILIP HOLMBERG CHAIRMAN. INTERNATIONAL BOARD

left the Swedish yacht Elida (see article on page 10) together with most of the others on board on Friday morning the 6th of October. We had all been invited to a late breakfast at the house of one of the prominent members of the Carmel Sailing Community. We had a beautiful time together, with good food, speeches, music, and songs. Finally, someone asked Captain Stefan to play Hatikvah, Israel's national anthem, on his trumpet. We all stood up and joined in singing the Hebrew words.

As long as within our hearts The Jewish soul sings, As long as forward to the East To Zion, looks the eye -Our hope is not yet lost, It is two thousand years old, To be a free people in our land The land of Zion and Jerusalem.

An Israeli lady kindly offered to drive me to the Haifa House for *olim*. I was welcomed and shown to my room. The fridge in the kitchen was stocked with everything I might need. After more than a week on the Elida, the luxury of air conditioning, a shower, and a normal bed to sleep in was wonderful.

The Ackermann family invited me to their Shabbat meal. We sat around their big

table enjoying the fellowship and the food, like so many other families and companies throughout Israel. We had a good time of thanksgiving and prayer, for Jerusalem and Israel, for the Jewish people and the *aliyah*, for the Ebenezer teams in Israel and other nations, for the Elida Sailing and the Highways to Life prayer journey. We said good night.

The following morning, Saturday the 7th of October, I got up and sat down to read my Bible, something I like to do first thing in the morning if I can. I read Psalm 118 and meditated on this amazing passage.

Markus knocked on my door and wondered if I had heard the news. I did not have a clue. He told me that many rockets were being launched from Gaza. Some terrorists had even penetrated Israel. Our plans for the day had to be cancelled.

As we followed the news, we gradually began to understand how serious the situation was: the border fence had been breached in several places, hundreds of terrorists had poured into some 22 villages, kibbutzim and towns near Gaza, a disaster without parallel in the history of Israel.



For further updates, scan to watch Aliyah News on YouTube or search for Ebenezer Operation Exodus.

Right: The Elida arrives in Haifa.



Fifty years almost to the day after the Yom Kippur War in 1973, Israel was attacked by an enemy which targeted Israeli civilians: children, youths, women, the elderly, and even Holocaust survivors. Gunmen shot civilians indiscriminately, set fire to cars and houses with people inside, and took many hostages.

It was the worst day for Israel in many decades.

Around nine o'clock this Shabbat morning, we opened the Ebenezer Zoom prayer room we have been using since the beginning of the pandemic. Prayer partners from various nations joined, and we prayed most of that day.

God has made a covenant of life with the Jewish people. He says through Moses: "/ call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing, therefore choose life" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

I cannot avoid thinking of the Amalekites. We read in the Bible: "Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary, and he did not fear God." (Deuteronomy 25:17-18).

The terrorists from Gaza showed no pity to babies and toddlers, pregnant women, and old people, murdering as many as they could. They hate the Jewish people more than they love their own children.

Haman, in the book of Esther, personifies this hate towards the Jewish people. When he felt slighted by one Jew, Mordecai, he was so angry that he formed a conspiracy to destroy all the Jews throughout the whole kingdom of Persia.

The evil which has been manifested in the Simchat Torah Massacre is of the



same kind as Haman's and Amalek's - it targets the chosen people of God, the Jewish people. Someone has compared the atrocities of these massacres to the *Einsatzgruppen*, the Nazi SS special duty units assigned to kill Jews during the invasion of the Soviet Union. These were mobile killing squads.

This evil has come out in the open for everyone to see. Government leaders as well as ordinary people must choose.

Now is the time to stand with Israel. Now is the time to support Israel and the Jewish people. Now is the time to comfort and strengthen the people of Israel. And now is the time to pray for Israel. May the Jewish people look to the God of Abraham. Isaac. and Jacob:

"I called on the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place." (Psalm 118:5)

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes." (Psalm 118:8-9)

AM ISRAEL CHAI



"I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD." (Psalm 118:17)

"I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my salvation." (Psalm 118:21)

KEY WORDS

Aliyah is the word for the immigration of Jewish people from the Diaspora to the Land of Israel. The word in Hebrew means ascent and is defined as 'going up' – progressing towards Jerusalem.

Olim means Jewish immigrants to Israel - those making aliyah. In the singular, a male immigrant is called an **oleh** and a female immigrant an olah. Potential olim are those our teams contact and encourage to make alivah.

Klitah concerns the absorption of **olim** after they have arrived in Israel. It includes all aspects of integrating into society, including learning Hebrew, finding employment and housing, school enrolment and serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Top right: Golda Meir, Prime Minister of Israel, during the Yom Kippur War, 1973.



LEAVE WITHOUT DELAY





YANYA UKRAINE TEAM

e had encouraged Oleg and his family to make aliyah for several years. However, they were reluctant to go to Israel, and only Oleg's mother decided to move. Sadly, she could not stay in Israel alone without her loved ones and returned to Ukraine shortly afterwards.

Suddenly, our country found itself waging war. After the fearful days of occupation, as the Ukrainian troops liberated their village, Oleg was able to call us to share that their family was now willing to go to Israel. He had lost the Ebenezer booklet we had previously given him, but thankfully, the local Hesed coordinator had given him my phone number!

During our telephone conversation, we explained to Oleg what steps his family should take. Although he insisted that they had to make *aliyah* imminently, he eventually admitted that it was impossible to do that quickly due to the war. Before we could finish our conversation, the connection was lost as their village came

under attack, and Oleg and his family had to run for cover in the basement.

Later, Oleg shared that when there was frequent and intense shelling, his family had to spend a few days in the basement without water or food. They slept hugging and holding on to each other, as it was terrifying to hear the explosions from outside. As they left the basement to fetch water and food, they could not recognise their street, as some houses had been totally destroyed.

As the shelling intensified, Oleg and his family moved to the nearest village. They took all their documents and walked 15 km to the next town, where friends offered them shelter. The following day, Oleg received a call and discovered that a shell had hit their house and their car had been destroyed.

When the family returned home, it was heartbreaking to see their damaged house. Their desire to go to Israel intensified. Thus, they applied for *aliyah*, and, as Oleg admitted, the process went smoothly due to some

beneficial advice and clear instructions they had received from Ebenezer.

"However", Oleg went on to share, "as some people came and helped us renovate our house, which is almost new, and our troops drove the enemy further from our town, I thought that maybe we should not go anywhere, but as we discussed this option with our family, my mother insisted that we pack our things and leave without delay... She decided to stay and look after the house until the war was over".

The family went through the document processing procedure and was granted Israeli visas. Ebenezer helped the family of three and their dog with transport to the Moldovan border as they were to apply for aliyah in Chisinau, Moldova. Oleg and

the family dog flew to Israel via Warsaw, as all *olim* with pets do, while his wife Elena and their son Dmitry joined a group flight from Chisinau. Oleg and his family expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Ebenezer teams in Ukraine and Moldova for all the care, practical assistance, words of encouragement, and prayer support. May God bless them richly in the Promised Land!

Please pray for all Jewish families who recently made aliyah or are planning to do so soon.

COMPELLED TO MAKE ALIYAH

adim and his son, Mikhail, lived in Donetsk, Ukraine. The decision to go to Israel did not come lightly, but as the conflict in Ukraine continued to aggravate their plight, they were compelled to make aliyah.

Irina, a Jewish Agency coordinator in Donetsk, helped them to apply for aliyah last November. Ebenezer helped the elderly father and his son to travel to a hotel in Tbilisi, Georgia, where I awaited them with a wheelchair.

The following day, I took their documents to the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Tbilisi and to the Israeli Consulate, which they received a few days later. We arranged a vehicle for transporting Vadim in a wheelchair and bought him vital medication. They received Israeli visas and were booked on the next flight to Israel. We drove them to the airport for their flight to Tel Aviv.

Vadim and Mikhail were very grateful to Ebenezer for all the care, support and encouragement. They admitted that they would not have been able to return to Israel without Ebenezer's help. Glory to God!



Right: Viktor (Ebenezer driver) Dmitry, Elena, and Oleg. Viktor drove the family to the Moldovan border.

Helping His People Home | 5

"I will also plant them on their land, and they will not be uprooted again from their land which I have given them," Says the LORD your God. Amos 9:15 (NASB)

Above: Oleg and the family dog flew to Israel from Warsaw.



GEORGIA



SLAVA AND DIANA **GEORGIA LEADERS**

Right: The team provide transportation for Vadim in a wheelchair.

UNFORGETTABLE TRIP TO POLAND & UKRAINE



LIZELLE VAN DER MERWE SOUTH AFRICA TEAM

Above: Auschwitz concentration camp

Bottom, left to right: Kazik (Poland team); volunteers packing suitcases with humanitarian aid in the Poland base; volunteers and Vadim on a 'fishing trip' in Ukraine. This August, I attended the Young Adults Retreat in Poland and Ukraine.

he program started with a visit to Auschwitz. It was one of the hardest things I have had to do. I was overwhelmed by the size of the camp. At the end of the tour, we were reminded of *Ezekiel 37:4-5:*

"Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live."

The Holocaust is one of the biggest reminders that there is a God and that He has a plan. The Jews not only survived, but God made Israel into a strong nation. We have a responsibility to intercede for them as much as we can.

Back at the base, we started preparing for Ukraine. The training was hard and thorough. We packed humanitarian aid for the Jews. I was privileged to be one of four chosen to spend two nights in Ukraine. We first visited the Hesed (Jewish community) who work in partnership with the Jewish Agency and interviewed the team. We then went on so-called *fishing trips* to visit potential *olim* in Ukraine. Before these trips, we bought 60 bags of groceries, which we handed out to the families we visited.

In Ukraine, war is experienced daily and tangibly, and people fear for their lives and future. Soldiers can be seen everywhere, and air raid sirens go off regularly. The biggest challenge for Ukrainian Jews seems to be obtaining the necessary paperwork to prove their Jewish origin. When visiting Jewish families, we reminded them of God's promises in the Scriptures. I learned a lot from Vadim and Yanya, who have been with Ebenezer for many years and know how to assist the Jews best. They have so much love for the Lord and His Word!

Working with *aliyah* is a great privilege. Now that I have been there myself and seen the need, I realise how significant our support is. Our teams who work under challenging circumstances also need our daily prayers. God has a plan for the Jews, and I am incredibly grateful to be a part of it.

a 'fishing trip' in Ukraine. In ights in Ukraine. We first visited





Andrey, Inna and their daughter Eva lived in Kharkiv when the war started. Most of the time, they hid in the basement of their apartment building, only going as far as the first level to do washing and cooking in their neighbour's flat, too scared to go up to their apartment on the third floor.

Then they moved to the small town of Kupiansk, staying there with their relatives. However, the situation wasn't much better there as shellings began in that region, too, and they faced electricity and water shortages. They decided to go to Warsaw, Poland, to try to make *aliyah* to Israel. After the first embassy check, they realised it was impossible to complete the application in their own strength, as they required documents about late relatives, which would have been hard to obtain even if they were still in Ukraine.

As they faced what seemed like a dead-end, we became involved, sending requests to the archives and



intensively praying for them. The Lord began to move and resolve everything.

The archive for one of the needed documents was closed, but a friend with a connection to a higher place of government in Mykolaiv managed to access the document. Two more records were required, but they were stored in territories under continuous attack by shellings, with no electricity or internet supply. Miraculously, during a brief period of electricity access, they were sent to the archive in Dnipro and, from there, forwarded to Warsaw. After two further consul appointments, the family's documents were sent to Israel for review.

The family had been waiting for two challenging months and was ready to give up hope. We prayed for them and asked others to join us, knowing that God is faithful and able to provide. They were expecting bad news on their last consul visit, but the miracle happened, and they received their visas. They made *aliyah* in early April and now live happily in the Promised Land!

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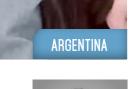


UKRAINE



TANYA Poland team

Left: Tanya with Inna. Right: Kate with Inna and Eva.



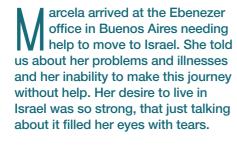


RAIII ROUULE PRESIDENT EBENEZER ARGENTINA

Top: Marcela at the airport; Right: Raul and his wife Analia with Marcela (middle).

you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." Genesis 28:15

"Behold, I am with you and will keep



One day, she told us that her grandfather, Salomon, was the General Secretary of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association and worked tirelessly for the welfare of Argentinian Jews and helped many to make aliyah. In May 1948, Ben Gurion invited him to represent Argentina at

the founding of the State of Israel! What a privilege that Marcela's grandfather participated in such an important event.

After 75 years, Marcela arrives in Israel. She is happy and grateful to have met Christians who support the return of the Jewish people to Israel.



SURINAME



ENRIQUE PORRAS REGIONAL COORDINATOR. THE AMERICAS

Right: Enrique

with Stevanus

Nordzee, Suriname's

Ambassador to Israel.

A NATION OF REFUGE "[...] He who scattered Israel will gather him, And keep him as a shepherd does his

flock." Jeremiah 31:10

ur father always responds to our prayers for new aliyah highways. Ten years ago, we asked God to open doors in Suriname, the only nation in the continent where Jewish people were never expelled from. The Lord led us to teach the church to be a refuge place for aliyah amid violent antisemitism in South America.

The Lord's response always surpasses our prayers! He allowed us to meet with the newly appointed Suriname Ambassador to Israel, Stevanus Nordzee, a dear brother who listened to the Scriptures concerning the significance of *aliyah* and the importance of Suriname as a refuge nation for the coming days.

We prayed where the nation was founded, behind the Suriname River. Apostle Misiedjan and prayer partners listened as we prayed for the regathering of the Jewish people according to Jeremiah 31:10. We are praying for representatives and supporters for Ebenezer to be raised up in this nation. We serve a faithful God!



family of seven from Iquitos, Peru, had been longing to make alivah for vears. It was a costly process for them, as they had limited resources. Their synagogue supported the family through prayer.

The father of the family, Simyawski, planned to go to Israel first and then bring the rest of his family members who remained in Peru. Their process began by preparing their Jewish certificate documents. They travelled to Lima to process their Peruvian and Israeli passports with financial support from Ebenezer Ecuador. They had birth and marriage certificates apostilled, all while waiting for their plane tickets to Israel.

With help, they found an apartment in Beersheva, which they moved into before the children started school in September. Thus, their dream of living in their new

FIRST ALIYAH FRUITS

ast summer, for the first time, we helped a family to make aliyah from Paraguay. After they arrived in Israel, Ariel, the father of the family shared about their experience:

We almost had to cancel our plans to make alivah because of my mother-inlaw's accident. She broke her hip three days before our flight. However, our three children and I could travel to Israel last summer and my wife and motherin-law will join us soon if G-d permits.

We are grateful for the support of Keren Levedidut (a Jewish organisation), who also introduced us to Ebenezer Latin America. They provided me and my three children with medical insurance, which was a great blessing.

Living in Paraguay is relatively inexpensive, but in Israel, we don't know yet how we will manage with my mother-in-law, her health problems and the beginnings of Parkinson's disease.

I am infinitely grateful for your willingness to help us without knowing us. Thank you very much to the Ebenezer team, who supported my mother-in-law and my wife through Ebenezer Paraguay. May the Eternal One keep you always.





support. We thank the Lord as this is the first family from Peru we have helped.

Please pray for provision for this family and for more opportunities to help Jewish people from Peru to make aliyah



PERU



NORMA RAMOS **ADMINISTRATOR** LATIN AMERICA

Above: Alezkath, Alcira, lliuska, Simyawski (father), Simvawski (son), David, and Fidel.

PARAGUAY



Left: Ariel (third to the right) and his three children are welcomed at the airport in Tel Aviv.



INTERNATIONAL



PHILIP HOLMBERG CHAIRMAN. INTERNATIONAL BOARD

Above: Passing on the prayer baton in Cascais; left to right: Eric (Singapore), Samuel (Singapore), Robert (the Netherlands) & Phil (UK)

Bottom images, left to right: Praving near Gibraltar; the Elida in the harbour of Hönö, Sweden; crossing the English Channel

help thousands of olim from the former Soviet Union to Israel. The sea route from Odessa to Haifa became an *aliyah* highway on the sea for a dozen years. These sailings were suspended in 2004, but with the understanding that the LORD would again use ships in the aliyah.

During the pandemic, we sensed that the LORD was bringing the alivah by sea to our attention. It was time to start planning and preparing for the coming *aliyah* by sea.

When we learnt about the Elida Pilgrim 2023 sailing from Sweden to Israel, we sensed that the LORD was allowing us to make this a prayer journey for the alivah highways by sea. Captain Stefan of the Elida welcomed our participation. He was willing to make additional stops to allow Ebenezer intercessors on or off the boat.

Preparations began. We sent out an information flyer, started a weekly Zoom prayer call, and created a Telegram channel for the prayer teams on board and intercessors on land. Prayer team members joined from several European nations, Israel, Singapore,

"Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it." Habakkuk 2:2

We prepared a corporate prayer of confession to be prayed on board by all teams: "We have come to confess our sins and to pray for the establishment of an aliyah highway for the Jewish people. We remember that many Jewish people fled persecution and povertv by sea, and we want their descendants. the ransomed of the LORD, to return to Israel with singing and everlasting joy."

We also selected scriptures to be declared on the sea:

- ✓ "Let the sea resound, and all that is in it." 1 Chronicles 16:32
- ✓ "Your way was in the sea. Your path in the great waters, and Your footsteps were not known. You led Your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron." Psalm 77:19-20

We pray that the Lord will use this journey to help fulfil His purposes.

Auschwitz-Birkenau camp survivor.

t's easy to walk around Auschwitz or any Holocaust museum and guickly ask. "How could this ever have happened?" But in Marian Turski's speech at the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, he reminds us that antisemitism only has to creep slowly into society with the gradual normalisation of hate speech and the introduction of conspiracy theories.

October 7th 2023 marked the largest murder of Jewish people since the Holocaust. Innocent Israelis killed just because they were Jewish.

Since the war started in Israel, we have begun to see the narrative change. Unfortunately, social media platforms have enabled antisemitic narratives to be 'algorithmically amplified', reaching young and influenceable minds. At a time when 'anti-Israel', even 'anti-Jew' rallies are taking place in our cities, we are again confronted with a decision: do I remain silent, or do I make a stand?

During the Young Adults Retreat in Poland, we had the opportunity to visit the Auschwitz Camp. This experience reminded us of the importance of learning from the past. During

ENGAGE ISRAEL

Summer 2024

Holocaust Memorial events, in schools, in governments, on international platforms and in homes, the words 'Never again' have been said repeatedly.

action to our words.

Let's pray for:

- injured.
- military intelligence.

persecution. "It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was Your right hand, Your arm, and the light of Your face, for You loved them. You are my King and my God, who decrees victories for Jacob. In God we make our boast all dav long, and we will praise Your name forever." Psalm 44:3-4,8





10 Ebenezer Operation Exodus

Dates & Price? In light of the current situation n Israel, the tour dates & price

ill be confirmed on our websi 18-35+ years old? Spend two weeks with us exploring Israel!

For updates and more information: www.ebenezer-oe.org/engageisrael We are now all given the opportunity to put

✓ Comfort for all Israeli families who have family members taken hostage, killed or

✓ Wisdom for the new emergency government which has been formed in Israel and the Israeli Defence Force.

✓ Protection of all Israel's borders and

✓ God to raise up a bold people willing to stand with the Jewish nation in the face of

RIITHIINNFII SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

EBENEZER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Jerusalem 17-22 November 2024

light in the Parkness

BOOKING INFORMATION www.ebenezer-oe.org/events



Please pray that the Lord will prepare the way in the process of new ownership.

States States

ISRAF



JOHANNES BARTHEL **REGIONAL COORDINATOR**



Scan to watch Aliyah News on YouTube or search for Ebenezer **Operation Exodus**

Top: Haifa House.

Right: Markus, Rahel, and Judith.

"Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room for us to lodge in your father's house?" Genesis 24:23

Imost five years ago, God challenged Ebenezer's leadership to start a program called 'Invest in Israel'. The most visible fruit so far has been the great opportunity to rent a house in Haifa, known as the 'Haifa House for olim', which has been a place of shortterm accommodation for olim who needed a first place to stay after their aliyah.

In a recent meeting, our Israel team shared that during the last twelve months, hundreds of *olim* felt the love of people caring for them.

We are so thankful for Markus and Rahel. Under their leadership, the house has seen significant practical improvements, and they have created a place of safety and a warm welcome. Since last year, Judith has been supporting them. We have also seen many volunteers serving either in special craftsman work assignments or staying at the Haifa House for longer periods of time to support the daily work.

intercessors and donors who regularly

The owners of the house decided to sell the property. After many prayers amongst the international Ebenezer leadership, we decided to buy the property. We have already received specific donations for the house without telling people about this new development!

Especially now that the number of *olim* coming to Israel is rapidly increasing, we will continue to offer a first place to stay.

As Israel is at war and suffering the most horrible terror attacks since the Holocaust. our team decided to keep the Haifa House open as a place of light in the darkness.

The international EOE leadership is praying and trusting the LORD to provide everything needed for the purchase. We will keep you updated on this project. We uploaded a special 'Aliyah News' episode in August on our YouTube channel with interviews and reports from the Haifa House.



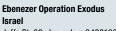
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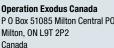
Our vision is to be servants and intercessors of the Lord, to help the

Jewish people return to the land of Israel from all the nations and

to proclaim God's Kingdom purposes for their return.

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We thank God for the faithful pray for and sponsor this project.

Four years after the opening of the Haifa House, we face a new challenge.