

# LCJE Bulletin

Issue 127, February-March 2017



*LCJE North America Conference*



*Conference Panel Discussion*

## *LCJE Annual Reports*





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# From the Coordinator

## Finding true peace

As we go to press, the LCJE North America conference has recently ended in Denver, Colorado (USA), while the CEO conference is coming up soon, from 8-12 May 2017 in Haslev, Denmark (near Copenhagen). One of the topics for the CEO conference will be a panel on the theme, "Finding Unity in Disagreement: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." The devotion for this issue of the Bulletin, "A New Standard of Love," is a good place to start. I visited the Palestinian Bible Society in east Jerusalem in February and received permission to reproduce this devotion (taken from "My Brother's Keeper" book) for our Bulletin. Readers are also urged to view the new YouTube video, "The Roar and the Butterfly" (see text box on the adjoining page), about the widow and children of Palestinian believer Rami Ayyad, who was martyred for the faith in Gaza in 2007. A special booklet written in Hebrew and Arabic about Rami and Israeli teenager Ami Ortiz, who was a victim of a 2008 anti-missionary terrorist bombing (the 'Rami-Ami' booklet, as it is sometimes called) was also jointly published in 2012 by the Bible societies (for more on the bombing that nearly claimed the life of Ami Ortiz, please see: [www.amiortiz.com](http://www.amiortiz.com)). When we think about some of the seemingly intractable problems of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we must realize that only the Gospel and forgiveness can bring true peace. The publication of "My Brother's Keeper" represents a step in that direction.

## LCJE Archives

I am happy to report that our work on the LCJE Archives is proceeding apace. There is still work to be done, but all of the LCJE Bulletins from #1-#125 (1984-2016) have now been deposited with the Billy Graham Center Archives in Wheaton, Illinois (USA) in both printed and digital form. A photo and video archive has also been initiated on the [LCJE.net](http://LCJE.net) website.

## LCJE Bulletin mailings: changes in address or ministry

With every Bulletin mailing, we usually receive at least one or more issues back from the post office as undeliverable. We ask all members to please keep us informed of any changes in address or ministry status. Please send any changes, including email address changes, to our LCJE Secretary, Christine Fulcrod, at [nlicc@nlicc.org](mailto:nlicc@nlicc.org). Thank you. This will help us to reduce unnecessary postal expenses.

## LCJE Annual Reports

This issue contains the reports received from the Area Coordinators for 2016, as well as the 2016 Financial Report for LCJE International. As usual, if there are any questions, please direct them to me as your International Coordinator.

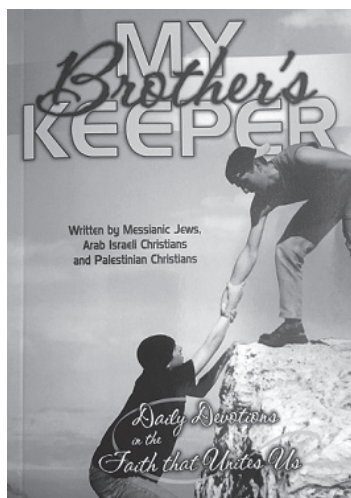
In our sure hope for the coming salvation of Israel. *Jim Melnick*

*Isaiah 45:17: "Israel shall be saved by an everlasting salvation..."*

**Front cover photos:** Photo (left) of the LCJE North America conference in Denver, Colorado (March 2017); photo (right) is of the panel discussion at the conference of the new book by Gerald McDermott, Editor, *The New Christian Zionism* (IVP Books, 2016). Panel participants, from left to right, included: Theresa Newell (moderator), Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Rich Robinson, Craig Blasing, and Darrell Bock.

# "A New Standard of Love"

## From "My Brother's Keeper" Devotional (Feb. 11th)



**Editor's Note:** Our devotion for this issue is taken from the devotional book, *My Brother's Keeper*, which is made up of devotions written by Messianic Jews, Arab Israeli Christians and Palestinian Christians. The key point is that readers do not know who wrote which devotionals, as in this case, where we have no idea who wrote this particular devotional!

### Setting a new precedent

Jesus set a new precedent when he spoke these words. Never had a man uttered such words, words that would challenge not just the generation that he was living in but every generation that would follow. Until the time of Jesus, people had operated on a standard that did not seek to challenge people's behavior. They love you, love them back. They hate you, you hate them. Nothing has changed in a world without Jesus. It is a natural human reaction; you only love someone

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your friends, hate your enemies.' But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may become the children of your Father in heaven. For he makes his sun to shine on bad and good people alike, and gives rain to those who do good and to those who do evil. Why should God reward you if you love only the people who love you? Even the tax collectors do that! And if you speak only to your friends, have you done anything out of the ordinary? Even the pagans do that! You must be perfect - just as your Father in heaven is perfect."*

**MATTHEW 5:43-48**

who has shown you love.

But Jesus came to set a new standard, to challenge and turn upside down the way mankind thought and operated. Nor did Jesus set out in his teaching anything that he himself did not live out. He taught love, and he practiced love. "He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end." (John 13:1)

### Difficult to find answers

When we consider some of the world's most complex political or economic conflicts, we must quickly admit that it is difficult to find an answer, except in these powerful words of Jesus. Throughout Jesus' ministry he understood and demonstrated that he could not function unless he loved those who hated him.

### Finding love in our hearts

We too must find love in our hearts for those who hate us, putting aside our own desires, feelings, and motivations. We must allow the overwhelming love of God, a love that transcends our human passions, to

override these feelings. Bringing the love of God into desperate, hopeless and bitter situations will change not only our hearts but the hearts of others as well.

God so loved that he gave... and he has commanded us to love in the same way.

### "The Roar and the Butterfly" (2017)

This brand-new YouTube video chronicles the amazing story of what happened to the family of Rami Ayyad of the Palestinian Bible Society ten years after he was martyred for the faith by Islamic militants in 2007 in Gaza, where he ran a Christian bookstore and an Awana program for children. This story of forgiveness and God's grace in response to hatred and suffering will touch many hearts around the world. Go to: <https://youtu.be/mdb19pCytU8> or search on the title.

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# LCJE Annual Report for AustralAsia

By Mark Polonsky, LCJE Area Coordinator for AustralAsia

Here are the reports this year for AustralAsia:

## Celebrate Messiah

This year has been full to the brim with great opportunities for Celebrate Messiah to present the Gospel to Jewish people in Australia and overseas. The team in Australia has grown with a new support-raise missionary in Canberra, and our administrative staff has grown with the appointment of a Donor Relations and Digital Communications Manager. Our Beit HaMashiach Messianic Congregation has also stepped out in faith by employing a part-time Childrens and Family Ministry team leader. While our main efforts and largest team is in Melbourne reaching out to the 50,000 plus Jewish people living in the Caulfield area, Celebrate Messiah has continued to grow in outreach in Sydney through the full-time missionary work of Eileen M and the efforts of our chairman, Harry and Zelda Hammann with their fortnightly messianic fellowship in St Ives. It's also very pleasing to announce that Paul Cohen, formerly of Manna International and Ariel Ministries, has joined Celebrate Messiah as a support-raise missionary. Through our itinerant ministry across the country we have been able to influence the church towards a better understanding of Israel and the Jewish people, and our benevolent work of Tikkun Olam is now operating in each mainland State. Our direct work overseas reaches Far East Russia, and we also support and are involved in Jewish mission and ministry in Israel and New Zealand. Our Russian speaking Dom Missi'ee Messianic Congregation in Melbourne has continued to host monthly Shabbat services and outreach lunches as



Mark Polonsky

well as events for all the special festivals. Team leader Rita reports, "This past 3 months we have seen over 10 Jewish people come to faith in Yeshua our Messiah. Most of these people are couples, husbands and wives, who have received the Lord together."

Other highlights for the past year include:

- Attendances of up to, and sometimes more than, 200 people at weekly Shabbat services, including 25-40 children.
- Mission trips to Far East Russia that have planted two new Messianic congregations.
- A church conference and evangelistic meeting featuring Dr Michael Brown.
- Growth in our Talmidut Group (discipleship/bible study) network.
- Progress in planning for the new Caulfield Messianic Centre.
- Large, successful Messianic Passover community Seders throughout Australia.
- Our Isaiah 53 Facebook campaign that reached 180,000 people and distributed 2500 free books including to 115 Jewish people.
- The annual Simcha conference, with 300 people ministered

to by Avner and Rachel Boskey from Israel.

*Lawrence Hirsch*

## CMJ ANZ

Thank you for continuing to invest in the spiritual rebirth of the Jewish people. You were represented at the third bi-ennial International Conference (IC) in Jerusalem last December by Canon John Simons and myself. Also present were Kelvin Crombie, along with delegates from 10 other countries. Much tribute was paid to Dr Don Stanley and his wife Caroline for the sterling service they have given to the work of CMJ Israel over the past 7 years. One of the strongest commendations came from his successor - Garth Gilmour. Having grown up in South Africa and been employed at the European Association for Jewish Studies (in Oxford), Garth has lived, studied and worked in Israel. He speaks Hebrew and relates well to Jews & Palestinians alike. He has worked as an archeologist for nearly 30 years. He is both well-informed & passionate about CMJ.

Following the success of last year's Day Conference in Perth held in partnership with Kelvin's Heritage Resources, we are planning to hold meetings in Melbourne and Sydney towards the end of April / beginning of May. This will hopefully be a time not only of celebrating our history here in Australia but also of communicating a vision borne of the rich connection we have with our global family – including our opposite number in India (Stephen Inbanathan) who is wanting to partner with us in our common goal of evangelism, education and encouragement (the 3 E's).

In the meantime, we are planning to be "With Jesus at Suk-



*AustralAsia*

kot' again during the first half of October. As you will know, there are a number of important anniversaries coming up this year – not least being the 100th of the Battle of Beersheva on October 31st. The celebration which has been placed on our hearts again this year is, however, the Feast of Tabernacles. This was ordained by the Lord to be an 'appointed time' for His people to go up to Jerusalem in all generations including ours in this watershed year for the Land and its people. We believe it is important for us to be going at this time not just as tourists or even as patriots but as pilgrims; not just for our sakes but for the support of those who live, move and have their being there. Please pray about whether this is the 'kairos time' for you to make this pilgrimage. If so, would you contact me on 0417 172 205 or Trish Cortizo on 0421 638 453 / 1300 550 830 to avoid disappointment. Last time (in 2015) we had to turn folk away in the end because of the demand. For more information, visit [www.cmj.org.au](http://www.cmj.org.au). May the Lord bless you

as you bless His people (Genesis 12:3)

*Martin Weatherston,  
National Director*

### **The Friends of Israel**

Hi, my name is Mark Rogers. I am the Field Ministry Representative for the Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry in the State of Victoria, Australia. My wife and I have been here for approximately 9 months. Our ministry is to the Jewish people of the eastern side of the city. This outreach is primarily exercised through regular weekly visits to the Jewish Aged Care facilities.

I take my guitar and play and conduct old-time sing-alongs for the residents. This has been a great bridge-builder. Kathy spends her time in conversation with the residents as a community visitor. There is sometimes a level of suspicion on the part of some who see us as "missionaries" seeking to convert them to "our religion". We are forbidden to actively engage in the proclamation of the Gospel at the

Home (of course). If we are seen doing this we would be shown the door rather promptly. So our efforts are in building friendships with the residents, 80% of whom are Holocaust survivors, and establishing our witness via deed. We also make it clear when we are asked "which synagogue do you belong to?" that we are not Jewish but Christians who love the Jewish people. If people ask questions about why we do this we tell them that our Lord is Jewish (which surprises some. The ignorance and misinformation concerning the Person of Yeshua is enormous). They will often reply, "But He started another religion!" Our response has been, "But we believe in the same GOD that believe in: the GOD of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We also believe that Jesus/Yeshua is your Messiah." If they want to pursue the conversation further, we inform them of the facts concerning the Messiah, especially using Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22 and the 490 year prophecy of the coming of Messiah from Daniel chapter 9. But we only do this if the conversation around this topic is initiated by the resident themselves.

I have been able, by the Grace of God, to establish a very good relationship with the resident rabbi at the home. I often seek his guidance on matters-Jewish. We have an understanding of respect. The ministry is not one where I can say that we are experiencing conversions, but the conversations with residents' families have also been beneficial to softening hearts in relation to our reason for being there.

I also spend a bit of time in the streets of Caulfield/St Kilda (the dominant Jewish communities of Melbourne) and strike up conversations with people who are outwardly Jewish. Please pray for us as we seek to foster relationships and share the love of the

Messiah with the Jewish people of Melbourne.

Shalom in Yeshua,  
*Mark Rogers*

### **Jews for Jesus AustralAsia**

Over the year we saw some wonderful interactions with Jewish enquirers as well as those who already believed throughout the country. Most notable were 1) the LCJE gathering in Sydney, which featured Dr Michael L Brown and his teaching in many venues around the LCJE as well and 2) The Sydney Summer Witnessing Campaign.

Bob Mendelsohn, our national director, helped oversee his final LCJE conference in Australia and handed the reigns over to Mark Polonsky from Melbourne.

The Sydney campaign took place 1-14 December. We had an older campaign. The average age was 52 years old among the 12 full-time campaigners and the four part-timers from Sydney. Our volunteer campaigners came from Israel, South Africa, the US, Ukraine and Australia, and our chef from the UK, although he's an Aussie citizen as well.

In the two weeks we handed out 48,000 tracts, bannered over the Syd Einfeld Freeway in the centre of the Jewish area, and prayed with two Jews and nine Gentiles to profess faith in Yeshua.

Almost nightly we read psalms out on the corso in Bondi (Psalm Reading), made phone calls to Jewish-sounding surnames from the phone book, and stretched ourselves to the limits.

We stayed in serviced apartments near Bondi. The lounge in that unit served as our centre for administration and daily chapel. Our chaplains were heavy on encouragement and cared for us in body, soul and spirit. Among other statistics, 54 unbelieving Jewish people and 69 unbelieving Gentiles gave us their details during the fortnight.

That totals over 120 unsaved

people whose details we secured. That's well worth our efforts. We haven't had this kind of response in Australia, ever. To any type of campaign or outreach. So we consider this campaign a success. Photos are on the Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bobmendo/albums/72157673389169763> and are downloadable.

We are especially grateful for the prayers of the saints, which carried us through, no matter the 30 degree temps, no matter our tiredness, no matter the limited variety of tracts we used. Since esprit de corps was noticeable as well, we anticipate conducting another campaign in the near future. May the Lord open the hearts of our people more and more in 2017 and until Yeshua returns.

### **Nurit Milo**

I have finalised my DMin research proposal at Harvest Bible College in Melbourne. The title of the project is "Ministries across the boundaries between Jews and Christians in contemporary Australia". The aim of the research is to draw a road map of Jewish and Christian relations as they are manifested in various organisations and ministries (Jewish, Christians, and Messianic). The seed for this initiative was an insight about the need for reconciliation between Jews and Christians that might make a significant difference towards world peace.

Becoming a believer made me believe and feel that this kind of reconciliation is possible, even though it is seen as complex and many do not wish to touch this 'hot potato'. Soon enough I have realised there is no literature about the practice of the relations in Australia, and it is hard to really know what is going on in this field. Seventy years after the Holocaust and 50 years after Nostre Aetate we would expect

some changes to occur in the reality of the relations. The question "what has changed?" guided me to a project that will provide a resource for all ministries and organisations that involve Jews and Christians and in particular those interested in reconciliation; that will enable networking and discussing questions of theology and practice in this neglected minefield of Jews and Christians relations.

My interest is in the practice of the relations, whether as a main goal or a by-product of another goal, as well as in the theology that underpins practice. My hope is that this knowledge will enable me to develop a ministry of reconciliation between Jews and Christians. So far, the responses to this project from people who have a hand or a leg in this field, some highly respected, is very positive and encouraging. Though this project and my hopefully future ministry are not directly about evangelism, I believe it to be a crucial contribution for the possibility of spiritual revival. Challenged to be modest, I restrict myself to research at the moment, and I seek the support of LCJE and my community for this work.

*Nurit Milo*

### **Yeshua Tsidkenu Russian Messianic Jewish Congregation, Sydney, Australia**

"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that the power of Messiah may dwell in me. 2Cor 12:9 (TLV)

The congregation, led by Rev Kon (Kostya) and Natasha Michailidis, will be celebrating twenty years since they began monthly Shabbat meetings in August 1997 and then weekly in 2000.

This year was one of many blessings and trials. There were many demands on the leadership team from family commitments and

other pressures. That meant at times that there were less leaders to continue our commitment of weekly meetings, the monthly club we hold in Bondi, and the Jewish feasts. We are learning that when things get tough, we do not always need to cut back on what you are called to do, but pray more, get others to help more, and trust more in the Lord's grace in our times of need.

We can only give God the glory that in spite of all our difficulties, the average attendances this year increased at our weekly Shabbat meetings.

We were very blessed to have Anatoli (Tolik) Emma, leader of Jews for Jesus in Kiev, visit us at the end of the year and give seminars on evangelism to our congregation, as well as

speak to other Russian-speaking churches in Sydney, and do home visitations with us. This type of hands-on evangelism training, going back to first principles, was very helpful to us all and especially to those who did not see themselves as evangelists. 'We are not all evangelists but we are all called to be witnesses'.

We continue to reach out to the Russian Jewish community with our monthly club of Eternal Years, which is a social club with a spiritual edge. We show very interesting videos usually related to Israel, Jews, Russian history, as well as talks, music and always some jokes. New people have come to our congregation through it. It is a good bridge for those who are not ready to come to a Shabbat meeting with

its prayers and preaching, or who just want to check us out, or who want to come for company and a cup of tea. It is on the first Thursday of the month, in the middle of the day. Because of this it mainly reaches the elderly.

We thank Him that there is a wonderful presence of the Lord in the Shabbat meetings. We are thankful to the Lord that we can express the one new man that is spoken of by Apostle Sha'ul, with Jews and Gentiles worshipping in the one body of Messiah.

Please join us in prayer for the salvation of Russian Jews in Sydney and for Russian-speaking workers, especially for those who will be able to reach the younger generation of Russian Jews.

*Rev. Konstantine (Kostya) Michailidze*

## LCJE Annual Report for South Africa By Cecilia Burger, LCJE South Africa Area Coordinator

### Overview

Greetings in the Name of Messiah Jesus! Being part of LCJE South Africa has again been very encouraging during 2016 as we took hands and supported one another in the work of the Lord.

### Conference with Richard Harvey

I'm glad to report that we had a LCJE South African conference with Richard Harvey as keynote speaker. The topic of the conference was Reflections on the Gospel in the Middle East with the emphasis on reconciliation.

About 100 people attended the conference on 5th November at Logos Christian Church. Richard started off by laying a Biblical foundation for reconciliation. As believers in Jesus we believe God is in charge of his Kingdom and that covers every aspect of life. We cannot separate our spiritual life from our physical life.

Reconciliation involves repentance. We have to deal with



*Cecilia Burger*

the past to get reconciled in the present and this leads to restoration and renewal in the future. Richard emphasized that we are called upon to love our enemies. How can we love our enemies if we don't want to talk to them? Messianic Jews have to talk to Palestinian Christians. Richard challenged us not only as far as our views on the Israel and Palestinian conflict are concerned, but also conflict in our personal

relationships.

Apart from the LCJE conference Richard had various other meetings in Cape Town. He was the speaker at a conference of CMJ with the topic The Mission of the church, Israel and Messianic Jews. He and his wife Monica shared their testimonies with some Jewish believers and others at the home of Ashley and Rosemarie Cloete. Those present were encouraged in their faith and enjoyed the fellowship. Richard also had a public meeting at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Stellenbosch where he spoke on a Messianic-Jewish perspective on the way towards reconciliation in the Israel-Palestinian conflict. The lecture was followed by a fruitful time of discussion. For some of the people present this was their first encounter with a Messianic Jew!

### LCJE Membership

We have 13 members in South Africa – 8 Cape Town and 5 in

Johannesburg. LCJE members representing different ministries gave a report on their work:

### **1. CMJ South Africa in Cape Town from Edith Sher**

Apart from our regular activities, such as weekly Torah groups for Young Adults and Over 35s, our thrice-yearly Roots & Shoots Conferences, our weekly radio programme, and tours to Israel, the past year saw us branching out to other provinces. Our director John Atkinson visited Gauteng, the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal (KZN), where his teaching was well-received.

In September I was invited to do a series of meetings in KZN. The last meeting took place at a guest farm in Winterton, a small town in the lower Drakensberg mountain range. Due to various reasons, the meeting was moved forward a week earlier than originally planned. Although it was intended to be a Sukkot Celebration, I felt that as Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) was still to come, God wanted me to speak on the significance of that solemn festival and how it was fulfilled in Yeshua.

The day before the meeting (attended by some 70 people in a converted garage), farm owners Hendrik and Ina Goosen received a call from a family who were touring South Africa and wanted accommodation for the night. Ina was delighted to learn that they were from Israel. She told them that they were welcome, but mentioned that a Christian meeting would be taking place that night. They replied that they didn't mind, and so father, mother and three children (all thoroughly secular) arrived the next morning. They chatted amicably to our group before going to their rooms.

That evening the service commenced with worship and dancing, and to our amazement, the whole family filed into the garage

and sat through the entire meeting, including my message on atonement. Afterwards, at one of the food tables set out on the lawn, I spoke to the wife, who commented positively on my talk and said they were bowled over by the love and support for Israel. Not only was it amazing that an Israeli family should come to a small rural town such as Winterton, but even more so given that the meeting should have taken place a week later.

Ina later e-mailed me to say: "I feel sure that God set an appointment with them here in South Africa. At breakfast the next morning they all told me how much they had enjoyed the previous evening and Yakov (not his real name) said he had especially enjoyed the 'ceremony'. They were pleasantly surprised by everyone's love for Israel."

The next day Yakov sent a text message saying they'd arrived safely in Durban (240 km away) and that the visit to Winterton would always stay in their hearts. Let's continue praying for this family, who are precious in God's sight.

### **2. David and Jonathan Foundation (D&J) from Jack Carstens**

In 1996 on his return from a visit to 20 Messianic congregations in Israel, Jack Carstens started David and Jonathan Foundation based on the friendship covenant recorded in 1 Samuel 18, where it is written "Jonathan's heart was knit to David."

For the past twenty years the D&J in Cape Town has been assisting Messianic congregations in Israel to spread the Good News of salvation through Messiah Yeshua throughout the land. Presently D&J partners with 14 congregations regarding prayer and financial support on a regular basis.

Some of the Board members of D&J visited Israel during 2016

and renewed contact and relationships.

In pursuit of greater assistance for brothers and sisters in Israel, David & Jonathan held public meetings, prayer meetings, conferences, prayer walks, regular Shabbat meetings and several Feast celebrations during the year. Donations of over one million South African Rand were received from churches and individuals during 2016! Messianic congregations in Israel received these donations with great thanks.

### **3. Emet Ministries from Manfred and Isit Nochomowitz**

Emet Ministries partners with 12 ministries and churches around the world. Together with our partners we have seen a number of Jewish people coming to faith in Messiah Yeshua this past year. Our regular events include Shabbat services in Pretoria and Johannesburg, prayer meetings praying for Jewish people and Israel, teaching seminars, a Pesach Seder and Sukkot celebrations.

Below is a summary of what God has done with and through Emet Ministries in 2016:

- (1) A seminar, 'God's Heart for Isaac and Ishmael' in Cape Town with a Christian brother from Egypt;
- (2) prayer outreaches in Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town;
- (3) two church services in Pretoria attended by a few dignitaries from the Pretoria Hebrew congregation and
- (4) connecting with young adults of a church in Johannesburg, teaching them over three Friday evenings on the necessity of taking the Gospel to Jewish people, the conflict in the Middle East and the land of Israel and the Jewish people.

As we go into 2017, we are trusting for more opportunities to take the gospel to both Jewish people and gentiles and opportu-



nities to take Jewish ministry to the Church.

#### **4. Jews for Jesus South Africa from Michael Sischy**

This year we implemented a strategy of "Boots on the Ground" - we need to be in public places and spaces where the gospel can be shared effectively and our Jewish people can be engaged. To this end we launched a series of street side advertisements, using the cycle of the Jewish feasts from Purim to Hanukkah to contextualise the gospel message to our people. This was also represented on social media, with Facebook and Instagram being increasingly used.

Weekly Shabbat services were held in partnership with Congregation Beit Y'shua in Johannesburg on Friday evenings. The social sharing audio site Soundcloud was used to share these messages, which now have a worldwide listenership and is growing in a very encouraging way.

The theme of the years' messages was "Tzelem-Elohim" - the Image of God. Being in public also included going as a team, walking with our prominent shirts, "Don't follow the crowd, follow Messiah Y'shua", at the annual 702 Walk-the-Talk event, which over 50 000 people attended this year.

In between these times we also conducted visibility runs in public spaces frequented by our Jewish people, which allowed for interesting conversations over the shirts that were being worn. The most prominent shirt worn read, "The Only Hope for Peace, was born in the Middle East."

Regular weekly events included a Jews for Jesus Bible study, and one-on-one home visitation with Jewish seekers and believers. We held a baptism for a new Jewish believer in the first quarter of the year. This was attended and witnessed by unsaved Jewish fam-

ily, which was incredible. Another highlight was the salvation of a Jewish lady at our Yom Kippur service.

The year closed with our #LIFESAVER evangelism campaign in the city of Cape Town! The beaches, malls, streets and busy highway overpasses were all used to proclaim the message that God was the lifesaver, "saving lives since 32 A.D."

We were delighted with the many people - Jewish and Gentile - who engaged us in gospel conversations during this time. By means of banners, postcard tracts, bracelets, balloons, beach umbrellas, frisbees and smiling friendly campaigners from the USA, Ukraine and South Africa, our multi-generational team certainly made an impact and were certainly noticed! At a Shabbat meal which we held at the end of the outreach, two Jewish people made a profession of faith in Messiah Yeshua! What a wonderful way to end our outreach!

#### **5. Messianic Testimony from Leigh Telli in Cape Town**

This last year has had its ups and downs. To begin with, the "downs" - a close Jewish friend called A, has returned a Bible for the fourth time, despite the fact that she felt the Lord say to her, "It's time!", whilst I was praying for her. I believe her deep involvement in the New Age and her resistance to any form of commitment, is at the heart of the problem.

On the other hand, the door to minister at a retirement home (about a third of the people who stay there are Jewish) continues to stay open. There is always a good response to the meetings I organise, although I would like more time to follow up. I continue to share on Radio Tygerberg as the opportunity arises.

Another "up" is the recommitment of my Jewish friend V at a Feast of Tabernacles event. After

the altar call, V said, "Although I still believed, I had drifted off. I was lost, but He found me and I found Him!" V is going to be baptised when she visits her family over the New Year. Although Jewish ministry is not easy ground, I have been greatly blessed to see fruit among seven Gentiles who have committed their lives to the Lord on different occasions.

#### **6. Simcha Ministry to Jewish People from Cecilia**

A Jewish friend, who started attending the weekly Bible study group for women, found she could relate to other Jewish women in the group, but told me she felt like a traitor to her Jewish faith. After attending the group regularly for a couple of months, the barriers fell away and she now believes Yeshua is the Messiah, realising that she is still Jewish!

Apart from the weekly women's group, home visitation is an important part of our outreach to Jewish people. We also value opportunities to speak in churches and on the local Christian radio station, Radio Tygerberg.

Francois Wessels and I are both members of the Beit Ariel Messianic Congregation and work towards creating a home for Jewish believers. We invite Jewish friends to Shabbat services and the celebration of the Jewish holidays with the congregation.

Towards the end of the year, a homeless Jewish man in Cape Town whom we ministered to, died as a result of a violent attack. A short while before this unfortunate incident he started confessing faith in Yeshua. I am once again reminded of the faithfulness of our Lord and Saviour.

*Cecilia Burger  
simchaministry@gmail.com*

# Annual Report for LCJE Europe

By Rolf G. Heitmann, LCJE Area Coordinator for Europe



## Danish Israel Mission (DIM)

In many ways 2016 has been “business as usual” for us in the Danish Israel Mission. Our focus has been on our partnerships with different bodies and organizations mainly in Israel and strengthening our work in Denmark especially among our youth and through our volunteer programs.

## DIM, LCJE and the wider Lausanne Movement

The 3rd Lausanne gathering for younger leaders was held in Jakarta in August. Denmark was allowed to send only four delegates to the gathering, and we were privileged to have two of them come from our youth work. As a small organization we find it helpful and inspiring to be able to expose our youth to world mission and Jewish mission in such a context and believe in the importance of seeing Jewish mission as part of world mission. We look

forward to be part of the LCJE Europe conference and hope that more LCJE member organizations will bring younger participants.

Personally, I was able to be part of the Younger Leaders Gathering as an LCJE catalyst together with Tuvya Zaretsky. It was especially encouraging to be able to connect with brothers and sisters from Asia with a heart for Jewish evangelism. It is exciting to see how this new LCJE branch will develop.

## Our focus in Israel

We find it saddening to see how the relationship between Jewish and Palestinian believers in Jesus has developed over the last year. There is a political and social climate which makes it difficult for the two groups to come together, and it is not hard to understand why people involved in reconciliation grow weary and discouraged. Despite that we as Danish Israel Mission want to encourage and

come alongside partners and individuals for whom this agenda is crucial as part of their own testimony of what the Gospel implies for them. One focus group for us in this regard over the last year has been FCSI, Fellowship of Christian Students in Israel. We partner with them through our volunteer program and through the Danish Student movement as well as through financial support.

Two other partners should be mentioned among our partners in Israel where we find that we can both contribute and receive inspiration and a call. They are the Bible Society and Jews for Jesus. The partners are not new but we are grateful for the development over the last year. Partnering with them allows us to expose our youth work in a very “hands on” way to the work of Jewish evangelism. Through our partnership with the Israeli Bible Society we have been able to also interact with the Palestinian Bible Society

and in that way express a common identity in Christ, the Messiah, that people here can share despite differences of language, culture and political outlook.

### **Our focus in Denmark**

We continue to find it a challenge to get congregations in Denmark involved in cross cultural mission in general and in Jewish mission in particular. One strategy has been to invite members of congregations to go on a "fact-finding" trip to Israel to see for themselves what God is doing among Jewish people in the land and then ask themselves how they or the congregations they attend can be part of that. We hope that this dialogue will result in one such trip in 2017 and that being exposed to what God is doing will challenge them to get involved.

We have also continued our teaching on the Jewish roots of our faith through Passover and Succot celebration in congregations. It takes a bit more to convince pastors to join with us for Succot celebration, but once they agree we have found it a great way to talk about our relationship to the Jewish people and Jewish mission.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to continue our small "Shabbat Group" in Copenhagen. This means we have to admit that our interaction with the Jewish community in Denmark is at this point almost non-existing. This is a shame, and it remains on our agenda to look for ways to establish this relationship in a meaningful way.

On the other hand, the political climate in Denmark continues to give us opportunities to stand up for our small Jewish community. There is a strong push in Danish society as such and also the political sphere that wants to make circumcision illegal in Denmark. If this becomes a reality, what will then happen to the Jewish community? And what does this

mean for religious freedom in our country? These are crucial questions for the next year.

*Bodil F. Skjøtt,  
General Secretary  
E-mail: general@israel.dk*

### **The Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ)**

This report covers the evangelism ministry of CMJ in the UK during 2016. During 2016 our two community based evangelists have continued their ministries in North London and Manchester. In Manchester there have been some very significant and encouraging encounters with key parts of the Orthodox community. Our two community based evangelists have been well-supported by other CMJ staff witnessing at New Age events and in some street witness, mainly in central London and Stamford Hill alongside a number of important personal contacts..

CMJ UK has also updated and produced a new 4 session training course aimed to introduce and equip Christians and Church leaders in areas of Jewish evangelism. The course is delivered by a DVD and a course study booklet. It is ideal for small home-groups and study events. The course is known as the JET (Jewish Evangelism Training) course and will shortly be available free of charge from the CMJ website. It is hoped that this good resource will be widely used by many different groups in a range of Church settings and many will find this course to have been significant in helping shape and engage in culturally relevant outreach among Jewish people.

Additional resources produced by CMJ during 2016 include a new research paper by Dr Michael Eldridge on "Understanding Hasidic Jews" and my own book "Walking an Ancient Path," which explores the vital area of New Testament Christology and how this relates to Jewish concepts of

Monotheism.

CMJ UK continues to support the key wider mission work of CMJ worldwide, and there has been much good co-operation between our staff in Israel, the USA and in the UK.

CMJ UK greatly values belonging to the LCJE network and looks forward to contributing to many LCJE network events during 2017.

*Alex Jacob, CEO CMJ UK  
alexj@cmj.org.uk*

### **Beit Sar Shalom Ministry, Germany**

Currently, Beit Sar Shalom Team consists of about thirty missionaries and administrative workers, ministering in more than twenty cities of Germany as well as two couples sent to the US and Israel. In 2016 our missionaries have been involved in:

- preaching the gospel;
- disciplining new believers;
- providing pastoral care;
- planting congregations;
- working on strengthening the unity between Jews and Gentiles in the Body of the Messiah;
- raising, training, and mentoring new outreach and congregational leaders;
- actively combating against anti-Semitism;
- working in cooperation with other domestic and overseas ministries
- ministering through hospitality to travellers, especially to young Israelis
- running Messianic Institute - educational seminars and their distributing
- organizing and leading conferences and seminars
- providing humanitarian aid and helping the needy
- ministering to Holocaust survivors

Our evangelistic efforts in 2016 in Germany have been very fruitful with a number of people coming to believe in Yeshua, including

Jewish people, Israelis and even Muslims. It resulted in a couple of dozen new believers being baptized by our staff that year.

Now, I am going to mention some special highlights of 2016. In May, our staff members were actively involved in the bi-annual conference for the entire body of the messianic movement in Germany with about 400 participants. In June-July we had a Training and Evangelism Program in Berlin, theoretically and practically educating a number of believers from different parts of Germany to share the gospel with the Jewish people. In September we co-organized the fourth International Conference of Russian Speaking Messianic Leaders in Warsaw, Poland.

At our Berliner congregation, we have initiated entrepreneurial starting communities and fellowships, which became a movement that has kept rolling throughout 2016. Currently, we have more than twenty such fellowships, including two women fellowships (one in German and one in Russian), one mens' fellowship, two youth fellowships, two prayer fellowships, five Bible fellowships, two evangelistic fellowships, fellowship for women with little children, a fellowship for Israelis, a fellowship at a Jewish retirement home, etc. These fellowships attract many new people, who would probably never consider attending our congregation or outreaches otherwise. The worship services at the Berliner congregation in 2016 have been restructured to facilitate a growing number of participants and to create a more culturally appropriate environment. We went from one long service to two short services. The congregational structure has been decentralized, including more than 50 people ministering in different areas. As result, the congregants are more engaged in the congregational life than ever before.

Internationally, in 2016 our staff was involved in outreach and teaching in multiple countries (i.e., Israel, USA, Poland, Russia, Finland, Austria), particularly actively participating in reviving the outreach ministry in Ukraine.

In October 2016 Beit Sar Shalom Ministry celebrated its twentieth anniversary. It was a milestone for us! It was a set of joyful events, including seminars, tours, worship service and a major celebration. Almost seven hundred people attended the events to praise God for what he has done in Germany in the last twenty years. Thus, we have started a new decade. We are excited about 2017, the year in which in addition to our normal ministry we are planning to particularly intensify online-outreach, training believers for Jewish outreach, and providing education opportunities to the messianic leaders.

*Vladimir Pikman,  
Executive Director  
VPikman@BeitSarShalom.org*

### **Maschiah.info**

A new direction of our ministry in 2016 happened to be very interesting. Sometimes it appears to us that ministry should develop within the framework which we create ourselves. But our plans are our plans and the Lord opens new opportunities and horizons.

### **Israel**

Serving the people of Israel already for 13 years, I always dreamed to spread our operation to the State of Israel. Certainly until this year we worked in Israel but only from time to time and predominately via our internet ministry. We thus assumed that it would be the same further.

But in the fall of 2015 the Lord allowed us to initiate permanent ministry in Israel. My friend and coworker N.H. now resides in Israel. From the first days of his residence in the country he started to share the Good News with

Jews and Arabs. In times it amazes me how brave he is in his ministry Besides, N.H. and his wife assembled a home group where they study the Scripture and fellowship with messianic believers. So the old dream has come true and we now have opportunity to minister in Israel.

In November 2016 I managed to visit Jerusalem. It was an amazing experience witnessing amongst Israeli Arabs. I'll honestly say that at first it was terrifying for me as a Jew to stay in the midst of an Arab neighborhood, but the Lord performed another miracle by giving me the words and boldness.

### **The internet ministry**

We started this project in 2011; at that time the Russian-speaking radio was something absolutely new. Currently, we operate two radio channels on [www.mashiah.info](http://www.mashiah.info)--musical and preaching channels. In 2016 we created 64 programs; our musical channel collected 340,000 hits and number of preaching channel visits has reached 29,150 hits (to compare: in 2015 number of visits was 2,867). Nowadays our internet ministry [mashiah.info](http://mashiah.info) comprises two radio channels and the Shalom magazine's website.

### **Our publishing projects**

We began to publish Shalom magazine in 2011 jointly with the Finnish mission Friends of Israel. We have published four color issues at 11,000 copies and 2013 launched the site on the [mashiah.info](http://mashiah.info) platform where one can download the Shalom magazine.

Our magazine is distributed in the USA, Israel, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Germany, Finland, Poland, Austria, Latvia. These are only countries of paper-based magazine distribution.

## **The Crimean Christian newspaper THE WORD**

In March 2015 we started publication of the Crimean Christian newspaper, The WORD. Every issue contains a messianic column addressing both Jews and gentile churches. We tell about the Jewish roots of Christianity, biblical feasts and relationships in the Body of Messiah (Mashiach).

## **The educational ministry**

We plan, together with NCMI, to conduct another conference, ISRAEL AND CHURCH, in Riga, Latvia. The conference participants are representatives from various Christian churches and messianic congregations. We are also planning to carry out memorial service in the Rumbul forest where the Riga ghetto was destroyed.

## **The ministry in Belarussia**

In 2013 we began a ministry to elderly Belarussian Jews. Unfortunately, economics in that country is in very difficult condition, which affects seniors, who have to survive. In 2016 we were able to support the Jews in Minsk by distributing 140 food parcels. Every parcel covers groceries for one person for one week.

## **Tendencies and new horizons**

In 2017 we intend to develop our ministry in Israel. We also wish to continue to minister via media site, [www.mashiah.info](http://www.mashiah.info). Despite financial complications, we want to continue ministry among Belarus Jews. And of course we anticipate the Lord's blessing for preaching His Word. We also plan to continue collaboration with NCMI, Caspari Center, and the Finnish "Friends of Israel"

*Rev. Alexey Shepelev  
Mashiah.info  
applerus@yandex.ru*

## **Jews for Jesus**

Dear brothers and sisters, Shalom from the Jews for Jesus in Europe

and in the former USSR. 2016 was a very rewarding and encouraging year for us. By God's grace, in addition to our regular ongoing missionary work, we were able to launch some special projects and initiate some new initiatives. We held evangelistic witnessing campaigns in Berlin, Budapest, Odessa, St. Petersburg, Moscow, London and Paris. Each of these campaigns combined a mix of methods, including our typical "broadsideing," as well as web and social media evangelism. The Odessa campaign was held in honor of the 25th anniversary of the launch of the work of Jews for Jesus in Ukraine during the final months of the life of the Soviet Union. Our combined Paris and London campaign focused especially on reaching out to the Orthodox Jewish communities. Toward that end our evangelistic materials were designed around the theme/slogan, "From 613 to 3:16." Our Moscow campaign was something of a "test," to see whether we would encounter increased opposition as a result of the law that the Russian Duma passed last year. As you know, that law was allegedly passed as a check against terrorism; but in reality, it was passed to serve as a deterrent to open evangelism in the Russian Federation. Fortunately, our team members encountered no real interference from the authorities, despite our high profile and open evangelism. We're all glad that we "tested" the strength of the law, and we hope that interference will always prove to be more of a concern rather than a reality.

In the area of special initiatives, we were able to open a Berlin branch. We hope to concentrate especially on bringing the Good News to the expatriate Israeli community of Berlin, which according to some sources, now numbers as many as 22,000 people. We ended the year with our first pan-European social media

campaign. From December 19 – 24, evangelistic ads appeared on Facebook, Google, and YouTube in German, Hungarian, English and Russian. More than 354,500 people viewed the ads, and staff and volunteers conducted 1,350 online "Live Chat" conversations.

I'm sure we're all aware of the most recent steps on the part of the EKD in Germany to disavow the cause that we all share and that drives us – the cause of Jewish evangelism. A good number of you were able to counter the EKD's denunciation in the Christian press. By God's grace, we, too, succeeded in getting the following statement published in Idea/Spektrum: "Jesus Himself declared to a Jewish audience, "No one comes to the Father but through Me." (John 14:6). If those words are true, then one of the most anti-Jewish acts that a Christian can perform is to withhold the Gospel message from a person specifically because that person is Jewish. Christians who love and respect the Jewish people should take a lesson from Paul. He loved us Jews so much that he wrote, "I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren...who are Israelites" (Romans 9:3-4). Because he loved us, he brought us the Good News. And when he prayed for us, he prayed that Israel "might be saved" (Romans 10:1). I'm looking forward to the ways in which we, as a network, will be able to partner together in presenting a strong and united voice to our Christian brothers and sisters who are currently sitting on "the wrong side of the fence" on this issue.

In addition to the evangelism, I'm personally especially grateful for the fellowship, cooperation and evangelistic partnerships that we Jews for Jesus share with all of you! I hope our partnerships will continue to expand. May God bless you and your la-

bors as 2017 continues to unfold before us all.

*Avi Snyder  
Isaiah 49:6*

*avi.snyder@jewsforjesus.org*

### **LCJE Finland (JUST)**

The working group of the LCJE Finland (JUST), had in 2016 five planning meetings. 5-8 members representing various organizations participated in the meetings. The main activities organized during the year included the following:

- A prayer gathering with breakfast in May was organized for working group members with their related organizations. The attendance was bad compared to the same kind of gathering that took place in 2015.

- A major event was organized on 30.10.2016 at a congregational location in Helsinki (Lähetysseurakunta, Mission Congregation, Pentecostal). The event had a musical approach in bringing the good news to the Jews. Irit Iffert and Yael Kalisher visited from the Yuval School of Music and Arts, Jerusalem, making a concert and describing the activities of Yuval Institute and telling the history of Messianic Jewish music in Israel. Finnish pianist Harri Saarinen gave a mini lecture on Jewish composers who have composed specially for piano. He also played some musical pieces of the said composers. A Russian-born violinist, Serguei Popov, was presented by a well-edited video, and a Messianic Jewish group from KEMO Congregation, Kiev, Ukraine, brought greetings from their congregation (the largest in Ukraine and possibly in all of Europe). They filled the whole gathering hall with loud praise music and encouraged the audience to join in singing and dancing. During the day there was a seminar and a full programme in the evening.

- The visitors both from Israel

and Ukraine participated also in other occasions during their visit in Finland in Pentecostal and Lutheran congregations.

JUST plans to bring Dr Richard Harvey to Finland for a lecture tour in November 2017. His main topic - due to this year being the 500th anniversary of the Reformation - will be "Luther and the Jews".

*Juha-Pekka Rissanen,  
Chairman of the working  
group of LCJE, Finland (JUST)*

### **Amzi**

Every year's highlight for amzi and her supporters are the days of fellowship that take place alternately in Switzerland and Germany. The motto for the 2016 event was: "Nothing can separate us". We had the privilege to present two couples from Israel and the Palestinian territories to a welcoming audience, hosted by a thriving Chrischona Free Church in Romanshorn (Switzerland). The two couples represented different national backgrounds: American, Arab-Palestinian, German, Israeli, Jewish. They demonstrated how faith in Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, enables representatives of two nations that are in constant conflict with each other to be friends who trust each other and share honestly both joys and sorrows.

A second major event was a congress in September, a "joint venture" of organisations in Germany that have a concern for reconciliation between Jewish and Arab followers of Jesus. Dr. Seth Postell, academic dean of Israel College of the Bible (ICB), and Dr. Thomas Damianos, an Arab Christian lawyer and lecturer at ICB, gave a testimony about their friendship and cooperation as followers of Jesus within Israeli society. Participants of the congress came up to Dr. Damianos, confessing that due to his testimony they had repented

over their negative attitude towards all Arabic-speaking people.

November 2016 brought a challenge to organisations in Germany that support Jewish evangelism. It was a statement unanimously given by the general synod of the Protestant church in Germany, according to expectations from the Jewish community that churches should finally abstain from what is called „Judenmission“. The statement underlined the abiding character of the Jewish people as God's chosen people. From that ground it came to the conclusion that for Christians it is inappropriate to direct Jewish people to salvation in Jesus, the Messiah. The statement ignores the growing number of Jewish followers of Jesus, even though there are meanwhile at least 30 Messianic-Jewish congregations and groups in Germany.

A case for Messianic Jews – situated between church and synagogue – is found in a recent publication, written by some protestant theologians mainly from Germany – among them, Dr Richard Harvey from the UK with German-Jewish family roots. Its title may be understood without translation: "Messianische Juden – eine Provokation". Will these voices be heard and acknowledged by representatives of the churches in Germany who have never met a present-day Jewish follower of Jesus face to face?

### **Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel (NCMI)**

Through 2015/2016 NCMI has been working on our mission and direction towards year 2030. We will have a special focus on:

- Teaching and developing competence among believers
- Building relationships and networking with congregations, organizations and institutions
- Focus on the younger generation in our communication and activities
- Financial security, with a larger

part of our budget spent abroad on holistic mission (evangelism, diaconal service and engagement in society)

### **Norway**

A number of volunteers and staff members around the country are involved in preaching, teaching and organizational development with the purpose of awakening believers for their responsibility for the Jewish people and mission. An educational program for "NCMI Ambassadors" (volunteers) is implemented, and we have even been able to recruit more volunteers for international work than before.

The secularization and liberal theology influencing the mainstream Church of Norway has motivated NCMI as a Lutheran-based organization to work more ecumenically and establish partnerships with churches, congregations and organizations of other denominations. We have about 40 partnership agreements with churches that have committed themselves to regular financial and prayer support.

### **International work**

In Europe NCMI is supporting and cooperating with:

- Evangelical Lutheran Church

in Hungary through Gisle Johnson Institute: Conferences and educational programs on Jewish roots of Christian faith, evangelism and anti-Semitism

- Mashiah.info: Radio-/media work, publications and conferences for Christians in the Russian speaking world
- Jews for Jesus in Ukraine
- Messianic ministry in Romania

Most of our investments and resources are concentrated in the land of Israel. In 2016 we made a new partnership with Jerusalem Institute of Justice and sent a volunteer to work with them.

We continue our partnership with Ebenezer Senior Citizens' Home, Beit Eliahu Congregation in Haifa, Immanuel Ministries / Immanuel Church in Tel Aviv, Machaseh in Jerusalem, Musalaha. In 2016 our involvement in reconciliation ministry has been evaluated. We will continue our Bridge Builder program, but at the same time we are looking for new opportunities and partners in building bridges between among ethnical, social and cultural diverse groups of Believers in Israel and the Middle east. Some important steps have been taken in 2016:

- The Board of Ebenezer Home

has decided to build a nursing unit and upgrade the building in accordance with the demands from the authorities. Estimated costs are € 5 million. Now, the management is working on a finance plan.

- During a Sabbath in May, more than 1,400 Israelis visited Immanuel Church in Tel Aviv for a "mini service" and presentation. The invitation was sent out by the municipality under the program "Houses from within". The responses were exciting: "Where can I learn more?" "I have to read the New testament". The Board of Immanuel Ministries has decided to open a coffee bar next to the church to make it even more attractive to the public.

- Caspari Center has decided to develop a program for new Jewish believers, raising issues especially relevant for them.

- A team of two younger Israeli Believers was sent on a mission trip to India with support from NCMI. This program will be developed further.

Most of all, we are grateful seeing people coming to faith, being baptized and matured also this last year. All by Grace!

*Rolf G. Heitmann,  
General Secretary  
rolf@israelsmisjonen.no*

## **Annual Report for LCJE Hong Kong By Mark Lam, Area Coordinator for Hong Kong/China**

### **Overview**

In 2016, Jewish ministries in Hong Kong had their own distinctive activities:

### **CWI Hong Kong**

CWI Hong Kong (HK) publishes CWI Chinese bulletins three times a year. CWI HK organized a variety of ministry activities in 2016, including regular CWI HK Prayer Meetings, Jewish Mission workshops, an annual Rally shar-

ing their vision and worldwide ministries, and annual conference. They organized a group of people from Hong Kong to join with the summer outreach in Berlin, where they all had a wonderful experience. In addition, they published a Chinese version of Paul Morris's book, "Jewish Themes in the New Testament," volume 1. Volume 2 is in the process of being translated into Chinese. CWI Hong Kong's activities

have kept people passionate and up-to-date about Jewish ministries.

### **CMJ Hongkong**

CMJ Hongkong organized three public teaching lectures last year all related to Jewish Feasts, including Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. Besides, they organized a special Jewish study tour in Poland. Thirty people joined and visited various Holocaust-related

sites. In particular, the group was taught to see the importance of building Jewish-Christian relationship, the need of acting against anti-Jewish movements, and the pursuit of wisdom and courage in not being a bystander in evil situations. Overall, it was a very successful experience.

### **Life in Messiah Hongkong**

Life in Messiah Hongkong is on the way to being a registered organization. They now have a monthly prayer meeting and offer opportunities to equip teammates in various seminars. They volunteer and reach out to the local Jewish community and Israeli backpackers, and have also

organized Hebrew class. They have made new friendships with Jewish people through hiking activities and home visits. While exploring more local ministry opportunities, they are also strengthening relationships with local churches and organizations.

### **COM Hongkong**

Chosen People Ministries Hongkong last year held regular prayer meetings and two missionary commissioning ceremonies. Furlough missionaries gave talks and courses on missions and about Israel. Two Israel short term missions teams were organized, and around 25 people had the opportunity to experience serving

people in Israel. They established a Chinese language website for the Isaiah 53 campaign that aims at mobilizing Chinese churches to engage in Jewish evangelism. A newly translated book was also published, named "Fall Feasts of Israel". Workers also participated with Israeli backpackers, originally founded by an independent volunteering ministry.

As we can see, various organizations had their own significant work and ministries; however, there were also areas where they partnered with one another to advance the kingdom of God.

*Mark Lam*

*marklam99@yahoo.com.hk*

## **God's Plan for Israel: Latin America Annual Report Major Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina By Rev. David Sedaca, LCJE Latin American Coordinator**

### **Overview**

The stated purpose of the LCJE is to create a network among people, churches, and organizations to promote Jewish evangelism. In Latin America with almost 30 Spanish, Portuguese, French, English, and Dutch-speaking countries, the work of the Latin American coordinator is carried out mainly by e-mails and developing long-distance relationships. Since I have been involved in Jewish evangelism in Latin America for almost 40 years, it would be an unsurmountable task to visit most countries. For this reason, I focus on the largest Jewish communities, with Argentina being the largest by far. Another way to develop relationships is through social media, and for this I rely on the goodwill and cooperation of various ministries who make their websites available to announce our activities.

### **Conference in Buenos Aires**

A case in point was the recent major conference that took place



*David Sedaca speaking at the Erev Shabbat Service*

on December 6 – 8, 2016, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, organized by the Messianic Community Center of Buenos Aires and the Beth Sar Shalom messianic congregation. This event was co-sponsored by Chosen People Ministries in Argentina, and the program featured David Sedaca as the only speaker. The event was divided into two sections: there were afternoon seminars and workshops and evening conferences open to the public. This

event was widely publicized in social media, inviting evangelicals from different churches and denominations to understand God's plan for Israel. The conference was held at the recently renovated Messianic Jewish Center on Sarmiento street, in the heart of a Jewish neighborhood.

### **World's fourth largest Jewish community**

Although the Argentine Jewish community has decreased





*Introduction to Rabbinic Judaism*

in numbers, it is still the fourth largest Jewish community in the world. Buenos Aires, the capital city, still has around 200,000 Jewish people. Despite the large number of Jewish people, most evangelical churches are not effective in reaching out to the Jewish community, and they have little understanding of how to see present day Israel in light of the Scriptures. For this reason, the organizers of this event set up this conference with the hope that there will be a better understanding of the need to evangelize Jewish people. This three-day conference was attended by local pastors, leaders and members from different local churches, but there were also attendees who came from other cities and provinces, and several people from neighboring countries.

Those attending had registered at a special website to be able to take part in the seminars and workshops. Rev. David Sedaca, who is Vice-President of Chosen People Ministries and LCJE Latin American coordinator, is also professor of short-term programs at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Several of the workshops were similar to the lectures that he gives at Hebrew University. The seminars and workshops were limited to no more than 20 people in each class, and each class lasted two hours.

#### **Workshops and main topics**

There were two workshops each day, and the main topics were: "The Development of Rabbinic Judaism," "Understanding Rabbinic Literature," "History of The Jewish People from The Destruction of The Temple to The Present Day," "The Middle East Crisis and The Rise of ISIS," and "History of Hebrew Christianity From the First Century to Present Day Messianic Judaism." The evening sessions were open to the public without prior registration, and these were very well attended by members of the local messianic Jewish congregation and evangelical churches. The topics of the three-evening program were: "Is Israel Still God's Chosen People?," "The Gathering Storm", and "Why Did the Messiah Have to Die?" These conferences included the Kabbalah Shabat Service on Friday night and the

Havdalah Service on Saturday, which were led by the messianic Jewish Rabbi José Lewin and accompanied by an amazing worship team that included vocals and orchestra from the local Messianic Jewish Congregation.

It is the hope of the organizers that the conference has resulted in encouraging evangelical leaders and all Christians who attended this event to reach the Jewish people with the Gospel and to promote Jewish evangelism in their churches.

#### **Looking forward to 2017**

As I look forward to 2017, I pray that the Lord will continue giving us opportunities to network with like-minded organizations and churches. I have planned to visit Uruguay after the recent conference in Buenos Aires, but my plans were changed. The week of the conference in Buenos Aires, my father-in-law passed away. My wife Julia, who traveled with me to Argentina, had the opportunity to stay by his bedside the moment he went to meet his Lord. He was 94 years old and died peacefully in his sleep. Although he was a nuclear scientist who for almost 40 years worked for the Argentine Atomic Energy Commission, he pastored several churches and was a renowned evangelist. He now went to meet his Savior and to receive from Him "the crown of righteousness." For this reason, I had to cancel other speaking engagements in Latin America and it is my hope that in the coming months I will be able to travel again to fulfill my speaking engagements that had to be postponed.

*David Sedaca*  
[david@chosenpeople.com](mailto:david@chosenpeople.com)

**Visit the Lausanne Movement website:  
[www.lausanne.org](http://www.lausanne.org)**

# LCJE Japan Annual Report

By Rev. Charles Klingensmith, LCJE Japan Area Coordinator

## Overview

Shalom in Messiah Yeshua from LCJE Japan to all in the worldwide LCJE network!

LCJE Japan began planning in the past year for an historical first, a conference in Japan to explore and establish practical measures to bring the gospel of Messiah to the growing numbers of Jewish visitors and residents in East Asia as a whole. I urge you to consider attending. This conference, "Jewish Evangelism in East Asia: Looking for Opportunities, Making Connections", will be held, God willing this year 2017, from November 13 (Mon) to November 15 (Wed) at Wakayama Lutheran Church in Wakayama City, convenient to Kansai International Airport, the major international airport serving the Osaka and Kansai areas. Accommodations will be at a local hotel of international standards.

Additionally, after the conference itself ends, two public forums are scheduled for members of the Christian public at large, and people not otherwise involved with LCJE Japan or Jewish evangelism, are invited to meet participants and to receive an introduction to the issues of Jewish evangelism discussed at the conference, November 16 (Thu) in Osaka, and November 18 (Fri) in Tokyo. The conference languages are tentatively English and Japanese, and we are currently investigating the possibilities for Korean language interpretation as well.

## Connecting leaders and workers

We want to connect East Asian Christian leaders and workers, mostly from Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, and other countries, with leaders and workers in Jewish evangelism based



*Charles Klingensmith*

in Israel, North America, Australia, Europe, and other areas, involved both in mission organizations and congregations. East Asian Christians need to know various issues concerning Jewish missions organizations, and Jewish mission organizations interested in reaching the various Jewish populations of East Asia need to know the church situations in East Asia. We aim in this conference to make such information mutually available, and as the conference title suggests, we pray that all of us will look for opportunities as yet unnoticed and make the connections necessary to establish practical beginnings in Jewish evangelism in East Asia.

## Issues to be addressed

The following are some of the issues we want to address, whether in speaking presentations or small group discussion work, and if you reading this feel that these issues are important to you, too, then this conference is for you:

- East Asia's Jewish people: where are they from, where are they here, what brings them here?
- Israelis in East Asia: outreach and hospitality to travelers
- Jewish people's interest in East Asian Buddhism
- Church and Christianity in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong:

what's similar, what's different?

- Reaching Jewish people through street campaigns in East Asian cities: possibilities, problems
- Jewish Evangelism as a work of the local church in the East Asian context: shaping theological understanding, funding the work by churches
- Funding full-time Jewish evangelism workers in East Asia
- Pastoral care and biblical education in East Asian churches: overcoming the cultural divide
- Are Messianic congregations possible in East Asia?
- Anti-Semitism and Anti-Israelism in East Asia: Advocacy for the Jewish people and the Jewish state by East Asian churches
- East Asian Churches and Christian Zionism: connecting to Jewish Evangelism?
- Outreach to tourists (language issues, homestays, etc.)
- Arab-Israeli reconciliation: how can East Asian Christians help?
- Further cooperation between LCJE branches in East Asia

## Setting a budget

About costs, LCJE Japan understands that travel to East Asia can feel prohibitively expensive. We are now discussing a budget that will set the cost for participants coming from outside Japan at an affordable level. Therefore a flat conference fee of roughly USD 300 (tentatively budgeted) will be required, and will include participation fee, hotel, meals and transportation costs inside Japan. Participants will be required to pay their own airfare to and from Japan. The USD 300 fee does not cover the actual costs for each participant, but LCJE Japan is planning to itself cover those other costs, and to this end, in spring of 2017 will

begin a campaign to raise funds to cover costs by participants. Please pray for us in these efforts so that we might truly keep the costs low and the participation high.

As we decide on details, these will be posted on the LCJE website and in issues of the LCJE Bulletin. If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact me, Charles Klingensmith, at rehoboth@gol.com

at your earliest convenience, so that we can keep you informed. We pray to see you here in Japan in November!

Let me conclude this report by thanking our former long-term Area Coordinator for Japan, the Rev. Teiichiro Kuroda, for his tireless service on behalf of LCJE Japan. I have replaced him as of January 1st. In addition to being a busy pastor, Rev. Kuroda has coordinated LCJE Japan

since our inception in 1994. He will continue to write Japanese language articles for our LCJE Japan News and to speak at our Osaka monthly prayer meeting from time to time. Both the LCJE Japan News and monthly prayer meetings in Tokyo and Osaka continue as usual in 2017.

*Charles Klingensmith  
rehoboth@gol.com  
LCJE Japan*

## **LCJE North America Annual Report**

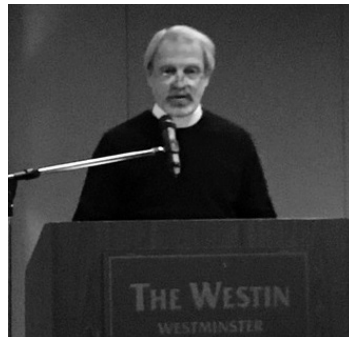
### **By Gary Hedrick, LCJE North America Area Coordinator**

#### **The U.S. election**

The recent U.S. presidential election and its aftermath have been highly polarizing, even among many evangelicals. However, one thing pro-Israel evangelicals have found encouraging is the incoming administration's unflinching commitment to Israel. President Trump didn't waste any time inviting Bibi Netanyahu to the White House, and the affection of the two men for each other was immediately obvious—a stark contrast to the Obama years. The next day in an interview on Fox News, Netanyahu said, "It was a meeting of the minds and a meeting of the hearts." Whatever the politicians do, though, we forge ahead into 2017 with our hope in the Lord and no one else: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man (Psalm 118:8, HCSB).

#### **Our Denver conference**

Our 2017 North American conference was held in Denver, Colorado, from March 6 to 8. The theme was "The Nuts and Bolts of Jewish Evangelism." Speakers included Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Mitch Glaser, Susan Perlman, Alyson Dresner, Rob Styler, Arlie Francis, Theresa Newell, Craig Blaising, Darrell Bock, Rich Robinson, Alex Jacob, Justin Kron (via video), Ryan Lambert, Randy Newman,

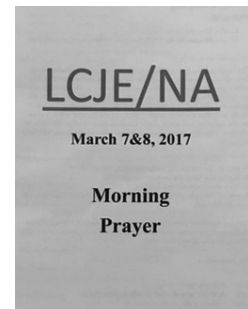


*Rev. Daryl Fenton*

and Barry Rubin, among others. Sessions dealt with topics such as digital media, print media, storytelling, and other tools of Jewish evangelism. Our worship leader once again was Greg Silverman ([www.gregsilverman.com](http://www.gregsilverman.com)).

#### **Worship time**

Greg collaborated with Daryl Fenton to plan our morning worship sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday with an Anglican liturgical twist and those sessions were a blessing! Even those of us from non-liturgical backgrounds found those times immensely uplifting and inspiring. Daryl has been a leading figure in the conservative resurgence within the Anglican communion and is respected and appreciated within the LCJE community here in North America. This was Greg's third year with us as worship leader.



*LCJE North America  
liturgical prayer guide*

A major presentation was a two-tiered panel discussion on Gerald McDermott's (Ed.) new book titled, *The New Christian Zionism* (IVP Books, 2016). Panel participants included: Theresa Newell (moderator), Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Rich Robinson, Craig Blaising, and Darrel Bock. Randall Price presented on his recent discoveries at Qumran at 'Cave 12', a new Dead Sea Scroll cave.

We send greetings to our LCJE family all over the world and invite you to keep up with goings-on in North America by consulting our webpage at [www.lcje-na.org](http://www.lcje-na.org). The 2018 LCJE North America conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

*Gary Hedrick  
garyh@cjfm.org*

## LCJE Academic Corner

### Erratum

On page 19 of Bulletin No. 126 (the November-December 2016 issue), we incorrectly said that Asbury Theological Seminary doctoral student Ben Snyder published the article "From Jerusalem to Jerusalem: Essential Contours of the Modern Messianic Movement" in the *Asbury Journal on Messianic Judaism*. We should have said that Ben published his article on 'Messianic Judaism' in the *Asbury Journal*. We regret the error.

### Evangelical Theological Society - Messianic Jewish Consultation 2017

The plan for the upcoming Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) - Messianic Jewish Consultation for 2017 will continue under the general rubric, "Messianic Jewish Studies: History, Theology and Praxis." The 69th Annual Meeting of ETS will be held on November 15-17, 2017, Providence, RI, with the general theme, "The Heritage of the Reformation". Jim Sibley will chair the 2017 Messianic Jewish Consultation. Other

planned participants and papers include:

- Hélène Dallaire - "A Mixed Multitude": Gentiles in the Messianic Movement - It is well known that most Messianic congregations include the active participation of Gentile believers. In this paper, I will address the following questions: Who is this 'mixed multitude'? What are the historical and biblical contexts in which this phenomenon occurred? What is the place of Gentiles in the modern Messianic movement?
- Tuvya Zaretsky - A dramatic demographic increase of American Jewish-Gentile couples presents a significant missiological opportunity. Jewish missions and messianic congregations have responded with innovative, thoughtful and effective approaches for spiritual engagement with them. What are some of the best practices currently being employed? What are some of the resources available to train interested church workers, local mission efforts and pastors for ministry to Jewish-Gentile couples? How can Christians engage

in ministry with Jewish-Gentile couples?

- Jeffrey Feinberg - "Messianic Jewish Character Education: Developing Character in a New Covenant Community." The presentation applies ancient methods of Jewish education pertinent to character formation in modern life. Praxis outcomes include building strong households that appropriate Scripture, sanctify space/time, re-enact and remember history, and move forward to celebrate revelation-in-the-making--including what it means to enter Messiah's presence both individually and corporately now, in the future, and in the world-to-come. The presentation will integrate anecdotal experiences from personal and family life with corporate practices including rites of passage and festival celebration in modern-day Messianic Jewish congregations.

- Gregg Hagg – Messianic Jewish Academic Programs

*Jim Melnick  
lcje.int@gmail.com*

## LCJE FACEBOOK and TWITTER Accounts



**LCJE FACEBOOK ACCOUNT:  
LCJE.Intl**



**LCJE TWITTER ACCOUNT:  
@LCJE\_Intl**

# Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism

## 2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENT - LCJE International (INCOME & EXPENSES)

### LCJE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS (BB&T, Falmouth, Virginia, USA)

Cash balance in bank accounts (as of 12.31.2016)      \$27,383.26 USD

#### Income for 2016

Membership dues (Agency & Individual)	29,319.42
Loan forgiven (Contribution, 2016)	1,000.00
CEO Conference 2017 Denmark - advance income	5,922.48
Miscellaneous revenue	1,223.31

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**TOTAL 2016 INCOME** **\$37,465.21**

#### EXPENSES

Contract Services	
Accounting services	920.00
Operations	
Bank charges	1,473.30
Bulletin printing	6,804.50
Office supplies	403.28
Postage, mailing services	5,401.20
Finance charge	-.50
Web hosting & support	285.54
Other Expenses	
Miscellaneous expenses	216.88
Travel insurance	74.79
Travel & Meetings	
Accommodations	905.88
Conference, meeting, 10th international conference - Israel 2015	584.00
Travel expenses	2,871.24
Travel - miscellaneous	95.00

**TOTAL 2016 EXPENSES** **20,035.03**

**NET ORDINARY INCOME** **\$17,430.18**

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Please direct any questions concerning our financial statement to me as your International Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Melnick  
International Coordinator & Treasurer  
*lcje.int@gmail.com*

## LCJE UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Fifth CEO Conference: 8 - 12 May 2017**

Emmaus Conference Centre, Haslev,  
DENMARK (outside Copenhagen)

[www.galleri-emmaus.dk](http://www.galleri-emmaus.dk) (conference centre site)

The conference will include a tour of "Jewish Copenhagen." For CEO registration, please contact the International Coordinator at: [lcje.int@gmail.com](mailto:lcje.int@gmail.com) (see also the new "CEO Webpage" at: [www.lcje.net/CEO\\_Webpage1.html](http://www.lcje.net/CEO_Webpage1.html))

**"Jewish Evangelism in East Asia: Looking  
for Opportunities, Making Connections":  
13 - 15 November 2017**

LCJE Japan announces a landmark conference to connect churches in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and other parts of East Asia, to Jewish mission organizations from outside the region that want to meet Jewish people in this part of the world. The conference will be held in Wakayama City, Japan.



### **Caspari Center - *Media Review*** ***CASPARI CENTER for Jewish and Biblical Studies***

The work of the Caspari Center is enabled through the prayers and financial support of organizations and individuals all over the world. The **Media Review** is a weekly English-language synopsis of articles that were originally published in the Israeli press, mostly in Hebrew, focusing on issues related to Messianic Jews, Christians in Israel, Jewish Attitudes toward Christians, Anti-Semitism, Anti-Missionary Activity, Archaeology, and similar themes.

**To subscribe to this free publication, please contact: [caspari@caspari.com](mailto:caspari@caspari.com)**

While offered for free, we would be grateful for donations in any amount to help underwrite the cost of producing this vital chronicle of Messianic/Christian history in Israel and to help us continue distributing it to as many people as possible.

**Donations online to support this work can be made via credit card or Paypal at: [www.caspari.com](http://www.caspari.com) (see "Donate" button at lower right-hand corner of page)**

***Cheques for donations can also be made payable to:***

Caspari Center  
P.O. Box 46  
Jerusalem 9100001 ISRAEL

- OR -

Caspari Center  
P.O. Box 147  
Wheaton, IL 60187 USA  
(tax-deductible in the U.S.)



## **11th LCJE European Conference August 14-17, 2017**

***1517-2017-20??***

***"The Reformation and Its Impact on Jewish Evangelism,  
Messianic Judaism and Jewish-Christian Relations"***

Coming together in Berlin this year, we want to focus on the legacy of the Reformation and its impact on Jewish-Christian relations in past and present. At the same time, we will focus on the future, searching for God's plan and our role as Protestant and Evangelical believers in Jewish-Christian relations and mission. We especially want to invite the younger generation to the conference, but do hope to see as many of you as possible. Looking forward to seeing you in Berlin! ROLF G. HEITMANN, LCJE EUROPEAN COORDINATOR

**rolf@israelmisjonen.no**

**Location:** Berliner Stadtmission / Jugendgastehaus, Lehrter Strasse 68  
10557 BERLIN (10 minutes' walk from Central Railway station / Hauptbahnhof)

### ***SEMINARS / PANELS:***

1. Luther and the Jews
2. Messianic Judaism and Confessionalism - schism or unity through diversity in the Body of Messiah?

### ***STRATEGIC FOCUS:***

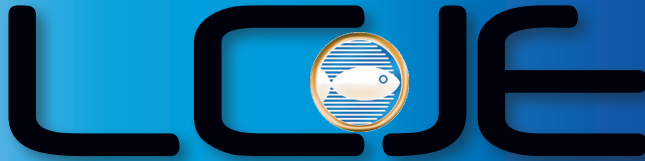
1. "Jews don't need Jesus." Churches' statements on anti-mission and our response
2. Younger generation involved in Jewish ministry - Lessons from YLG Jakarta

### ***SAMPLE INTEREST GROUPS / TABLE TALKS (participants may choose two tracks):***

1. Facing and fighting anti-Semitism in Europe
2. Communicating the Gospel through social media
3. Jews on the move: Migration as an opportunity for evangelism
4. Professionalism: Messianic Jewish involvement in society
5. Recruiting, involving and discipling a new generation

[ADDITIONAL INTEREST GROUPS & TABLE TALKS]

Networking Jewish Evangelism



Lausanne Consultation  
on Jewish Evangelism

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**International Coordinator** Jim Melnick [lcje.int@gmail.com](mailto:lcje.int@gmail.com)

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