



Newsletter 1/2015

Shalom dear friends

A man's heart plans his way: but the LORD directs his steps; There are many plans in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that will stand (Proverbs 16:9, 19:21). In recent months we have witnessed once again, how much comfort and confidence there is in these verses. Often the ability to choose and decide causes us confusion and helplessness, especially when we face several alternatives. What a privilege we have to come before God Almighty and ask for His guidance. What a blessing to experience His guidance in a different way each time, but always for the best!

On the 5th of May we took our residents for our annual day trip. Weeks before the trip I, Shoshana, cried out to the Lord for guidance to the best place to go. As our residents grow older and weaker it becomes a real challenge to find a place suitable for a trip, a place that does not take too much travel time getting there, has accessibility for wheelchairs, has adequate toilets, fresh air, interest and a good place for a nice lunch in the area!

The day I chose to go out on my trial expedition I cried out to the Lord again to go before me and lead me. I drove to the Zichron Ya'acov area even though we had been there a few times before; I set the CD in the van to praise music and took off. I had in mind to try and see if there was a suitable orchard for seasonal fruit picking or to pop into the wineries in the area. The winery turned out to be dark and dismal and the orchard had no shade or toilets. The orchard owner seeing my disappointment said he had a suggestion for me... He told me about the strawberry picking hot houses in Kibbutz Gan Shmuel in the Hadera area. I found the telephone number and in 20 min was there. The Lord had led me to this lovely place with beautiful, sweet, red strawberries to be picked! Two of the hot houses were accessible for wheelchairs and had strawberries in either waist high or hanging from the ceiling pot plants especially for older people and people in wheelchairs. Toilets were available and a very good oriental restaurant was a 5 minute drive away, Hallelujah!



And His fruit was sweet to my taste...

The trip turned out to be very successful and the weather was perfect. The residents who were able to participate were very happy as they ate and picked strawberries together, each resident got a box full to take home. We were also given a visual explanation about the strawberry growing and the bees. We praise the Lord that the God whose hand controls the world also tenderly cares for the daily lives of us, his feeble children 🍓

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They said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Thou prepared a table before me!



***How sweet are thy words unto my taste!
yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!***

Volunteers at a Bible study 🙏

In a sense, it was easier to plan the volunteers' trip, but even here we had to take into consideration each one's physical fitness...

For the first part of the trip we visited the modest home of our humble first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, in the Negev. After that we went for a hike in one of the trails of Ein Avdat. Unlike previous times, we had to work hard and prepare our lunch, but the effort certainly paid off...



During the past couple of months we had the joy of receiving two new residents to our Ebenezer family, Yafa from Nahariya and Antoinette from Jerusalem. Unfortunately, we had to refuse other candidates due to the restriction of our license to receive only people who are independent or frail.

We are now in the very last stages of the Nursing Ward planning and the Ministry of Health has requested some minor changes in the plans. After their approval we still have to get the approval of the home-front office and later of the Municipality. Bureaucracy is part of the process, and as much as it can frustrate us, we are comforted knowing that it is not a waste of time but part of His perfect timing.

There is still quite a way to go, but at least we have a direction... we continue to plan, but the Lord will direct!



Rosa Paley

About a month ago our dear Rosa was hospitalized for an operation in her hip, but passed away unexpectedly on the morning of the operation. We know that with the Lord there are no mistakes and in His mercy he spared her suffering.

Rosa was born in 1922 in the Ukraine, one of four children in a Jewish family. She experienced the great Ukrainian Famine of 1933 and later her family moved to Leningrad.

As a 19 year old she survived the Siege of Leningrad, working as a hospital aid. Rosa studied languages in Leningrad and worked as a teacher of French and German. Rosa was widowed twice and lost her only daughter because of inadequate medical care.

It says a lot about her relationship with people that her step-grandchildren treated her as their real grandmother and were in constant contact with her.

After the Perestroika, Christians began to be able to visit Russia and in 1985, at the age of 63, Rosa met some people from Finland and began studying the Bible with them. She learned from them that God loves the Jews. When there was a call for Jews to immigrate to the land of Israel she felt it right to respond – arriving on her own on the 31st of December, 1990, just a few days after her 68th birthday.

On her arrival in Israel in 1991 she was awarded the Israel Ministry of Defense, “Fighter Against the Nazis Medal”.

Rosa was given a flat in Afula and was told by her Finnish believer friends that there was a fellowship in Afula, but she had no contact with them initially. At Ulpan (Hebrew language school) Rosa befriended the mother of one of the believers from the Afula fellowship, so it was the Lord in His providence that led her to her new spiritual home!

Rosa would invite neighboring women to her small flat and together with Hilary, her new found friend, they would share the Gospel with them. She was a faithful and active member of the local fellowship for 14 years. As the eldest member she was a “Granny” for many. Her health deteriorated and it was increasingly difficult to live alone in a fourth floor apartment with no elevator. The congregation helped her to move and in 2005 Rosa came to live in the Ebenezer Home.

Her sweet smile and gentle mannerisms are missed by us all. However, she suffered much physically in the last few years so that we are very happy she is now truly without pain and knows the “Istina” (truth in Russian) – the absolute truth of Salvation. Goodbye Rosa, until we meet again.



Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great!

Our greatest and most immediate challenge is installing 2 new compressors for the air-conditioning system. While in our previous letter we thanked God that we had a spell of warm days while we installed the heating system, now we thank God that the summer days are not too hot and unbearable... We ordered the compressors from China a few months ago, but until now they haven't arrived in the port. All the preparations for the installation have been done, so we hope that by the time you receive this letter we will be enjoying the new air-conditioning.

Thank you again for your ongoing prayers and we would be very grateful if you remembered us also during the summer months. As in previous years, it is a challenge to keep the work routine going as workers ask for holiday time with their families.

**In the Love of Christ,
Johnny and Shoshana Khoury**