



2020

Annual Report Financial Results

40
YEARS

CHRISTIANS
FOR ISRAEL

CHRISTIANS FOR

ISRAEL

INTERNATIONAL



Colophon

Christians for Israel was founded in 1979 in the Netherlands.

Founder: Karel van Oordt
President: Rev. Willem Glashouwer
Executive Director: Rev. Cornelis Kant

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Leon Meijer (Chairman)
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Support our Ministry

Christians for Israel International
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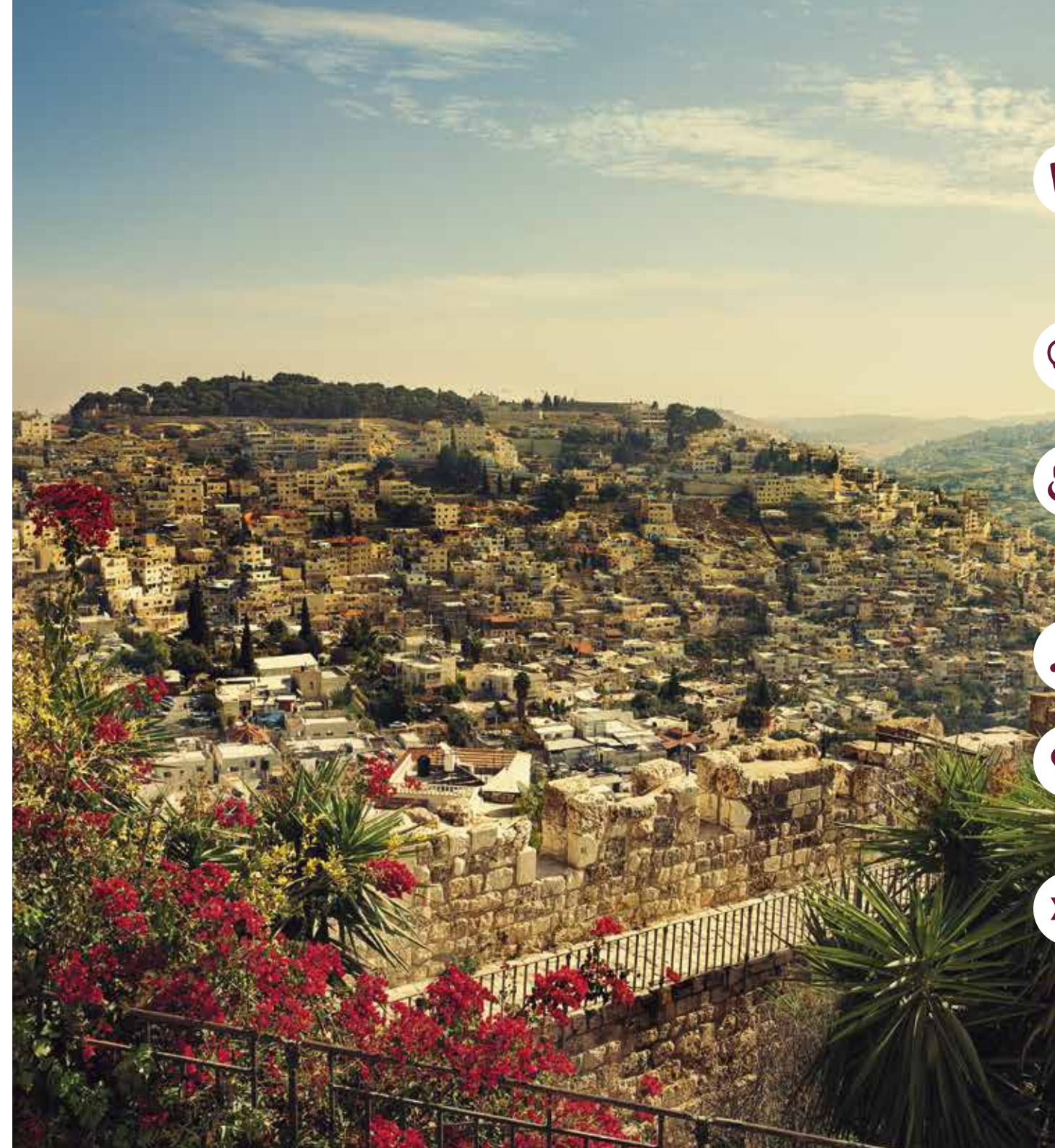
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Christians for Israel (C4I) is a **non-denominational** movement.

We believe that Christians of all denominations and backgrounds should be **united in their love for the Jewish people**, their support for the nation of Israel and their collective repentance because of Jewish suffering throughout Church history.

Our mission is to bring **Biblical understanding** in the Church concerning God's purposes for Israel and to promote comfort of Israel through **prayer and action**.



We believe that the Bible is **the inspired Word of God**, through which He reveals His loving purposes for all creation. God chose the nation of Israel as His instrument for the blessing of all the nations. The Bible teaches us that the Church has not replaced Israel. God's covenants with the nation of Israel are everlasting.



We support **Aliyah** (immigration to Israel) from many countries in the world, including former Soviet Union, India, Ethiopia and France. Christians for Israel has helped **150,000** people to build a future in Israel.



We comfort the people of Israel from **all populations in Israeli society**: Jews, Druze, Christians and Arabs. We do this by feeding the poor, helping Holocaust survivors, educating children, supporting Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria, and supporting and encouraging Arab Christians in Israel.



We help and encourage Christians to **pray for Israel** and the **peace of Jerusalem**, by sending prayer letters and organizing prayer meetings.



Christians for Israel brings numerous groups to Israel and wants people to experience **the true heart of Israel**, by meeting the Israeli people as well as visiting interesting sites. Through our tours, we want to **encourage the people of Israel**.



Christians for Israel supports the State of Israel and the Jewish people, by **opposing disinformation, anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, and fighting the boycott of Israeli products**. We do this by providing accurate information regarding Biblical, legal and historical issues to Christian leaders and media channels.

Introduction

With sincere gratitude to all those involved in our work, we present our Annual Report 2020. Numerous activities have taken place in our organization worldwide and many people got involved in Israel related education. The work we do, starts with an understanding of God's plan as laid out in the Torah, Prophets and Psalms.

During His walk with the travelers to Emmaus, Jesus emphasized the importance of the Old Testament. 'And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself' (Luke 24:27). The Torah, the books of Moses, testify to the Messiah. Maybe, Jesus did quote Deuteronomy 18:15 when walking to Emmaus: 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers – it is to Him you shall listen', and probably also verse 18: 'I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.' Jesus showed us that the Old Testament is the basis for our understanding.

In the last days

At the day of Pentecost, the Apostle



Dr. Leon Meijer



Rev. Willem J.J. Glashouwer



Rev. Cornelis Kant

Peter does the same when he speaks to the crowd who hear the disciples speak in all different languages, filled with joy. The apostle then quotes the prophet Joel: 'And it shall be in the last days, God says, that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters will prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men will have dreams' (Acts 2:17; Joel 2:28).

Old Testament

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Romans that God's plan with His people Israel can also be found in the Old Testament. In the famous chapters Romans 9 to 11, the apostle laurate his wordings with references to prophets, Psalms and the Torah. 'The deliverer will come from Zion; he will remove ungodliness from

Jacob. This is my covenant with them when I take away their sins' (Romans 11: 26-27; Isaiah 59:20-21).

Fulfilment of prophecies

God laid out His plans with us and this world in the Torah, Prophets and Psalms. His plans for Israel can also be found in these holy writings. It is in our days that we see fulfilment of prophecies. When millions of Jews return to Israel from Russia, Ukraine, Ethiopia, India, France, we turn to the prophet Jeremiah, who said: 'Behold, I am bringing them from the north country, and I will gather them from the remote parts of the earth. Among them those who are blind and those who limp, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; they will return here as a great assembly' (Jeremiah 31:8). While most people in churches around the world accept



that God laid out His plans for the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament, many are still unaware that in these same scriptures, God unfolds His plans for Israel.

Eceptional year

We have made it our mission to teach Christians about God's plan for Israel and to bless and support Israel and the Jewish people. 2020 was an exceptional year. All around the world, people's health and lives were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of our regular activities, such as speaking tours, were canceled. However, we did find other (digital) ways to spread the message. We also increased the efforts towards our online campaign through which we promote our newspaper *Israel & Christians Today* and the Bible studies on our website.

Aliyah

Other activities went on as planned. We continued being intensively involved in Aliyah. Our team in Ukraine assisted and supported Jews who wanted to make Aliyah. We supported First Home in the Homeland in Israel, a Jewish Agency program which assists newly arrived immigrants to building up a new life in the Promised Land. We also supported Holocaust survivors in Ukraine with thousands of food

parcels, and various projects in Israel.

Dedication

We are proud of our staff and volunteers worldwide who – under exceptional circumstances – were even more dedicated to the work of Christians for Israel International. And we are thankful to our supporters all over the world, who made it possible to fulfil our mission. It is our prayer that the LORD may continue to bless us in this important work.

*'2020
was an
exceptional
year'*

Rev. Willem J.J. Glashouwer
President

Rev. Cornelis Kant
Executive Director

Dr. Leon Meijer
Chairman

Christians for Israel 40 years

Celebrating God's Faithfulness

It was in the turbulent years of the 1970s and 1980s that Christians for Israel and the Israel Products Centre were born. Two organisations, built on two foundations: support for Israel, and prayer for the Jewish people. A story about how a small group of Dutch people standing on barricades for Israel grew into an international movement. What obstacles did they face? What were the victories? A fascinating 40-year journey through history.

A man, on his knees, in his bedroom. That image would stick with young Karel van Oordt (1928-2013) forever. His father, Wijnand Egbert Pieter van Oordt (1901-1972), was a businessman who daily humbled himself before God for Christianity in its state of division, and who prayed ardently for the restoration of Israel. His wife Simonne passed away shortly after the birth of their youngest daughter. Wijnand was left with four small children: Hannie, Piet, Karel and Marietje. Karel van Oordt followed in his father's footsteps. Prayer was the foundation of Christians for Israel: in the bedroom, on the knees.

Father Wijnand was owner and director of AAKO, a dyestuff

trading company for the textile industry. Over time, a chemical products department was added. The management of this division was entrusted to his son Karel. In the late 1960s, Karel decided to import chemicals from Israel, and this immediately became a great success.

Oil boycott

On 6 October 1973, Egyptian and Syrian armed forces invaded Israel on Yom Kippur, the most sacred Jewish holiday. Israel was taken completely by surprise by the Arab offensive and suffered heavy casualties. The situation was so critical that the survival of the state was feared. Israel received support from the West, including from the United States and the Netherlands. Against all odds, Israel won the Yom Kippur War.

This was the moment in which the 'oil weapon' was fully deployed by the Arab League. Oil production was reduced every month. The Netherlands, among others, had



Karel van Oordt (left) with his father and brother in Amsterdam, 1939

actively supported Israel during the war. Oil exports to Israel's allies were completely stopped. The oil crisis broke out, with disastrous consequences for the global economy. The oil boycott was not an isolated case. In the 1970s and 1980s, the Arab League imposed boycott measures on all western companies doing business with Israel. The Arab boycott covered two aspects: a 'pro-

duct' boycott and a 'personal' boycott. The product boycott meant that all companies doing business with the Arab countries had to declare that their products were not from Israel, or from a company that was on the Arab 'blacklist' - a list of companies compiled by the Central Bureau for the Boycott of Israel in Damascus. Former director of the Dutch-based Centre for Information and Documentation and Israel (CIDI) Ronny Naftaniel explains: 'That's where the trouble started. The boycott also included companies with Jewish shareholders. But it went even further. For example, the Egyptian actor Omar Sharif was on the Arab boycott list because he had given Jewish actress Elizabeth Taylor a kiss in a film. All companies having ties with Israel and with Jews were severely punished.'

Personal boycott

The second aspect of the Arab boycott was a personal boycott.



Prime Minister Ariel Sharon (left) with Omar Sharif (right)

Companies had to issue a so-called 'non-Jew statement' that stated that an employee was Christian or Muslim, and had no ties to Israel. Naftaniel: 'Companies simply issued that declaration, also in the Netherlands. But that was not the only thing: these declarations had to be legalised by the Chamber of Commerce. An extremely anti-Semitic measure, to which the government turned a blind eye.' It was not until 1995 that the Arab boycotts were lifted.

Battle against boycott

In the midst of the boycott battlefield, Karel van Oordt became convinced that he had to put his love for Israel into concrete action. In addition to his company AAKO, he founded a company to actively fight the Arab boycott. He called that company AAFAB (nobody knew this, but the name was an acronym for AAKO Fighting Arab Boycott).

Sometime later, he was asked by the kibbutz movement in Israel to establish a few private limited companies to help the ailing kibbutzim in Israel. One company he called KiNeMon (*Kibbutz Needs Money*), followed by the company

MoDoNee (*More Dollars Needed*). More and more Israeli companies approached Karel for support.

Twofold goal

In 1979, he sold his company AAKO at the age of fifty. He wanted to focus on his two passions: to serve the Church and to support the Jewish people. Together with a few business people, he founded IP-80 in Jerusalem. Karel felt that Christians were doing too little for Israel. The goal of the organization was twofold: to give economic support to Israel in the anti-Israel climate of the time, and to reach the churches with the message of God's faithfulness to Israel. Because that is where Karel's heart was. A few months later IP-80 was separated into Christians for Israel and the Israel Products Centre.

Christians for Israel and Israel Products Centre grew steadily. In 1989, Pee Koelewijn (1940-2002)

joined Christians for Israel, as editor-in-chief for the newly-established Dutch-language newspaper *Israel Aktueel*. From that moment on, the work of Christians for Israel gained momentum, with all kinds of activities in the churches, media and politics. There was a lot of media attention, feathers were ruffled. Not everybody thanked them for that.

Christians for Israel 40 years

Grim atmosphere

The atmosphere around Israel grew grimmer. After 1973, there was increasing anti-Israel sentiment, both in Israel and worldwide. In 1992, over

prayer letters, and to organize prayer meetings for Israel. Pieter: 'Prayer groups sprang up all over the Netherlands. Sometimes, those consisted of four sisters who were

very fact that Israel still exists. Israel is God's miracle! If I go through the prayer letters from 1992 up to the present time and read about the wars, enmity, terror, ridicule, anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, protests, Jew-hatred, anti-Israel tendencies in the UN, UNESCO, EU, many NGOs, churches and evangelical movements, then the survival of Israel is the result of God's faithfulness to His people, and the result of the countless faithful intercessors around the world.'

Oslo Accords

The turmoil in Israel persisted. The 1993 Oslo Accords promised independence to the Palestinians and secure borders to Israel. But the result was disappointing. Tensions ran high. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called for a second intifada (Palestinian violent uprising) in 2000. Hundreds of terrorists committed suicide attacks in Israel. It was then that Christians for Israel started organizing tours to Israel.

Former Christians for Israel Netherlands Chairman Pim van der Hoff: 'We started our tours as Christians for Israel in 2001. We did this in response to an urgent request from the then Minister of Tourism of

Israel, Benny Elon. Tourism in Israel had plummeted to an all-time low because of the intifada. On our first trip, we went to Israel with two hundred people. It was great. That we were the only ones who dared to come was greatly appreciated in Israel.'

Unforgettable

In 2004, the Arab world - supported by many other states - asked the International Court of Justice to issue an Advisory Opinion condemning Israel for the construction of the security fence. Roger van Oordt, son of Karel and director of Christians for Israel in the Netherlands: 'We wanted to show that this wall was erected by Israel to stop the hundreds of terrorist attacks that plagued the country during the violent intifada. We brought a bus

to the Netherlands that had been destroyed by a terrorist attack in Israel. Eleven people had died in that bus and dozens of people were injured. We wanted to put the bus wreckage at the entrance to the Peace Palace in The Hague, and walk through The Hague in a silent march with the photos of the victims killed.'

Christians for Israel needed permission for this demonstration by Mayor Deetman of The Hague. Roger: 'Deetman was afraid that the photos of the victims would provoke too many emotions and would lead to countermeasures, thereby disrupting public order. In a fast-track procedure, the judge ruled in our favor. So, on Monday 23 February 2004, we walked with four thousand people in a silent march in The Hague. That became world news.'

International movement

Christians for Israel has grown into an international movement represented in more than forty countries worldwide. The message of God's faithfulness to His people can be heard up to the far reaches of Africa, Asia and Australia. It started with prayer in a bedroom in the Netherlands. Now hundreds of thousands of Christians are praying for Israel and the Jewish people. Intercession has remained central to the work of Christians for Israel for the past forty years.



Karel van Oordt speaking during the Israel Family Day of 1990

fifty activists demonstrated at the entrance of concert hall De Doelen in Rotterdam, where Christians for Israel's 'Israel Family Day' was being held. There were serious blows. Two - false - bomb threats were reported.

praying every week. But some congregations prayed for Israel once a month. Many of those groups are still active today. Over the years, people have become more and more aware of the importance of intercession.'

Prayer for Israel

In addition to expressing support for Israel, intercession was central to Christians for Israel. Pieter Benard joined Christians for Israel around 1990, and started to write

Effective

Pieter Benard is convinced that intercession is definitely effective: 'If you ask me: what is a special answer to prayer? Then I would say, the

Remains of the bus that had been destroyed by a terrorist attack in Israel



A Christians for Israel conference in Uganda

Sharing God's love for Israel



The international work of Christians for Israel has grown enormously since the establishment of the international branch of Christians for Israel in 1998.

Branches were established first in USA, Canada and Germany, and shortly afterwards in the United Kingdom. Step by step, people in many countries came into contact with the message about Israel and were touched by it - at conferences, lectures or by reading our publications.

A desire and calling arose to share this message about Israel in the churches in their own countries. Small teams of volunteers were set up to spread the message in

their own countries with lectures, newsletters and other tools of communication.

Calling

Everything arose and grew out of a deep sense of calling, faith and voluntary engagement. Of course, we often meet resistance or financial setbacks, but ultimately it is God who provides and makes our mission fruitful. Over the last twenty-two years, we have been able to reach hundreds of thousands of Christians with the message that has remained the same everywhere: God remains faithful to His people Israel and will fulfil all His promises for Israel and the Jewish people. Israel's place in our faith is not finished, but God has a great future for His people. Now, we have grown into a global family in 42 countries, and partnerships with several global and national ministries.

Remarkable

The dissemination of the message about Israel started with visits to connect with the local churches, and was followed up with conferences, newsletters, newspapers and books. Today, social media such as Facebook, YouTube and WhatsApp are being used more and more. Our representatives come from

all different denominations and churches, and it is remarkable to see how a shared Biblical vision on Israel creates unity in diversity. We meet each other at the biennial International C4I Forum in Jerusalem and hold regular regional teaching and training conferences.

Message and practical blessing

The first goal of our ministry is to spread the message of God's faithfulness to Israel. But we don't want to just talk about Israel - we want to give practical blessing to the Jewish people through projects such as: helping Holocaust survivors in Ukraine and Israel, facilitating Jews who want to go to Israel on Aliyah, soup kitchens in Israel, and helping children from vulnerable families in Israel, Jews and non-Jews. People who are touched by the message about Israel also want to support Israel with offerings and prayers.

Together

Many Israelis are deeply moved when they notice that there are Christians who love, support and pray for them. In addition to Christians for Israel, many other Christian organisations have emerged with a focus on Israel and the Jewish people. We try to work together as much as possible - each

ministry fulfilling its own calling with regard to Israel and the churches.

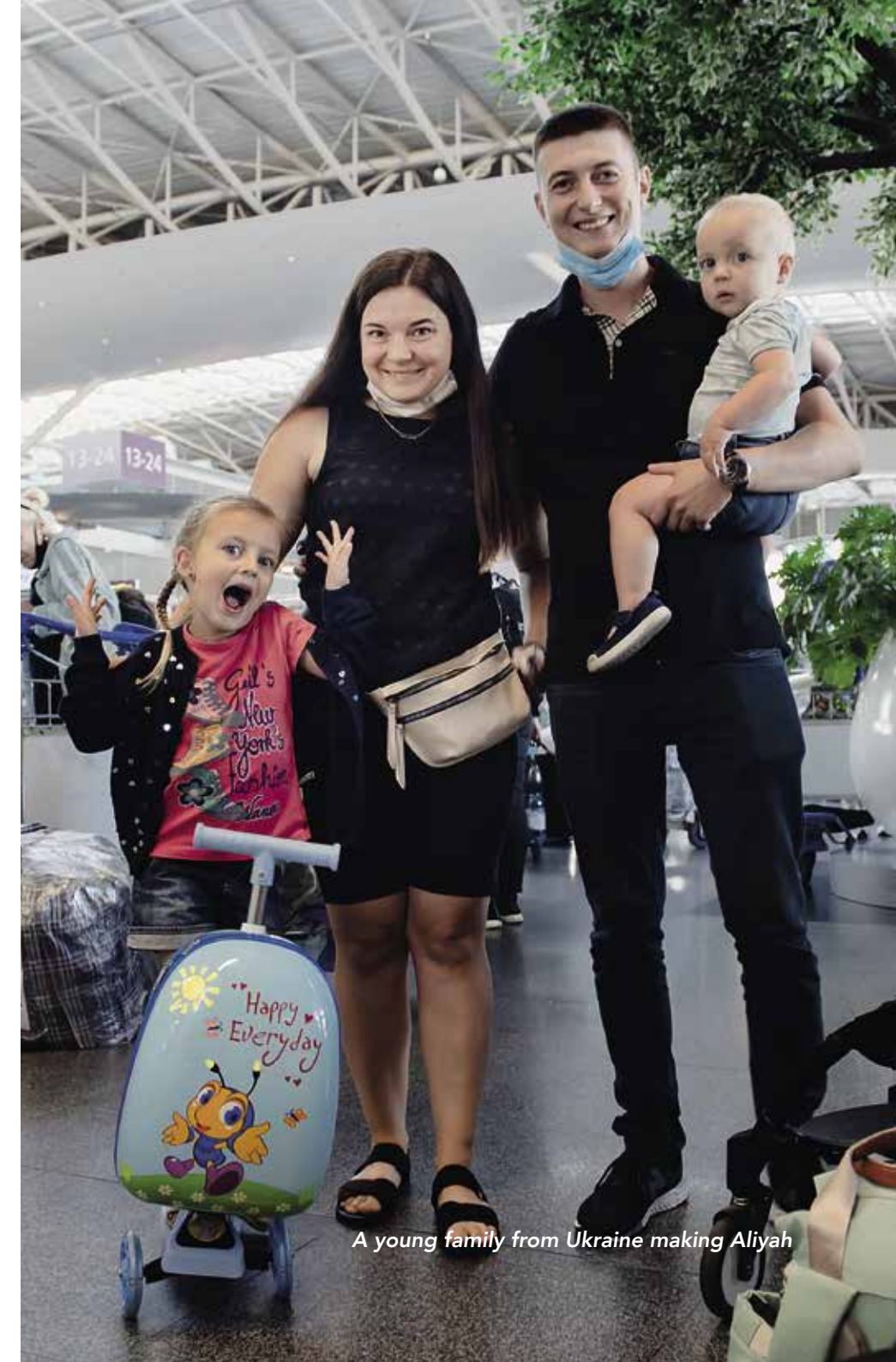
Newspaper

Our newspaper *Israel & Christians Today* has evolved into a unique publication full of Biblical, political, historical and practical information about Israel and the Jewish people. It is published in Dutch, German and English, and we have also launched editions in Danish, Portuguese and Korean. In addition to physical distribution, the newspaper is also being distributed digitally. In the coming period, we intend to make more use of modern tools of communication such as social media.

The way forward

With the gifts of friends from richer countries, we can support our teams in poorer countries to spread the message. We have no policy of being present in as many countries as possible. We just want to be present wherever the Lord opens doors to bring the message. We are very grateful to God for His blessing over the past forty years and we trust that He will show us the way forward with this important work - until Jesus comes.

Rev. Cornelis Kant

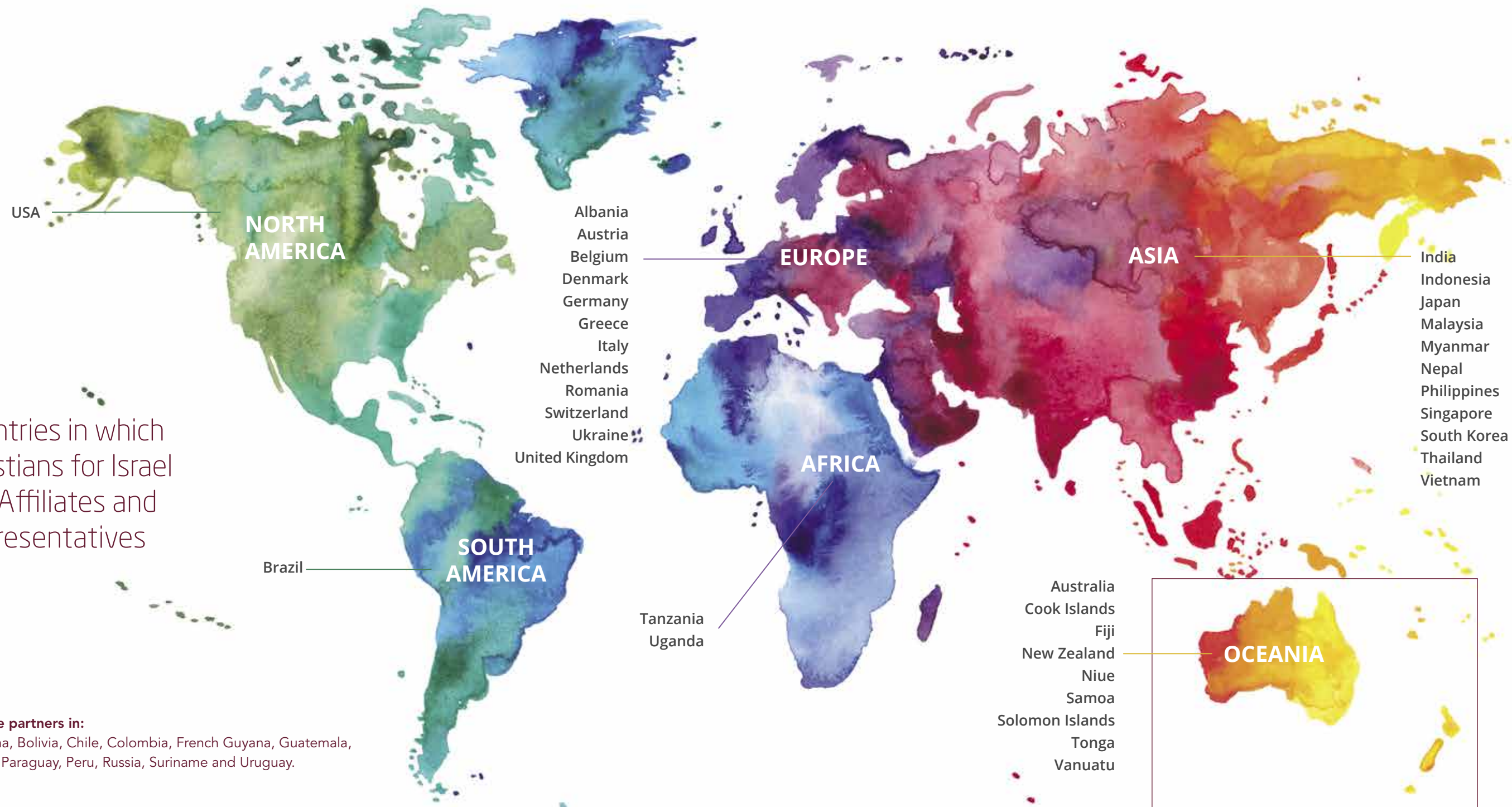


A young family from Ukraine making Aliyah

Countries in which
Christians for Israel
has Affiliates and
Representatives

We have partners in:

Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, French Guyana, Guatemala,
Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Russia, Suriname and Uruguay.



Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. **Wilson Ng** is not only a Board Member of Christians for Israel International, but also our Regional Director for Asia. Wilson and his wife reside in Malaysia.



Wilson has made his mark in the businessworld as the owner of a successful printing facility. He is also an ordained minister of God and authored several books about the Christian faith. He currently holds two Honorary Doctorates and a Master in Divinity.

Missing piece

He first heard the Biblical message about Israel in 2008, when Rev. Willem Glashouwer came to Malaysia. 'It was my first exposure to the message that Israel is part of God's plan. I was very much engaged in ministry, in mission and in service. Knowing that Israel

and it's fulfilment have everything to do with the Second Coming, is like finding the missing piece in the puzzle.'

Knowledge and clarity

Ever since 2008, Wilson has been longing to 'practice' his connection to Israel and communicate the message to others. 'When we understand that it is the plan of the evil to distort and tarnish the image of Israel, it is then a task to bring knowledge and clarity to the churches in Asia. Knowing that God has deposited this gift connection or network in my life, I will try to render it back to God and the Church.'

Challenging

2020 has been a difficult year for all of us involved in the work of Christians for Israel International due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as conferences and other meetings had to be cancelled. For Wilson and the Asia Region, this wasn't any different. 'The year 2020 has been challenging for many. More emphasize was placed on staying

afloat than digging for gems (truth). Social distancing is causing people to alienate themselves. Nonetheless, via ZOOM we have reached some churches that are studying the series *Why Israel?*, *Why Jerusalem?* and *Why End Times?*

One man

The message about Israel also meets opposition, especially in a changing world. According to Wilson 'the main challenge is to find the 'one man' in each country who will be able to carry the fire and the message. One who knows: 'From where comes my help? My help comes from the LORD.'



Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. **Chan Siew Fong** is a Regional Trainer of Christians for Israel in Asia. Siew Fong and her husband live in Singapore. She is also the author of the book *70 Questions about Israel*.

Siew Fong served as a teacher, research officer and vice principal with the Singapore Ministry of Education, and as a teacher-educator at the Singapore National Institute of Education. She has a warm heart for Israel and the Jewish people.

Prayer

'My connection with Israel was tenuous at first as there was hardly any teaching on Israel in my church in Singapore in my growing years. However, over time, I became aware about the special position of the Jews from my Bible reading and the prayer lists of a few para-church

groups. One evening in 2006, while praying for Israel, I was seized with grief and travailed for several minutes as if I was mourning for a lost loved one - it was as if I was feeling a little of how God feels about Israel. That was when the commitment to pray for and stand with Israel began to take root and eventually manifested in Israel-related teaching and writing, as well as facilitating prayer for Israel.'

Treasure trove

'My intensive learning about Israel started shortly after that episode of travelling when Rev. Willem Glashouwer brought his much-treasured teaching about Israel to Singapore. The bits and pieces in my mind about Israel fell into place after reading his books and asking him many questions! *Why Israel?*, *Why Jerusalem?* and *Why End Times?* are foundational in my understanding of Israel.' I also learn a lot from Andrew Tucker, especially from the book he co-authored, *Israel on Trial*. My husband, Kuen Yoon, and I have also benefitted from C4I trainings and the C4I Forum in Jerusalem in



2019. I am grateful for the treasure trove of resources accessible from the Christians for Israel website every month; the faithful service of curating these materials by those working behind the scenes is deeply appreciated.'

Train the Trainers

'Wilson Ng appointed Kuen Yoon and me to serve as C4I Regional Trainers in Asia, to conduct the 'Train the Trainers' course to church leaders who will then cascade the message of Israel to their congregation members. So far, we have conducted 'Train the



Trainers' in Jakarta and Surabaya in Indonesia in 2018 and 2019. We also had minor teaching assignments at the C4I Leadership and Training Conferences in 2017 in Cambodia, and in 2018 in Vietnam, Nepal and Japan. As travelling was out of the question during the pandemic, C4I regional training was put on hold since the first quarter of 2020.'

'I am grateful for the treasure trove of resources'

Making a stand for Israel

'I remained busy that year teaching small groups from other churches and online in the 'Training and Equipping' program of my church and to friends' contacts who told me they had zero teaching about Israel at their churches. My husband and I facilitate the monthly *Prayer for Israel meetings* in our church. In racially and religiously diverse Singapore, my making a stand for Israel has raised the eyebrows of some friends and family members. Nonetheless, I will use my teaching and writing skills to do my part to share with those who do not yet know about God's heart and plans for Israel. As I have been freely given, I freely give.'

Regional Development



The 8th Asian Pacific Training & Leadership Conference in Nagaland



Young students of the Bible School in Dimapur

Nagaland (India)

In March 2020, over 180 pastors came together in Dimapur, **Nagaland, India**, for a 3-day conference. Bible teachers were Rev. Willem Glashouwer, Rev. Cornelis Kant, Rev. Conrado Lumahan and Regional Director Wilson Ng. India is predominantly a Hindu country, but over ninety percent of the population in Nagaland is Christian. Nevertheless, for most of the pastors, the message about Israel was totally new.

The speakers were also privileged to share the message about Israel at a Bible School with about 180 young students.

Asia

Malaysia

During 2020, a **series of webinars** was organized in Malaysia. Theme of the webinars was *The End Times and the role of Israel*. The webinars were based on Rev. Glashouwer's book *Why End Times?* and were attended by about three hundred people.

Singapore

The C4I team in Singapore has a warm relationship with the Israeli ambassador in their country. Together they organized several webinars. During the first webinar, Ambassador Sagi Karni shared about developments in Israel and the economic joint ventures between Israel and Singapore. Rev. Keith Lay, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Singapore and President of the Council of Churches in his country, also spoke. 'Churches should be committed to prayer for the Jewish people.' During the second webinar, the ambassador spoke about the recent Abraham Accords. Jerry Walker, a tour guide from Israel, gave an explanation about the recent excavations in Magdala, Israel.



Interview — Victor Kamugisha —

Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. Victor Kamugisha is a Board Member of C4I Uganda. In daily life, he works as an accountant and a pastor. Victor and his family reside in Kampala, Uganda.

Victor grew up in a Christian 'setting' where the Christians were 'the new Israel'. 'I would always stumble at Biblical passages that put a distinction between Israel, the Gentiles and the Church. Fortunately, around the years 2010-2012, we were privileged to host several guests from the Christians for Israel International head office. Among them was also Rev. Willem Glashouwer, who greatly stirred up my thirst and love for the Jewish people. He gave wonderful insights regarding Israel as a part of God's plan.'

Turning point

His meeting with Rev. Glashouwer turned out to be a turning point in his life and faith. 'My whole view of the Scripture was being transformed. I also understood that Replacement Theology is one of the major causes to fuel the persecution of the Jewish people in Church history. I therefore developed an awareness not to practice Replacement Theology and understood that, as a Christian, I have a responsibility to bless Israel in both prayer and action.'



Dedication

Victor is now dedicated to spreading the message of God's faithfulness to His people. He reads a lot about Israel, prays for Israel and is financially supporting Aliyah. 'I use the *Weekly Update* from Christians for Israel International, the newspaper *Israel & Christians Today* and the C4I website for my readings. My prayer is mostly done in reflection of current events

as well as the *Prayer Calendar* that is sent out by the C4I International head office every two months.'

Bible Schools

Victor is a regular speaker at conferences in Uganda. He has also approached some Bible Schools in his country to discuss ways of spreading the message about Israel there, in a bid to avert Replacement

'As a Christian, I have a responsibility to bless Israel in both prayer and action'

Theology, which, unfortunately, is still so common in many Bible Schools.

Standing with Israel

COVID-19 also hit Uganda and restrictions put an end to a lot of activities. 'The year 2020 was challenging. We couldn't carry out most of our intended activities, especially church-based conferences. There was one exception: our annual conference that was held in January, before Uganda was hit by COVID-19. We thank God that, in spite of all cancellations, we continued standing with Israel through prayer and were also able to mobilize people for a financial contribution towards Aliyah.'

Changing world

Victor is convinced that the future will also bring challenges while bringing the message about Israel in a changing world. 'In my experience the major challenges include Christian denominational barriers;

the absence of pro-Israel Christian theological schools; increasing propaganda against Israel globally; high cost of research, technological infrastructure, mainstream media platforms and travel; limited international travel due to fear of diseases and international restrictions.'

Romans 9-11

Since he first heard the message about Israel, the chapters Romans 9-11 have become very dear to Victor. 'Beyond any other passage in the Bible, the Lord used these three consecutive chapters to melt my heart regarding His special love and plan for the Jewish people.'



Regional Development — Africa —

Tanzania

Among African Christians, prayer has a prominent place in their lives. In September 2020, the Christians for Israel Tanzania team organized a week of prayer. As many as 120 people, from all different churches and communities took part.

For seven days, they gathered at a camping site in the city of Mwanza at Lake Victoria. Main prayer topics were Israel and the work of Christians for Israel International. In between the prayers, Rev. David Mbago, who heads the team of Christians for Israel in Tanzania, gave Bible studies on Israel. In December, Rev. Mbago organized another week of prayer.

Rev. David and his team have also been busy translating the abridged version of the book *Why Israel?* into Swahili. The booklet is an important tool to reach people in Tanzania with the Biblical message about Israel.



Uganda

One of the highlights of all activities of Christians for Israel Uganda is the annual conference in January, and the conference in January 2020 was no different.

Jos van Westing, member of the Christians for Israel International team, was the main speaker during the 9-day (!) conference with five to six hours of teaching every day.

Many pastors

'It was great to see how the participants, including many pastors and church leaders



(275 during daytime and up to 600 at night and during the weekend) absorbed the message about God's plan for Israel, the Church and the nations.'

Cooperation

For the first time, eleven pastors from Kenya joined the conference. A bishop overseeing two hundred Pentecostal churches and founder of a private university, invited Jos and a team member of C4I Uganda to visit his office. As a result, C4I Uganda and the bishop will work together in organizing future Israel conferences for larger crowds, and lectures on a university level.

— America's —



Brazil

For Christians for Israel Brazil, the year 2020 had a positive twist in terms of housing. The team was offered a (small) building on a farm, to be used free of charge. The building is perfectly equipped for youth groups to spend a week or weekend while learning more about God's plan with Israel, the Church and the nations. One room in the building is now in use as office for C4I Brazil.

Interview — Marie-Louise Weissenböck —

Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. Marie-Louise Weissenböck is a C4I Board Member, our Regional Director for Europe and chairperson of C4I Austria. She and her husband live in Vienna.



Besides her work for Christians for Israel, Marie-Louise is involved in lots of other organizations. 'I am active in different Christian networks and ministries, amongst others the *Weg der Versöhnung* (Path of Reconciliation, a Round Table of Christian leaders of all denominations in Austria). Within this network I lead the *Forum Israel and Christians* and am responsible for the development of the new *Forum Art, Culture and Faith*. I also serve on the board of the *Weg der Versöhnung*. Furthermore, I am active in the *Together for Europe* movement in Austria.'

Puzzle pieces

Although being Dutch, Marie-Louise grew up in South Africa, where she heard the message about Israel at a very young age. 'In South Africa, we were part of a Dutch congregation. One of our preachers was the Professor of Semitic Languages and Old Testament of the University of Pretoria, Prof.Dr. Adrianus van Selms. He preached about Israel and Jesus, who could never be seen detached from His people, Israel. That was my first encounter. When meeting and listening to Rev. Willem Glashouwer decades later in Vienna, all the 'puzzle pieces' shifted together - everything I had heard and wondered about fell into place.'

New awareness

Hearing the 'Israel message' again later in life was a kind of turning point. 'It definitely deepened my relationship with the living God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' It resulted in 'reading the Bible with a new awareness, visiting Israel regularly, initiating lectures and teachings about Israel from a Biblical

and historical perspective and culminating in founding a branch of C4I in Austria in 2008.'

Warm relationship

C4I Austria has been active since it's founding in 2008. 'We organize and lead tours to Israel, visit significant sites and meet with many different people of Israeli society to broaden our view. We also maintain a warm relationship with the Jewish community in Austria (Vienna). Through our newspaper and our activities (seminars, conferences) we intend to further Biblical understanding of God's purposes

'It will more and more become a challenge to reach the younger generation'



Marie-Louise (center) with Cornelia Vandeputte (left) and Anemone Rüger (right) in the C4I Head Office in the Netherlands

with Israel amongst Christians, and also invite speakers on topics like anti-Semitism and other relevant themes.'

Presence

COVID-19 also had its impact on the activities of C4I Austria in 2020. 'It was a challenging year for us, but also opened opportunities, like doing online teaching sessions and meetings, enabling more people to take part. We were able to attract more readers for our newspaper *Israelaktuell*, and thankfully the donations increased for some of

our projects. We also used this time of deceleration to work on our presence in social media and other channels.'

Younger generation

Although the message about Israel is still the same, the world around us is changing, which challenges the mission of Christians for Israel. 'For many Christians and churches Israel is still a 'side topic', and the prophetic significance of the people of Israel returning to their ancient homeland is not getting the attention it should in broader Christianity. It will more

'It was a challenging year for us, but also opened opportunities'

and more become a challenge to reach the younger generation with the message about Israel, as they are mainly focused on evangelism.'

Dedication

It's inspiring to see Marie-Louise's dedication to the work and mission of Christians for Israel. A scripture that has a special meaning to her is Jeremia 31:35-36: 'This is what the LORD says, He who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar - the LORD Almighty is His name: 'Only if these decrees vanish from my sight,' declares the LORD, 'will Israel ever cease being a nation before me', declares the LORD.'

Regional Development — Europe —

Italy

Italy is the country par excellence where personal contact is key for an organization.

Nevertheless, C4I Italy managed to keep in touch with the people and churches supporting the ministry during COVID-19. Edda Fogarollo, Chiara Canciani and their team organized online meetings on a very regular basis, sometimes even weekly. Their first activities of the year however, were live events, before the outbreak of COVID-19. Together with the University of Padua and the Giorgio Perlasca Foundation, C4I Italy organized a Shoah Film Festival, followed by several live teachings in schools and churches.

Television

Some of the online events were produced in cooperation with Pentecostal Television, like the first Italian 'Yom Kippur Day' on 28 September, and the program on 10 November 2020 to commemorate the Kristallnacht (Night of the Broken Glass).



Albania



Our team in Albania has been busy producing audio books of the series *Why Israel?*

Pellumb Ranxha: 'We already have the book in print, but wanted to supply this important book in another format as well. In this way, we can help the blind people, the elderly who don't read much and those who are too busy to read.'



Denmark

Listening to the radio is still quite popular in Denmark.

C4I Denmark uses a national radio station to air weekly Bible Studies about Israel.

The Netherlands

Normally, C4I Netherlands' calender is full of weekly speaking engagements all over the country. The year 2020 turned out to be totally different as most activities had to be cancelled.

However, immediately after the many COVID-19 restrictions were in place, C4I Netherlands started with a daily livestream (except Sundays), thus staying connected to the people in the country and supplying them with good (Biblical) education about a variety of topics related to Israel. The livestreams not only offered Bible studies, but also interviews, concerts and workshops. The total number of views for the livestreams in 2020 was over 800.000.



Austria

C4I Austria launched a succesful Facebook campaign, resulting in an increase in newspaper subscriptions.

Other activities included webinars and online teachings (the 6-part series of Hugh Kitson on 100 years San Remo was translated into German). C4I Austria also donated a stumbling stone for the family of Holocaust survivor Lotte Berger. It was inaugurated together with one of her daughters in September 2020.



Switzerland

Prayer for Israel is an important part of C4I Switzerland's 'toolkit'.

The team organized monthly prayer meetings for Israel in 2020. One of the other activities was a webinar about the support to Holocaust survivors in Ukraine.

Germany

One of the major events of C4I Germany was the (online) annual conference in November.

Theme of the conference was *Jerusalem, city of the great King.*



Interview — Chiara Canciani —

Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. Chiara Canciani is one of the founders of C4I Italy (2011) and still very much involved in the work of Christians for Israel in her country. In daily life, Chiara is a medical doctor. She lives in Padua, a city close to Venice.

Chiara's love for Israel and the Jewish people started at a very young age. 'My grandfather (my mother's father) was imprisoned during World War II in several Nazi camps in Germany. During his imprisonment at concentration camp Buchenwald, he witnessed many Jews being persecuted and killed. As a child, I listened to my grandfather's stories about the Jews, and I think that the seed of love towards the Jewish people started to grow right there. At primary school I loved to read many testimonies about the Shoah.'

Prayer

'A few years later, when I was a teenager, I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior through the testimony of a Messianic believer, who taught me the Bible and the importance of the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. One of the first things he taught me was to pray for Israel and the Jewish people.'

Involvement

Since the founding of C4I Italy in



Chiara (right) with her mother Edda Fogarollo

2011, Chiara has been actively involved in the ministry. Together with her mother, Edda Fogarollo, who was a co-founder of C4I Italy and the present chairperson, Chiara has organized numerous training events (where she also teaches about Israel). She takes care of social

media, translates articles for the C4I Italy website and is responsible for the online newsletters. In the past ten years, Chiara and her mother 'organized several trips to Israel, during which we visited or even volunteered at some projects supported by C4I Italy. We also

traveled to Ukraine for a working trip with the C4I Ukraine team.'

Message

Chiara not only shares the Biblical message about Israel through C4I Italy. 'In the local church where I serve, I bring - whenever I can - teachings about Israel and invite the community to pray for Israel. And at work, when I have the opportunity, I share what the Bible says about Israel.'

Strange year

Italy was hit hard by COVID-19 at the beginning of the pandemic. It also impacted the work of C4I Italy. 'There is no doubt that 2020 was a very strange year, full of challenges for everyone. But I thank God that, despite having to cancel all scheduled events, we were able to use the digital media to have teachings, meetings and prayer events. Of course we missed the opportunity to meet with people in person, and to visit churches and communities we were used to. However, we 'discovered' new ways to reach people through the media.'

Authoritative voice

The year 2020 was a challenge due to COVID-19, new challenges await looking at sharing the message about Israel in a changing world. According to Chiara the main challenge in this

respect will be 'to be able to be an authoritative voice in a society that has a distorted view on Israel and the Jewish people. My experience is that students and young people (who will be the adults of tomorrow) are given wrong teachings about Israel, which will form their opinion and mindset. That is even more difficult in a time where the media are usually anti-Israel and anti-Jewish.'

Shoah

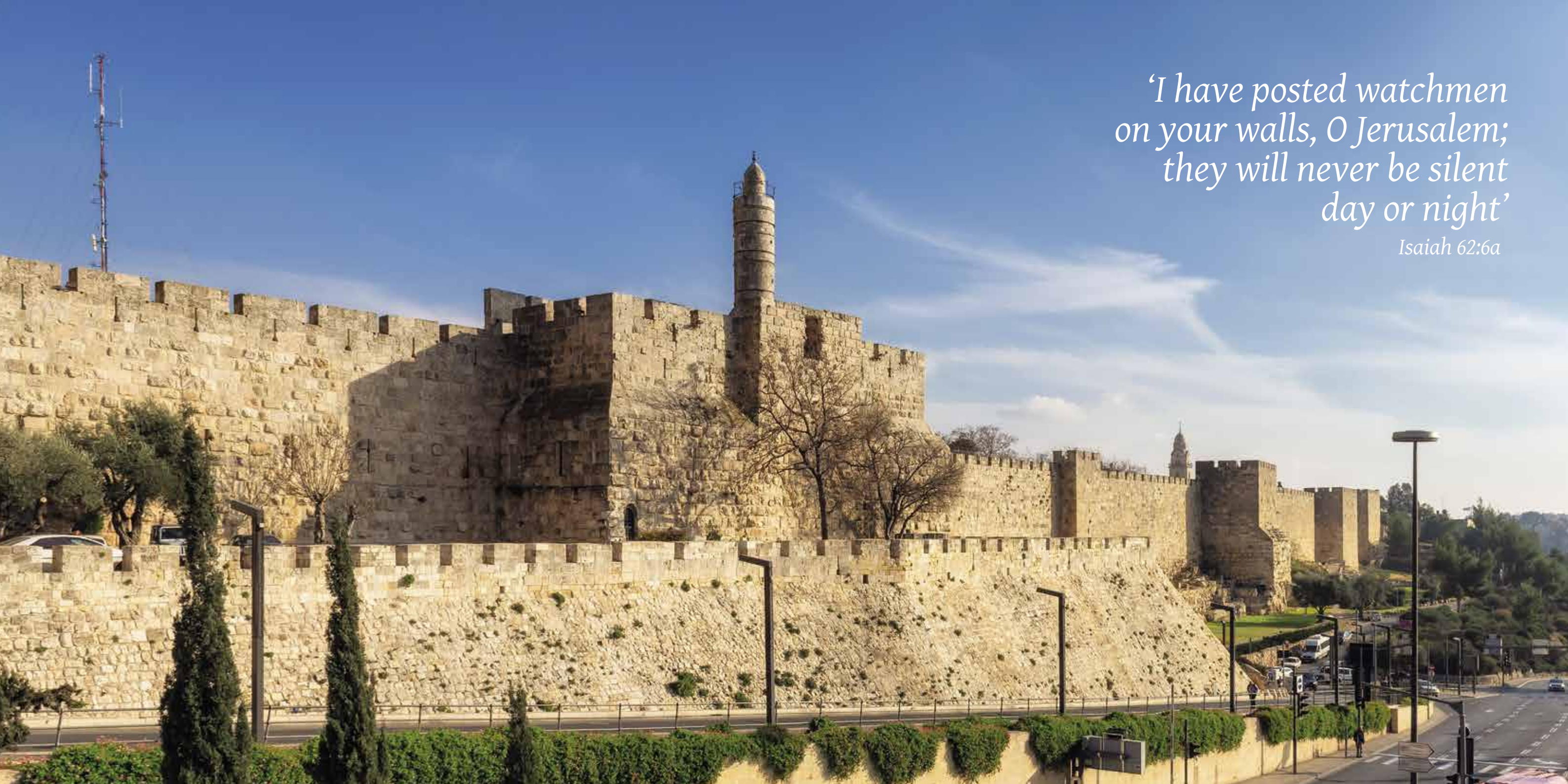
According to Chiara, another challenge is to continue to teach about the Shoah after most survivors have passed away.

Scriptures

Chiara's love for Israel and the Jewish people is based on the Bible. There are a few Scriptures that are particular dear to her in this respect. Genesis 12:3: 'I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and all the families of the earth will be blessed through you' (*The calling to be a blessing of the descendants of Abraham for all the families on the earth*); Hosea 2:14: 'I will lead her (Israel) into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her' (*The persevering love of God towards Israel, despite everything*); Romans 11:29: 'For God's gift and His call are irrevocable' (*The assurance that Israel will be what God has called Israel to be*).

*'As a child
I listened to my
grandfather's
stories
about
the Jews'*



A wide-angle photograph of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The massive, ancient stone wall of the Temple Mount is the central focus, featuring a prominent minaret (Tower of David) on its left side. The wall is built from large, weathered stone blocks. In the foreground, there's a road with modern streetlights and some greenery. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is a blend of ancient history and modern urban environment.

*'I have posted watchmen
on your walls, O Jerusalem;
they will never be silent
day or night'*

Isaiah 62:6a

Interview

Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. **Ian Worby** is the leader of C4I Australia and our Regional Director for Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, the Islands of Melanesia and the Pacific). In daily life, Ian focuses on pioneering, developing and establishing trusted Christian radio and other media across Australia, Asia Pacific and the world. He is married to Mandy, and they have three adult sons. They reside in Brisbane, Australia.

It was not obvious that Ian would develop a warm love for Israel and the Jewish people. 'Like a lot of Christians, I was taught that God had done away with Israel because they rejected Jesus as the Messiah, and that God raised up the Church as a new chosen people. It wasn't until I started to study under Dr. Chuck Missler's expositional teachings that this idea was not true; and that God in fact has a very special plan for both Israel and the Church.'

'In 2008, Mandy and I were in Israel for a conference of United Christian Broadcasters (UCB), and we decided to start bringing people to Israel to see the miracle of the land and the people and how God is at work in

greater ways than we imagined. In 2010, we had our first tour with 65 people. We have now traveled to Israel over 22 times.'

Involvement

It turned out that organizing tours to Israel was just the beginning of a more structural involvement in the Israel ministry. 'When we started doing the annual tours to Israel we taught our pilgrims what we learned from radio Bible teachers like Dr. Chuck Missler and others. We subscribed to a number of pro Israel publications including the *Israel & Christians Today* newspaper.'

Calling

In 2012, Ian was asked to take over C4I Australia. 'At that time, my wife and I were very busy growing the National UCB Vision Christian Media ministry. I

Ian Worby

agreed to help out for six months, until they could find someone with more time. But they often say: 'If you want to get something done, ask a busy person.'



Ian (left) with Rev. Cornelis Kant and the team of C4I Australia

After our first C4I International conference in the Netherlands and in Jerusalem, we knew God was calling us to somehow weave a strong strategic partnership between UCB

and Christians for Israel. We did a few tours which we promoted and over the years, I have had a lot of radio interviews done with Rev. Willem Glashouwer, Andrew

*'God was calling us
to somehow weave
a strong strategic partnership
between UCB and
Christians for Israel'*

Tucker and Rev. Cornelis Kant. We promote the books, DVDs and other resources and humanitarian projects with our radio listeners and newspaper readers.'

Newspaper

'We also started doing an Australian insert in the newspaper which was previously just twelve international pages. We went full colour, then started promoting local events, using local commentators and we invited trusted Jewish leaders to share their insights about Israel. The support base and the newspaper has slowly grown to nearly four thousand subscribers. We now have sixteen local insert pages with sixteen international pages. We have a better website with online store, a free mobile App and a Facebook page. We will begin developing more digital media platforms as less people use radio and television, everything is moving online. So we believe that is where the future will be.'

Three objectives

During the begin of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ian and Mandy just returned from their 21st Israel Tour. After spending fourteen days in mandatory quarantine, Ian and Mandy worked from home. Unfortunately, all conferences and speaking events and tours had



Ian and Mandy Worby

to be cancelled. '2020 was a very challenging time, but despite all, the newspaper has continued to be the primary ministry tool to achieve our main three objectives: to inform, inspire and comfort Israel.'

Anti-Semitic attitudes

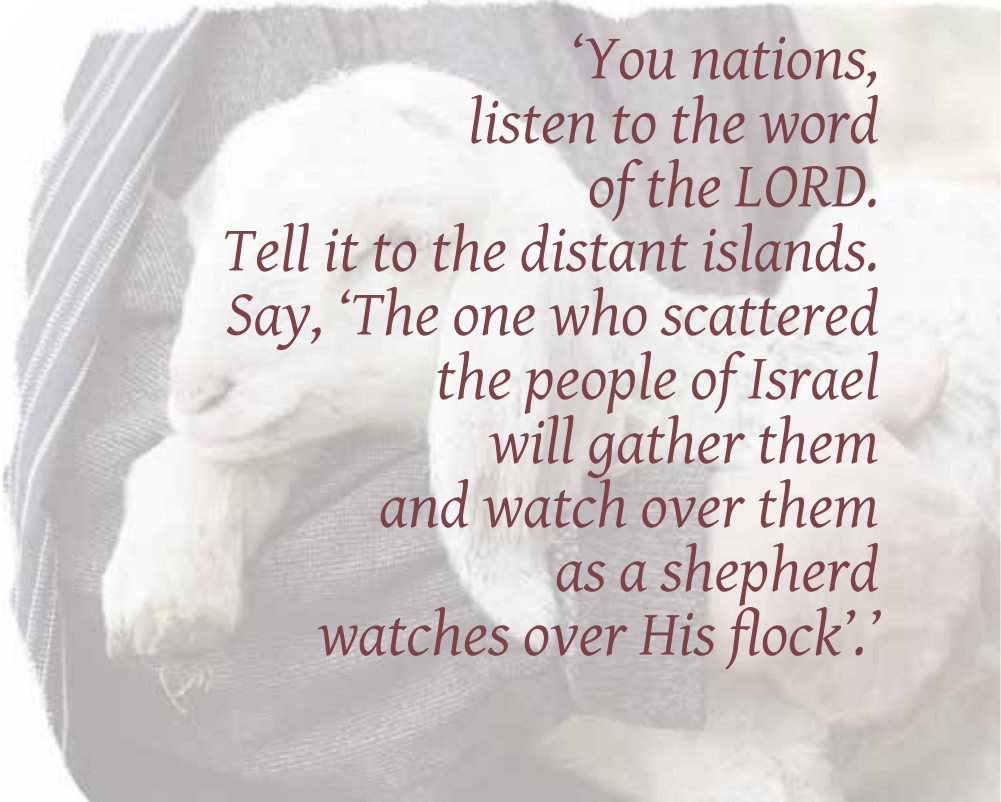
According to Ian 'the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way his country and the world operates. The past year and months have also shown huge changes in the way the world deals with freedom of speech and sharing of controversial ideas. We had our C4I Australia Facebook page taken down because of censorship, but I am glad to say it's back up again.' Ian sees it as a challenge 'to find new

ways of sharing hope and information that will inspire the C4I supporters'. Also in Australia there has been an increase in anti-Semitic attitudes in the media. 'Generally, most media, government institutions, schools and universities are hostile to Judeo-Christian conservative values. The other side is that we have seen a lot more collaboration between the Christian and Jewish communities, and we

hope to see this continue.'

Scripture

Jeremiah 31:10 has a special meaning for Ian. 'Australia is an island and as far away from Israel you can get. And because I do a lot of ministry work in the islands, I have really identified with this passage.' 'You nations, listen to the word of the LORD. Tell it to the distant islands. Say, 'The one who scattered the people of Israel will gather them and watch over them as a shepherd watches over His flock.'



*'You nations,
listen to the word
of the LORD.
Tell it to the distant islands.
Say, 'The one who scattered
the people of Israel
will gather them
and watch over them
as a shepherd
watches over His flock.'*



H.E. Tibor Shalev Schlosser (right) meets with members of the C4I Fiji team

Solomon Islands

In May, the C4I team of the Solomon Islands organized a praise and worship service in Honiara City.

The service was led by George Awa of the South Sea Evangelical Church. Lepani Makubuna (C4I Fiji) held a very timely and inspiring message about Israel.



From left to right: George Awa, Dennis McAdams, Dudley Marau and Lepani Makubuna

Fiji

In February, the C4I Fiji team met with Non-Resident Ambassador of Israel Tibor Shalev Schlosser.

It was an auspicious occasion for the C4I team to meet with the ambassador and his visiting delegation, who openly expressed their gratitude to the friends and supporters of the State of Israel. The delegation was completely filled with emotions seeing the Fijian people celebrate their visit by lining up the nadi roads, wearing their Israeli T-shirts and waving flags.



From left to right: Sir Robert Sisilo, Roy Funu and Ian Worby

Australia

In March, Ian Worby, C4I Regional Director for Oceania, had an inspiring and interesting meeting in Queensland, with the High Commissioner of the Solomon Islands, Sir Robert Sisilo and Pastor Roy Funu.

The Hight Commissioner is a member of a church that regularly prays for Israel and receives the newspaper Israel & Christians Today to be informed on the latest news and developments regarding Israel.

Christians for Israel International wouldn't be able to fulfil its mission without the help of so many dedicated volunteers around the world. Bryce Turner serves as the national Executive Director of Christians for Israel New Zealand. He combines that role with his work as an electrical engineer for three days per week. Together with his wife Eleanor and their three sons, Bryce lives on the outskirts of Auckland, the biggest city in New Zealand.



Bryce (right) with Graham Simpson, Rev. Cornelis Kant and Rabbi Nathanel Friedler

From an early age, Bryce had a great love for the stories of the Bible. 'I often imagined what the land must have looked like. As a (former) pastor, I realized when I studied the Scriptures that Israel still had a huge part to play – not just in the 'old stories', but in the action still to come. Even though I guess I had been brought up with

a little bit of 'God has finished with Israel', I began to learn more and more that God is working in Israel right now. Being born in the era that I was, Israel featured in the news a lot. When I was younger, I remember seeing articles about plane hijackings and bombings, and I wondered what was going on if

God had supposedly finished with Israel.'

Bucket List

Being aware of the rebirth of Israel, and coming to understand that God is bringing His people back to the Promised Land, really pricked Bryce's curiosity to study further. 'As I realized that what I was seeing matched some of the Biblical prophecies, I decided that I really wanted to go see Israel for myself someday - on my 'bucket list'. Following my father's death, I became aware of a Study Tour to Israel being organized by some friends who were running C4I New Zealand. I really didn't dare to dream that I might be able to go on this tour, but God had other plans. My wife and I – and my mother – joined the Study Tour in 2015 and my faith was radically turned upside down.'

Preconceptions

'I distinctly remember early in the tour visiting 'Shepherds' Fields',

'I find it encouraging to know that even on the furthest side of the world we can still have a part to play in God's plan for Israel, especially in Aliyah'

looking across to Bethlehem. This one simple visit (in a packed tour) completely undid so many preconceptions I had about Israel. I had always imagined the Shepherds' Fields as a lovely flat piece of ground, with grass, shady trees etc, just like the painting on a Christmas card.'

'Of course the reality is a rough, rocky hill on the side of a dry valley, and this was just the first of many experiences that deeply challenged my understanding of Israel. It seemed that every place I visited both challenged my conceptions, but also confirmed my faith. What really stood out by the end of the tour was that God is alive and well, and He is working in Israel.'

Positive difference

When it comes to sharing the message about Israel, Bryce feels often the first step is to simply identify with Israel and its right to exist, and to be unafraid to publicly say that.

'So many people these days seem to get on board with 'emotional causes' – deciding to support or oppose something simply because of the way an appeal, news article or documentary may have made them feel. Unfortunately, in this modern age where so much information is available, there seems to be less and less people actually researching and studying things properly. All too often they will make impassioned decisions while still being very much uninformed. We regularly find that by simply saying that you don't agree (when people are dismissing Israel), or that you don't believe (the latest UN propaganda), others are surprised and will come and ask you why you feel that way. Having the opportunity to explain your position may not always change theirs, but it is a positive step. Doing this many times, with many people, will hopefully make a positive difference.'



Interview

Finding other ways

It might not come as a surprise that 2020 was a difficult year for New Zealand too, although 'we have not had it as hard as some other countries. As so much of our program involves relationships and dealing with people directly – speaking engagements, events, and our annual Study Tour of Israel – all of which were shut down or at least severely restricted under COVID-19 conditions, we have had to find other ways of engaging.'

Very blessed

'Our Study Tour was monumental for all the wrong reasons – we made it as far as the tarmac at Tel Aviv Airport before being turned around and sent home, as the COVID-19 pandemic had exploded while we were in the air. Until we can once again take New Zealanders to visit the Holy Land in person, we have had to be creative with the resources we have. As a result our online work has increased dramatically, especially in email and social media, and we were very blessed to be able to get the *Israel & Christians Today* newspaper out largely unobstructed.'

Smarter and clearer

Bryce thinks the challenges concerning our message about Israel



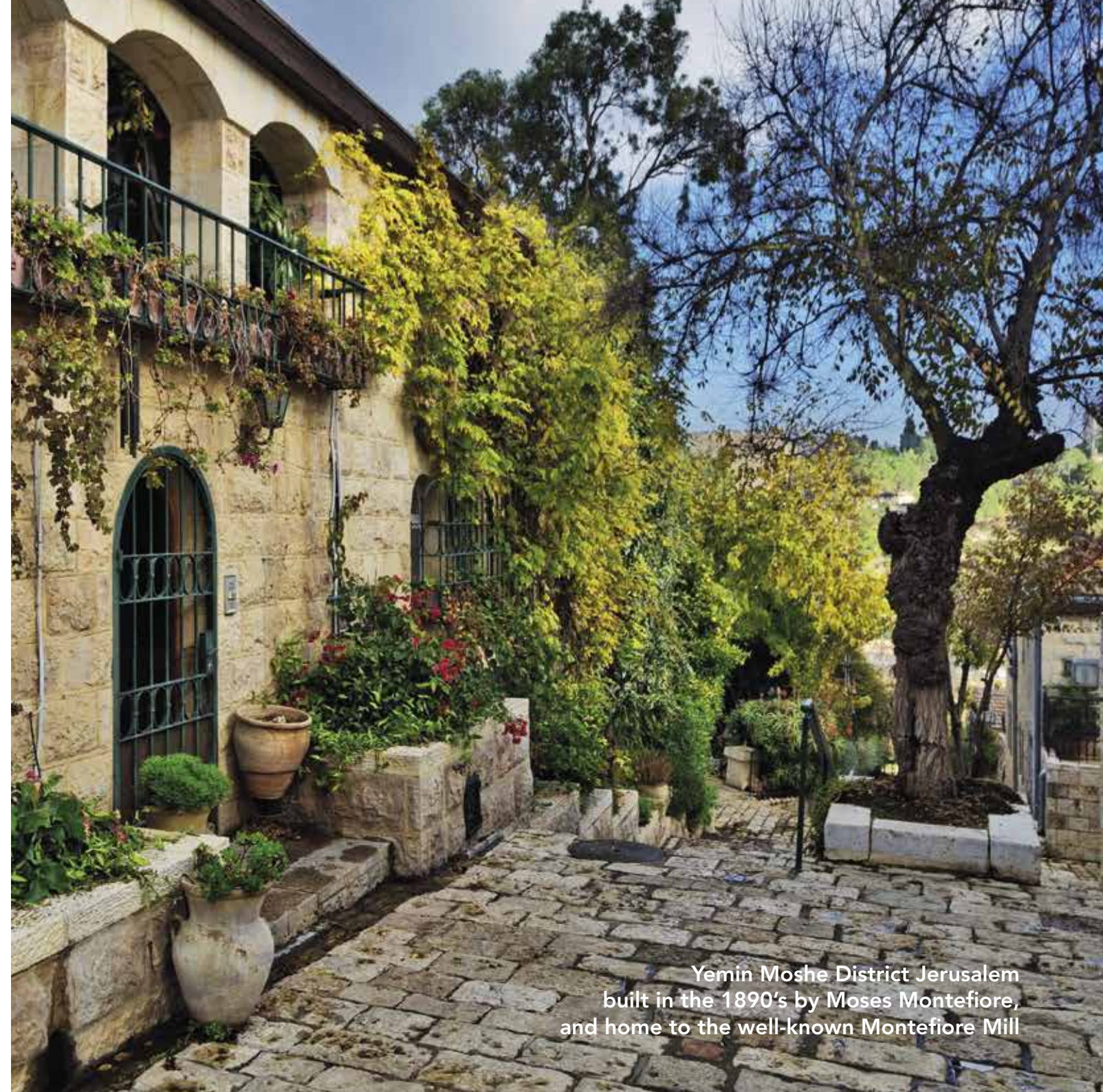
Bryce (right) with Rev. Cornelis Kant and the C4I New Zealand team members: Denis Smith, Cathy Eksteen, Cathy Coldicutt, Graham Simpson, Robert Siakimotu

are similar to the challenges facing Christianity as a whole. 'There is much, and growing, opposition to the message, and the opposition is getting more advanced, more effective all the time. All the while, there is a sad decline in 'Biblical literacy' amongst Christians all over the world. As such, engaging with the Church and with Christians is not getting any easier, as so many believers are blinded to God's purpose for Israel by their own lack of understanding. This, coupled with the very loud distortion of the facts around Israel and the Middle East in the media, means we have to be


smarter and clearer in our approach, and work ever harder.'

Aliyah

Bryce's favourite Scripture - though he has many, would have to be Isaiah 49:22. 'I find it encouraging to know that even on the furthest side of the world we can still have a part to play in God's plan for Israel, especially in Aliyah.' 'Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up My hand to the Gentiles, and set up My standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.'



Yemin Moshe District Jerusalem built in the 1890's by Moses Montefiore, and home to the well-known Montefiore Mill

A scenic landscape featuring a stone path that winds through a rocky, hilly area. The path is made of irregular, flat stones and is bordered by large, light-colored boulders on the left. Lush green bushes and trees are scattered throughout the scene, with some trees having thin, light-colored trunks. In the background, a city with white buildings and a prominent red-roofed structure is visible under a clear sky. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day, with shadows cast across the path and rocks.

*‘Jesus showed us
that the
Old Testament
is the basis
for our
understanding’*

Dr. Leon Meijer

All Israel?



Romans 11:25-27 says, 'I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way, all Israel will be saved, as it is written: 'The deliverer will come from Zion; He will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is My Covenant with them when I take away their sins.' Compare with Jeremiah 31:33-34 about the New Covenant.

Much has been written in theological contemplations about Paul's words, **all Israel**. What does Paul mean by this? Will every Jew who ever lived be saved? Or will the last

generation of Jews alive at Christ's return be saved, by an extraordinary outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Zachariah 12:10-14)?

True Israel

Or does he mean for us to understand '**all Israel**' to mean that the believers from Israel (believers in Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world) plus the believers from the Gentiles (who believe the same) together form **all Israel**, and in fact are the **true Israel** that will be saved?

Perspective

This perspective can be heard among Messianic Jews as well. I recently heard one of the leaders of a Jewish Christian congregation in Jerusalem say the following: The 'root' in Romans 11 is Christ. We Jews who believe in Jesus are the true branches of this noble olive tree that grows out of this root and you gentiles are grafted in, you have received a share in Christ and have joined us as the Jewish-Christian congregation and together with us form the true Israel. The 'natural' Israel is finished. God has broken it off, and we hope to save as many Jews as possible through evangelisation to see them added to

the true Israel. You, Christians from the Gentiles, and we, Christians from the Jews, form **all Israel** together.

Theological concept

This puts the nation of Israel and the Jewish people at large in a precarious position. In this line of thinking, one can use this to distance oneself from the Jewish State of Israel. It allows you to maintain a much vaguer, more general solidarity with 'the Jewish people' and 'Judaism' and the 'Holy Land', without any solidarity with the current Jewish State of Israel or Israeli politics – whether left-wing or right-wing or middle of the road. With this theological concept the 'natural' Israel is finished as the specially chosen people of God and the State of Israel, and the Israelis become a state and a people like

*'The 'natural'
and 'biological'
Israel
was created
by the LORD'*

any other state and like all other nations in the world.

Created by the LORD

And so, Israel must carry the yoke of the United Nations like every other nation and every other state or else they be labelled as a 'racist nation with an 'apartheid state'. There is no understanding of the fact that Israel is a nation you are born into. In a way, it is a 'race', although the members of the Jewish people display all of the racial features of the world. There are 'white', 'black' and 'yellow' Jews, along with many other variations, because anyone with a Jewish mother is considered to be a Jew and because Gentiles (of any race) can convert to Judaism and become fully Jewish by faith and conviction. The 'natural' and 'biological' Israel was created by the LORD out of Abraham and Sarah, who, although she was beyond childbearing years, received Isaac as a 'miracle- baby', created by God Himself. His firstborn son (Hosea 11:1; Exodus 4:22-23).

God's election

And yes, it is a separate state, because Israel will dwell alone and not be counted among the nations, according to Numbers 23:8-9 KJV: 'How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? Or how shall I defy, whom the LORD hath not defied?

For from the top of the rocks, I see him, and from the hills, I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.' The nations – and many in Christian theology – are revolting against God's election.

Three groups

In Scripture, you come across three groups of Jews:

Firstly, a 'faithful' Israel that follows God's Commandments.

Secondly, a 'worldly' Israel that goes along with the cultures and religions of the world around them. Sometimes even merging with them, assimilating and secularising. Consequently, they are warned repeatedly by the prophets and repeatedly encounter God's wrath.

And thirdly a part of Israel that believes in Jesus the Messiah. Many of them today are looking for and seeking to experience ever more intensively their own Jewish roots. Yet, they also find a growing unity with Gentile Christians, including Christians from the Arab world.

Rev. Willem J.J. Glashouwer



Special Aliyah Flight

Christians for Israel's 40th Anniversary

On 4 November 2020, Christians for Israel organized a special charter to celebrate its 40th anniversary. 140 young people from all over Ukraine went to Israel in a special charter plane to start their future in the Promised Land.

The logistical effort behind this Aliyah was a mammoth task, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Seventeen employees from Christians for Israel coordinated the journey, in close cooperation with The Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod from Israel. Passports, medical tests, luggage, and airline tickets had to be arranged.

War zones

The Jewish youngsters fled from the war zones, the eastern regions Donetsk and Mariupol, where there is still unrest between the Ukrainian army and the pro-Russian separatists. Therefore, some had to travel for days, as it is difficult to cross the Russian-Ukrainian border.



For all these young people, it was the last day they called Ukraine their home country. They would be Israeli citizens soon. Koen Carlier, Aliyah Fieldworker in Ukraine: 'Recently, I read Isaiah 60, and this chapter describes very special events. Towards the end, it is described how the LORD will plant His People in the land with His own hands. The LORD is planting them in Israel now, in our time!' Praise God that He brings His people home, despite the difficult circumstances.



Support Israel: Aliyah

A Biblical Assignment

Aliyah – the return of Jews to Israel - is not limited to a particular region of the world. Jews come home to Israel from around the world: Ukraine, Ethiopia, Yemen, France, India, to name a few.

The Bible contains two commandments regarding the return of the Jewish people that involve non-Jews. Firstly, we may proclaim the return; we can read this clearly in Jeremiah 31:10: ‘Hear the word of the LORD, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over His flock like a shepherd.’

Involvement
And secondly, the nations will be involved in the return; we can read this in Isaiah 49:22, which was written down thousands of years ago. ‘See, I will beckon to the nations, I will lift up My banner to the peoples; they will bring your sons in their arms and carry your daughters on their hips.’

Zionist vision
With borders closed in Israel and many countries in 2020, far fewer Jews could return than in previous years. However, ‘Aliyah has never stopped, even during the most difficult crises the State of Israel

has experienced,’ Isaac Herzog, chairman of The Jewish Agency said. ‘Even now, during a global crisis, Jews from all over the world are realizing the Zionist vision and making their new home in Israel.’

Grateful
We are grateful for your continuing prayers and support. Thanks to your faithful support, we have been able to assist the Jewish people to return to Israel in 2020, and we continue this effort, especially now that more and more Jews are deciding to make Aliyah.



In 2020,
we assisted with the return
of

- 3,300 Jews from Ukraine
- 200 Jews from France
- 206 Jews from India (Bnei Menashe)
- 2,400 Jews from other countries in the former Soviet Union



Support Israel: Aliyah

As Christians for Israel, we find it important to help new immigrants build a future in Israel. Through the program *First Home in the Homeland* and other integration projects we assisted six hundred immigrants to integrate into Israeli society. We also supported an online ulpan (Hebrew language classes) and helped to provide professional job training for new immigrants, for instance.

Online seminars

Together with The Jewish Agency for Israel we organized ten (online) Aliyah Seminars in Ukraine. Each of these seminars were attended by interested participants who wanted to learn more about making Aliyah.

The special flight carried fifty new olim and one hundred and fifty Hanoar Hatzioni graduates who will take part in Masa, a project co-founded by The Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel which today is the international leader in connecting young adults with immersive, long-term experiences in Israel. Additionally, *Operation Home*

Habaita (Coming Home): Historic Homecoming from Mexico



A first-of-its-kind charter flight from Mexico carrying 230 olim (immigrants), Masa Israel Journey volunteers and Israelis returning home landed at Ben Gurion Airport on 22 August 2020. The flight, *Operation Home*, was organized by The Jewish Agency for Israel with support of Christians for Israel.

brought back dozens of Israelis who have been stranded due to the limited availability of flights during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Highly organized

Mexico is home to the third-largest Jewish community in Central America (after Argentina and Brazil) with approximately fifty thousand

Jews, most of whom live in the country's capital of Mexico City. The Mexican Jewish community is highly organized, maintains close ties with the State of Israel and has an extensive education system featuring Jewish day schools and Zionist youth movements. Yet since the outbreak of coronavirus, many of Mexico's synagogues and other

Jewish institutions have closed, while schools and youth movements have moved to virtual operations.

Anti-Semitic threats

The COVID-19 pandemic has deeply shocked all of Mexico and the Jewish community is suffering from a double blow – not only are most Jewish households suffering economically,

with many Jewish businesses seeing a decrease of seventy percent in their income – but they are also the increasing target for abduction and anti-Semitic threats.

'Here, I feel truly at home,' Miriam Mercado said, who arrived in Israel in August. 'In Mexico, we are always viewed as 'those Jews' and never

felt safe to go out with a kippah. We knew we would always be a minority. While we were in lockdown in Mexico City, we understood that we would do just fine on our own in a new country,' Miriam said. 'Being at home alone for three and a half months taught us that we're a strong family, and a family capable of making this change.'

Hanukkah Miracle - Arrival of 250 Bnei Menashe in Israel



In December, a group of two hundred and fifty Bnei Menashe from northeastern India touched down at Ben Gurion Airport on a special charter flight arranged by Shavei Israel, assisted by Christians for Israel and other Christian organizations. They all provided support to carry the sons and daughters of the Bnei Menashe back to Zion (Isaiah 49:22).

The Bnei Menashe are descendants of the tribe of Manasseh, one of the Ten Lost Tribes exiled from the Land of Israel more than 2,700 years ago by the Assyrian Empire. Despite being cut off from the rest of the Jewish people for so long, the Bnei Menashe continued to preserve the ways of their ancestors, observing Shabbat, keep-

ing kosher and adhering to the laws of family purity. They never forgot who they were or where they came from nor where they one day yearned to return.

Four thousand

So far, more than four thousand Bnei Menashe have made Aliyah. Another six thousand and five hundred Bnei Menashe remain in India awaiting the

chance to immigrate to the Jewish state. This was the first group in two-and-a-half years to arrive in Israel.

Thanking the Creator

After a long and tiring flight throughout the night, the band of new immigrants emerged from the EL AL plane and made their way slowly down the stairs, their senses heightened by the early-morning chill as well as the knowledge that their cherished dream was coming true. As they reached the tarmac, setting foot on the land of their ancestors after centuries of exile, many knelt and passionately kissed the ground, vocally thanking the Creator for bringing them home to Zion. Surely, even the hardest of hearts could not help but be moved by this powerful visual image as a scene wrought with Biblical overtones that has come to life.

Shifting Gears in Ukraine: Meals on Wheels



When the COVID-19 pandemic reached Ukraine in March 2020, the country was locked down. Unless you had a very good reason, nobody was allowed on the streets. The soup kitchens' dining rooms were closed, and especially with the Jewish elderly a slight panic broke out: 'What's next?'

And that is what we were also wondering. 'How to proceed?' There wasn't much time to deliberate and an emergency action was born: *Meals on Wheels*. We drafted an action plan and all soup kitchens of the Jewish communities in Ukraine were informed. Everybody recognized the seriousness of the situation and got back to work. First and foremost, sufficient stocks were built up. Soon, the first 'meals on wheels' were delivered, receiving great gratitude from many thousands of elderly Jewish people, often Holocaust survivors, who were in isolation in their tiny Soviet apartments.

Making a difference

To our amazement the emergency action went smoothly. After all, about 2,500 double meals every week were prepared in over twenty soup kitchens all over Ukraine. A meal delivered at the very own doorstep really makes a difference! We hear that time and again!

*'Here in the grey East,
in this war area, I am bedridden
because of a chronic illness.
I can hardly move, I am all alone,
I cannot go out for a bit of fresh air.
Every now and then
there is a chink of light
when a hot meal is delivered.
I feel a tremendous gratitude
in my heart for those who make
this possible. Sincere thanks,
'spaciba bolsoi'.
Irina, 86 years*



Support Israel: Humanitarian Projects

‘Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.’ As Christians for Israel, we seek to follow this commandment. Not out of pity, but out of solidarity and kinship. We were able to do this in 2020 in many ways.

Help to the poor

88,581	Meals through the Hineni Soup Kitchen in Jerusalem
3,500	Packages for the Jewish Holidays for poor families
1,200	Food coupons for purchases at supermarkets
30,440	Food parcels to the Jewish community in Ukraine
59,844	Meals on Wheels in Ukraine
2,500	Meals in Jewish orphanages in Ukraine
800	Support packages in Bethlehem
58,180	Meals to the underprivileged in Jaffa through the Jaffa Institute, CFOIC, Colel Chabad, Chasdei Naomi and Yad l’Ami



Holocaust survivors

- Helping **900 Holocaust survivors in Ukraine** with monthly financial and practical assistance
- Giving **direct financial aid** (€ 180.000) to Holocaust Survivors in Israel through local organisations

Children in Israel


- For ALEH (now known as ADI), an institute for multiple disabled children, we donated **beds and medical aids**
- For **400 students** at the Jaffa Institute at Bet Shemesh we paid allowance. The Jaffa Institute devotes itself to the care of underprivileged boys and girls.
- **200 daily education programs** at the Educational Center for Jewish Studies at Savyon were supported
- **Sderot:** we support a program of trauma relief for children.

‘The fact that you also think of us in this time of COVID-19 gives me comfort in my difficult situation!’

A Holocaust survivor in Ukraine

‘I am so touched by your care for me. It is so rare to hear such kind words these days’

A Holocaust survivor in Ukraine

A wide-angle photograph of a terraced vineyard. The foreground shows rows of lush green grapevines supported by wooden stakes. The middle ground features terraced rows of vines on a sloping hillside. In the background, a dark, forested ridge with some white buildings is visible under a sky with large, dramatic clouds. The lighting suggests late afternoon or early morning.

*‘Again, you will plant vineyards
on the hills of Samaria;
the farmers will plant them
and enjoy their fruit’*

Jeremiah 31:5

San Remo 1920 - 2020

On 24 and 25 April 1920 – at a meeting held in the Italian seaside resort of San Remo, the Principal Allied Powers (Britain, France, Italy and Japan), together with the USA, decided that the international community should ensure the reconstitution of the Jewish homeland in Palestine by means of the Mandate for Palestine.

The decisions taken at San Remo were part of the Paris Peace Conference – a huge international meeting lasting two years (1919-1920) to settle the outcome of the First World War – a devastating conflict that took the lives of over twenty million people (military personnel and civilians) and changed the face of large parts of Europe, Africa and Central Asia.

Transformation

The meeting in San Remo transformed the Middle East. The modern states of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan all owe their existence to the decisions made at San Remo. San Remo also paved the way for the Jewish people to return to the land of their forefathers. Notwithstanding the fact that the nations of the world reneged on their promises and ignored the plight of European Jews during the 1930's and 1940's, the decision in



Remo continue to have significance under international law. In the San Remo resolution and the Mandate for Palestine the international community promised to ensure a safe haven for the Jewish people in their historic homeland. This was to be in the area between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River, including Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria. At that time, the

'West Bank' did not exist.

Rights

These instruments conferred legal and moral rights on the Jewish people concerning the territory of Palestine – rights which today are being challenged in the international institutions, such as the United Nations General Assembly and the International Criminal Court. But San Remo is about more than law. It is about the way nations deal with the Jewish people. It is about the choices nations make: whether or not to align themselves with God's purposes with the Jewish people.

No idea

The leaders of most nations today have never heard of San Remo. They have no idea that one hundred years ago, their nations cooperated with the God of Israel to enable His people to return home. And they have no idea that the opposition to Israel in the UN today threatens the spiritual and material wellbeing of their own nations.

It is absolutely essential that the Church worldwide raise a voice against the tide of anti-Israel sentiment. It is our task to 'stand in the gap' for the Jewish people, and make sure that they can live in safety in the land to which the Lord is bringing them home.

Evidence

As Christians, we have a responsibility to remind the nations of the promises they made one hundred years ago – which were referred to in the Covenant of the League of Nations as a 'sacred trust of civilization'. The decisions taken a century ago should encourage us in our Christian faith. They are evidence that God is faithful to the Jewish people, and that He is at work in the world, using Christian men and women in positions of influence to shape events towards the accomplishment of His goal – the coming Kingdom of Messiah.

Andrew Tucker
Editor-in-Chief
Israel & Christians Today

We have provided a number of materials with regard to the San Remo Anniversary. All materials can be found on c4israel.org/san-remo



The Balfour Declaration – San Remo 100 (part 1)



Videos: reflections on the significance of San Remo



Leon Meijer
Chairman



Marie-Louise Weissenböck
Secretary



Bert Fluit
Treasurer



Tobias Krämer
Member



Maryse Benard
Member



Ralf Hermann
Member



Wilson Ng
Member

Christians for Israel is a global network of national Affiliates, Representatives and Partner organisations in many countries. The network is led by Christians for Israel International, a foundation established in the Netherlands, which has the following tasks:

1. To give overall leadership to the global C4I movement regarding its mission, vision, values and beliefs;
2. To equip, encourage and strengthen the C4I Affiliates to become/remain effective and financially self-sustaining;
3. To develop and disseminate core educational resources;
4. To pioneer the bringing of the message into new geographical and language areas.

The C4I International Board comprises representatives of several C4I Affiliates. Board members are appointed for a four-year period. The Christians for Israel International Board met three times in 2020.

Christians for Israel International Leadership (2020)



President
Rev. Willem Glashouwer

The President has a specific role in speaking, teaching and education, and representing the global ministry.



Executive Director
Rev. Cornelis Kant

The Executive Director represents the global ministry and is responsible for implementing the plans and budgets established by the Governing Board, teaching and education. The Executive Director oversees an Executive team comprising staff members and volunteers.

Regional Directors (2020)

C4I International has appointed a Regional Director (RD) for a number of regions. The RD's are members of the Global Executive Council and report directly to C4I International. Each Regional Director is responsible for:

- overseeing the development of the C4I Affiliates in his/her region;
- developing new contacts; where appropriate appoint C4I Representatives in new regions;
- coordinating the production and distribution of C4I teaching resources in his/her region.



Asia
Wilson Ng
Based in Malaysia



Europe
Marie-Louise Weissenböck
Based in Austria

Regional Directors

as at
31 December
2020



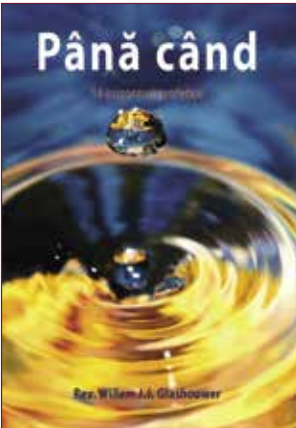
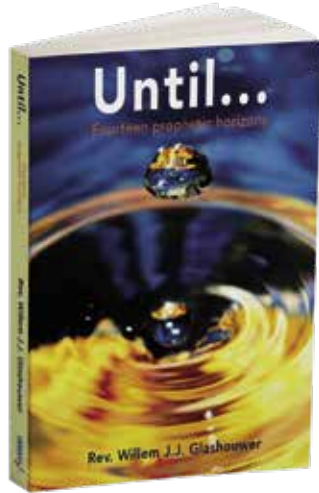
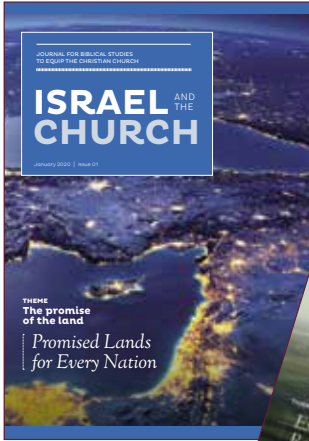
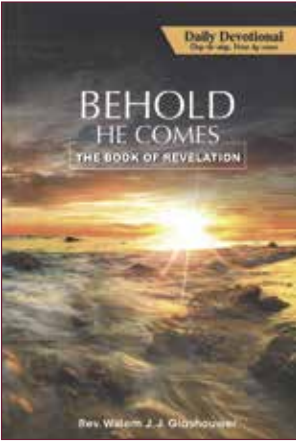
Oceania/Pacific
Ian Worby
Based in Australia



Latin America
Valerie Nogueira
Based in Brazil

Educational Resources

In 2020, the following Educations Resources have been released:



Until - Romanian



Jesus and Israel
Romanian



Why Israel? Abridged version
in Swahili

We have recorded numerous
Bible Studies on video
and organized several
livestreams

Communication Tools



Newspapers

In 2020, we published six editions of our bi-monthly newspaper *Israel & Christians Today* in Australia, New Zealand, USA, and the United Kingdom.

In the same year, six editions of the German language newspaper *Israelaktuell* were published in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Furthermore, ten editions of the Dutch newspaper *Israël Aktueel* were published in the Netherlands and Belgium. Our branches in Denmark and Korea also published a newspaper, both in their native language.

C4I websites

Via our website c4israel.org, we share information about the Christians for Israel network, our Aliyah and humanitarian projects, as well as news about Israel. Websites are maintained in the following languages: English, Danish, Dutch, German, Italian, Russian. For new Affiliates we created a one-page website in their native language,

including Vietnam, Albania and Korea.

Newsletters

Regular newsletters were sent out,

including the weekly *Israel & Christians Today Newsletter*. In these newsletters, we give a brief update on some of the most important developments concerning Israel and the Jewish people of that past week, and a reflection on how we as Christians can consider these from a Biblical perspective.



Prayer Calendar

Prayer for Israel is one of the cornerstones of our ministry. Firstly because the LORD, in His Word, calls us to pray for Israel: 'Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May those who love you be secure' (Psalm 122:6). To help people in their intercession, Christians for Israel distributes a bi-monthly prayer calendar with prayer points.

This prayer calendar can be

downloaded from our website. The C4I Prayer Calendar is currently available in the following languages: English, German, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Vietnamese, and Albanian.

Facebook and YouTube

Christians for Israel International is active on Facebook and YouTube. Many national Affiliates are active on Social Media as well. A wide range of short videoclips on a number of topics were produced.

Podcast

The year 2020 also marked the beginning of a series of Podcasts with Andrew Tucker and Johannes Gerloff. In the series, they discuss theology, law, politics and world events in relation to Israel, from a Biblical perspective. The Podcasts can not only be found on our website, but also on Spotify, Soundcloud and in the Apple Podcast App.



Financial Results 2020

(1 January - 31 December)

We believe Israel is still God’s Chosen People and God is faithful to all His covenants and promises for the Jewish people.

We believe the Lord is calling men and women for such a time as this: to raise our voice; to bring a Biblical

witness to the churches about the coming of God’s Kingdom; to warn the nations; and to prepare for the Coming of the Lord. The restoration of Israel in our days is fulfilment of Biblical prophecy, and a sign of hope pointing toward the coming of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is our desire to serve the body of Christ worldwide with this message.

For this global work finances are needed. We are deeply grateful that we were entrusted with sufficient gifts in 2020 to provide support and training to our teams worldwide.

The overview on page 63 is a summary of the audited operating results for 2020 of the foundation Christians for Israel International. The Christians for Israel Affiliates report separately on their financial results, in accordance with local regulations. Please contact the respective Affiliates if you are interested in these financial results.

The overview below is a summary of the amounts transferred to projects in 2020 by Christians for Israel Affiliates. General donations received by Christians for Israel Affiliates are expended on fulfilling our mission. Donations that are earmarked for specific projects (like f.e. Bring the Jews home - Aliyah) are transferred to such projects in accordance with the donors’ instructions. Figures are converted to Euros at the rate applicable in March 2021 and they may therefore deviate slightly from the original amount.

BRING THE JEWS HOME (ALIYAH)		HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS IN ISRAEL / FOOD PARCELS & HELP HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS IN UKRAINE	
COUNTRY		Total (x 1,000 Euros)	
Australia	87	Australia	40
Austria	8	Austria	31
Belgium	31	Belgium	111
Germany	47	Germany	639
The Netherlands	1,935	The Netherlands	3,740
New Zealand	70	New Zealand	49
Switzerland	5	Switzerland	28
TOTAL	2,183	TOTAL	4,638

Amounts in Euro (x 1,000)

Item	Results 2019	Budget 2020	Results 2020
RECEIPTS			
Donations	207	163	124
Sales of Educational Resources	1	1	1
Dues (10% International dues paid by C4I Affiliates to C4I Int.)	298	327	322
TOTAL RECEIPTS	506	491	447
DISBURSEMENTS			
Administration and Operating Expenses			
	337	314	306
Communication			
Newspaper	10	10	11
Websites, PR and Marketing	18	20	12
Media and Educational Resources			
Research and Development	9	10	8
Regional Development			
Travel (including reservation (20) for 2021)	32	50	32
Regional Development Budgets	50	50	40
Training ((including reservation (25) for 2021)			
	58	40	30
International Board Meetings			
	2	3	2
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	516	497	441
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	-10	-6	6



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