

# PRAYER FOR ISRAEL

ENCOURAGING JEWISH AND ARAB BELIEVERS IN ISRAEL



**FEB**  
**2025**

Prayer  
Bulletin

"AND WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS  
GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD OF  
THOSE WHO LOVE HIM, WHO HAVE  
BEEN CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS  
PURPOSE" ROMANS 8:28

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[WWW.PRAYERFORISRAEL.ORG](http://WWW.PRAYERFORISRAEL.ORG)

# 2025 UPDATE

After careful consideration, we've made a few changes to our branding, bulletin and more.

## Logo Update

Our logo design keeps the original meaning but gives versatility across all media outlets. This will allow us to fulfil our goals for an online environment.

## Bulletin Update

Our new bulletin design will allow us to be more adaptable in the way we communicate information to you and help you feel more connected to those in Israel.

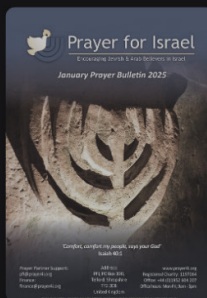
## Website Update

Our new website has been designed from the ground up to offer valuable resources and tools, ensuring that our Prayer Partners have everything they need to support Israel in prayer. It also serves as a platform for future updates and features, keeping everyone informed and engaged.

### LEGACY



Legacy logo



Legacy Bulletin



Legacy Website

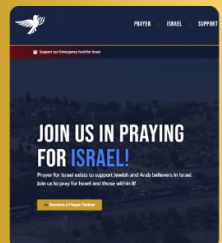
### NEW



2025 Logo



2025 Bulletin



New Website





Prayer for Israel (PFI) began in 1969 as a response to questions like, "What is happening in Israel and what has God to say about it?" Since then the nation has stayed in the world's headlines and the work of PFI has grown. PFI founder Ken Burnett, as a Jewish believer in Jesus, discovered the importance of Romans 10:1 "My heart's desire and prayer to God is that Israel might be saved."

PFI exists to inform partners about people, congregations and outreach ministries that have sprung up in the Land in recent times, and how you can be involved in praying for and supporting these indigenous works. In order for us to do that effectively we request you first become a Prayer Partner. Once you have become a Prayer Partner you will receive our monthly Prayer Bulletin plus other material and be put in touch with a prayer group, if there is one in your area. You will also be able to access the Prayer Partners area of our website for the most up to date information.

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Front cover:  
Eilat Desert, Israel, John & Judy Pex

## EDITORIAL



Paul Smith  
Director

**N**o doubt most of our readers will have heard about the tragic and sudden loss of our PFI Australia Coordinators, Peter and Sandra Schuptar, in a tragic road accident on the 5th of January. As we continue to pray for the Schuptar family and our prayer partners in PFI Australia, I would like to share some of the tributes that have been sent to me. As a further tribute, we have reprinted an article from Peter and Sandra, originally published in the May 2021 Prayer Bulletin, which portrays the history of the PFI Australian branch.

### Tribute to Sandra & Peter Schuptar

# "THEY WERE **BRIDGE-BUILDERS** AND **SOUL-WINNERS**"

#### Christine Sakakibara

My path first crossed with Sandra and Peter Schuptar some 15 years ago. Peter introduced himself, wearing the biggest smile of anyone in the room that day. From the moment I met him until our very last meeting in my home in Jerusalem in September 2024, he wore that same broad smile. Peter and Sandra were very down-to-earth Aussies—approachable,



attentive, and friendly by nature. They did everything with enthusiasm, passion, and drive. Every time I met them in Israel, they were bubbling with excitement, like two teenagers, as they shared how the Lord was opening doors and hearts as they visited fellowships, ministries, and ordinary Israelis who were searching for hope. In a nutshell, they were bridge-builders and soul-winners.



Sandra had a special gift for giving her complete attention to whomever she was with at any given moment. This must have been why she was so good with special needs children and their parents. I loved the way she would sit on the edge of her seat, listening intently when she came to Israel. People immediately opened their hearts to her because she was 100% present in the conversation. She had a wonderful way with faithful elderly prayer warriors, genuinely enjoying listening to their life stories and testimonies. It was as if she was drawing from their wealth of wisdom as they spoke.

I am in shock that I will not see them again here in Israel, and it's so sad that they left us so early. However, in

remembrance of them, I will take a feather from their caps and strive to keep a smile on my face and be attentive to all who cross my path.

Peter and Sandra Schuptar were not just the administrators of PFI Australia; they were true servants of God. May their names be blessed.



### **Hani Billan - Cana Baptist Church**

About two years ago, a couple from Australia contacted me. I didn't know them and had no idea how they found out about us and the ministry in Cana. This couple was Peter and Sandra. They had planned to come to Israel and had included us in their schedule.

They came to our home, and we had the opportunity to get to know two kind and amazing people with hearts that sought after our God. We talked as if we had known each other for years. They shared that sentiment too.

It was on their hearts to know about the ministry, to pray for our country, and to support the work here.

Without planning, they also met our daughter Marlene, who leads the youth ministry. She explained the ministry's vision, challenges, and fruit to them. Peter and Sandra felt called to support the ministry both spiritually and financially, which they did. But the most amazing thing that happened that day was feeling their faithfulness and their love for Jesus—and for us. That day, we gained friends who truly blessed our lives. On the 25th of December, they contacted us to greet us for the holidays.



We shared pictures and greetings. It breaks our hearts that they are no longer with us. We have lost dear friends we hoped to meet again this year. Our comfort is knowing they are with our Heavenly Father now, and when the time comes, we will meet again.



### **Howard Bass - Nachalat Yeshua**

I remember the first time we met Peter and Sandra. It was in Australia some years ago. The last time that Randi and I saw them

was at our home on September 23rd, just a few months ago.

When they took over the reins of PFI Australia, they were less familiar to us than those who had gone before, but they both quickly endeared themselves and showed that their hearts were fully engaged with God's faithfulness and support for His chosen people and land—Israel. Not to mention, of course, with Yeshua, our Lord and Saviour!



Over the past year, during Israel's war against Hamas, Hezbollah, and others, we met through Zoom for prayer with the PFI Australia group of intercessors. Peter and Sandra were very interested in having a 'local' perspective and understanding what God is doing with respect to this war, which began with terrifying atrocities across an unsecured border with Gaza. I very much appreciated their listening ear and patience.

They were 'bikers' of the best kind, enjoying the freedom of fun together with the Holy Spirit encouraging them in life and ministry. Peter and Sandra went together to suddenly and unexpectedly be with the love of their life. While their death was tragic, YHWH God has now put them in a good and peaceful resting place until the sounding of the last trumpet. Then we shall always be with the Lord. What a great family reunion that will be!

Howard and Randi Bass,  
Beer Sheva.

*"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" Romans 8:28.*



*Paul Smith,*  
Prayer for Israel Director.

May the memory of Peter and Sandra be a blessing.

Maranatha.



# PRAYER OVERVIEW FOR ISRAEL

Please pray into the general prayer needs for the Holy land.



## ALIYAH

Pray for Jews to immigrate to Israel



## FAITH

Pray for Believers in Israel to grow in their Faith



## LEADERSHIP

Pray for those in power to make Godly decisions



## IDF

Pray for protection for the IDF soldiers who are serving the Nation



## HOSTAGES

Pray for the hostages still held by Hamas



## OUTREACH

Pray for fruitful outreach during this time of war

### Support via bank transfer!

Account Name: Prayer for Israel

Account number: 49062962

Sort code: 30-99-50

If you've made a donation via bank transfer, please contact [finance@prayer4i.org](mailto:finance@prayer4i.org) with:  
Full name + Total amount + Support code





# CONGREGATIONS & MINISTRIES FEATURED IN THIS BULLETIN

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# PRAISE & PRAYER

Prayer updates may be out of date at time of publication.

## ARTICLES AND PRAYER NEEDS FROM CONGREGATIONS IN ISRAEL THAT PFI SUPPORT

We may slightly alter certain content whilst seeking to preserve accuracy.

Please request an A4 size version of this Prayer Bulletin if needed.

Please note - the online Prayer Bulletin saves PFI money!

### AREA 1

#### Morning Star Fellowship

Led by Claude & Michelle Ezagouri

Congregation Support code: 4150 (4151 Personal)

01.01.2025

**W**e praise the Lord for His grace upon our fellowship and upon Israel despite the war and the mourning it has caused in our country. Our prayers continue for the hostages who are being held in terrible conditions in Gaza.

We are also thankful to Him for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our meetings and for the healing of several of our brothers and sisters.

#### Prayer Requests

We have decided to renew our contract for the rental of our humanitarian store in downtown Tiberias. This store has been a blessing to many people in the city, and we want to continue this project. We plan to organise a celebration evening for the feast of Purim for both believers and unbelievers, which we will advertise through the humanitarian store. Please pray that there will be no persecution from anti-messianic zealots and that we will be able to organise everything in peace. In the meantime, we need to prepare the ground, so there will be much work to do.

Please pray as we are still waiting on the Lord for the necessary funds to purchase a room that would expand our premises. This room would be dedicated to the youth, giving them their own space. Amos oversees the youth ministry, and his wife Versavia oversees the teens. We earnestly covet your prayers for them, as it is a challenge today to lead youth and teenagers who can so easily be attacked and distracted by worldly influences.

#### In Israel

Negotiations for the release of hostages still held in the Gaza tunnels have been at a standstill for some time, as Hamas refuses to provide a list of hostages that would be released in the first phase of the agreement. Meanwhile, Hamas continues to recruit more fighters, including teenagers. The IDF cannot launch a large-scale attack on Hamas for fear that hostages might be killed in the bombings.

The Houthis from Yemen continue to launch missiles on Israel as long as the IDF is present in Gaza. However, Prime Minister Netanyahu refuses to halt the fighting and withdraw troops toward a potential agreement, fearing that Hamas would rearm via the Philadelphia border with Egypt. Only prayer can deliver us from this deadlock.

Because of the war, the new budget is very severe and challenging for Israelis, who will have to pay more for



everything, including electricity, local taxes, VAT, and basic necessities, while salaries remain unchanged. Additionally, the budget does not facilitate economic growth but instead forecasts further economic contraction. Last year, 70,000 businesses closed, and it is already predicted that many more will go bankrupt in 2025. We feel that these are the first economic pains before the end-time tribulations.

## **"WE KNOW THAT OUR GOD ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS, AND HE IS FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES FOR HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL."**

However, we know that our God answers prayers, and He is faithful to His promises for His people, Israel.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your faithfulness and wish you a year of peace, health, and Yeshua's inspiration in all that you undertake.

Claude & Michelle Ezagouri  
Morning Star Fellowship - Tiberias



*Claude & Michelle.*

**Andrew & Jackie Lessey**

**Support code: 4190 - Area 1 - North & East**

23.12.2024

### **Sharing Thoughts**

Circumstances in the region have been changing so quickly of late that it seems at times hard to keep up and absorb their full significance. The rapid takeover of Syria by various rebel groups certainly fits into this bracket. For years, the Israeli Air Force has been intercepting weapons shipments transiting Syria on their way to Hezbollah in Lebanon. Now, with the rebel groups in control on the ground, this prime Iranian conduit for resupplying the terror group with weaponry has been severed. In addition, Iran's forces and militias in Syria have retreated into Iraq, and therefore, Iranian influence over the country has (for the time being, at least) seemingly completely dissolved. Their shock and embarrassment after so much investment (estimated at \$50 billion) must be immense.

Presumably, the same holds true for the Russians, who, although possibly able to negotiate the preservation of their two bases on the coast, will nevertheless need to make major adjustments. Indeed, their forces have already been withdrawn from other parts of Syria, and their influence over the country will now be reduced to close to zero. Understandably, after both countries consistently supported the Assad regime, most Syrians will be happy to see them go. Apparently, the nation predominantly in the driving seat now is Turkey, which has supported the main rebel forces and was almost certainly very instrumental in planning the takeover of the country.

For Israel, too, there is now a degree of satisfaction at seeing the demise of the Iranians in Syria and all that it entails. Iran's most powerful proxy, Hezbollah, has been seriously degraded over recent months, and rebuilding it will be all the more difficult now that their main supply lines for weaponry have been cut. Of course, this optimism is tempered to some extent by the fact that the rebels are, in the main, zealously hostile toward the Jewish state. A manifestation of their radicalism became apparent almost immediately when they attacked a UN outpost close to the border. This necessitated the IDF going in to rescue the UN personnel. Clearly, the IDF's decision to occupy the buffer zone between the two countries was a wise move, making it easier to protect the villages on Israel's side of the border. Obviously, they don't want a repeat of October 7th emanating from any border.

The ceasefire with Hezbollah is holding, but the vast bulk of those evacuated on October 8th, 2023, are not returning to their homes. Perhaps to the outsider, this seems strange because the prime reason for the IDF's entry into Lebanon in the first place was to enable these residents to return. However, these people rightly perceive the fact that this ceasefire is fragile and are not willing to take the risk. Provisions made within the agreement are actually totally naive. For example, the Lebanese army is supposed to stop the terrorists from returning to the border area. In reality, the probability of the Lebanese army fulfilling this obligation is virtually non-existent.

The reason why Israel accepted this ceasefire is that it was forced to by the

U.S. As mentioned previously, much of the American leverage comes from its veto power at the UN General Assembly. Apparently, in this case, Israel was given the choice of accepting the ceasefire or facing an arms embargo from the UN. Thankfully, on this occasion, the media here has made the situation clear enough for most Israelis to understand this reality. In relation to this, I recently spoke with someone at work whose family is among the evacuees. Understandably, she said that they want to return and begin repairing their home, but that endeavour is currently on hold until next month—clearly insinuating that it will be after Mr. Trump enters the White House.

Iran is now at its weakest point in decades. Two of its main proxies ( Hamas and Hezbollah) have been seriously degraded, and its partial but significant hold over Syria has been nullified. In addition, Israel's last air force attack on Iran succeeded in wiping out its air defences. Truly, they are now in a vulnerable place. Reports suggest that Iranians are understandably desperate to complete their nuclear weapons program while time allows. Some imply that the situation is so serious that Israel may need to strike even before Trump's inauguration. Obviously, time will tell. It would not surprise me if the Iranians begin to activate some of their terrorist sleeper cells in the U.S. and other places if they feel sufficiently cornered.

An issue not often mentioned abroad is the situation in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank). Over the past fourteen months, tensions have increased, and the IDF has been very proactive and generally successful at keeping the



terrorists at bay. However, tensions are now running high, and vicious gun battles are taking place between the Palestinian Authority and the terrorists of Islamic Jihad and Hamas. A main focal point is Jenin, though this is certainly not the sole hotspot. This area, Judea and Samaria, constitutes the Heart of the Land, and some may remember that I composed a booklet with that title back in 2015. I firmly believe, in light of Scripture, that the Lord intends multitudes of His people to reside on these mountains (Ezekiel 36), and I am curious to see if annexation and a massive settlement of Jews are now becoming foremost on His agenda. Certainly, if large-scale Aliyah kicks off, I sense that the time could soon be approaching for the Lord to implement this. Interestingly enough, some members of Israel's parliament have also been speaking out on the subject of late.

#### **Prayer Points:**

**1.** For the return of the hostages. This matter causes great heartache for many Israelis, and proper closure is needed.

**2.** For wisdom and clarity among Israeli leaders as they consider striking Iran's nuclear facilities.

**3.** That any strike would be successful and have positive ramifications for Israel and the Middle East.

**4.** For Donald Trump: that the Lord would use him to forward His purposes despite his flaws. Cooperation regarding an Iran strike and West Bank annexation could be pivotal.

**5.** For mercy on the people of Israel, that they would not be taken by surprise on their borders or within the Land.

**6.** For Mr. Netanyahu. He is like an Israeli Winston Churchill leading his country in a time of war. Yet, he is expected to be present in court for 18 hours a week—an absurd demand likely intended to remove him from power.

**7.** That many Israelis would recognise their need for the Lord and seek Him with all their hearts until they find Him.

**ISAIAH 45: 2-3 I WILL GO BEFORE THEE AND MAKE THE CROOKED PLACES STRAIGHT: I WILL BREAK IN PIECES THE GATES OF BRASS, AND CUT IN SUNDER THE BARS OF IRON: AND I WILL GIVE THEE THE TREASURES OF DARKNESS, AND HIDDEN RICHES OF SECRET PLACES, THAT THOUGH MAYEST KNOW THAT I, THE LORD, WHICH CALL THEE BY THY NAME, AM THE GOD OF ISRAEL.**

Thank you for your prayers,  
Andrew Lessey.

*Andrew & Jackie Lessey*



08.01.2025

Greetings in Yeshua,

As 2024 comes to a close, we trust this update finds you well!

Since the last update, we've experienced quite a few intense months of war. After almost a year of the conflict being 'far away' on the northern and southern borders, it suddenly hit us and essentially the entire country, finally calming only a few weeks ago when the ceasefire was reached with Hezbollah/ Lebanon (although it has since been breached by Hezbollah multiple times). Just a week before the ceasefire came into effect, the air-raid sirens sounded as we were all leaving our weekend Shabbat service (around 8 pm). A large missile struck a synagogue only 500 metres from our location. The explosion was massive, but praise the Lord, everyone still on the premises or on their way home was able to reach a safe area, and no one was harmed.

In the months prior, we had air-raid sirens going off several times a day, significantly disrupting our personal and congregational routines. We had to move one of our weekend meetings to Zoom, along with several other events, while others were cancelled altogether. We praise the Lord that the situation is now much calmer. However, the recent collapse of Syria's regime under Bashar Assad and his military adds another layer of uncertainty to the future. Additionally, 100 hostages are still being held in Gaza by Hamas terrorists.

Through it all, we continue to hold fast to the Rock of Ages, knowing that while everything may shake and move, He is forever the same—stable, firm, unshakable, and immovable.



The destruction at the synagogue where the missile struck in Haifa on 16th November



We want to take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude for your faithful prayers and support for the ministry of Kerem-El during 2024. We look forward to having you stand with us in the coming year, as we continue in all the Lord has in store.

We pray that the light of Messiah Yeshua shines brightly on you and your family during this holiday season and into the new year. May your home be filled with joy, thanksgiving, and the sweet harmony found in our precious Saviour. Exodus – From Bondage to Liberty After completing the series titled "*By Way of Reminder*" (from Paul in Romans 15:15), we spent several weeks focusing on the Fall Feasts of the Lord and their wonderful significance for us as followers of Yeshua today, as well as the hope they fill us with for the future.

In November, we began teaching the Book of Exodus, continuing from where we left off with the life of Joseph at the end of Genesis. So far, we've covered the first two chapters and have already gleaned many riches and gems. We'll continue with this into 2025. However, in December, we were blessed to have two men from within our community teach for the first time—one from Ephesians 6 and the other from Luke 10. Additionally, a dear brother from Israel's Bible Society shared from David's Psalm of repentance (Psalm 51). As a community, we are blessed by the richness of the Word and are excited to go deeper into God's truth.

### **Special Worship Nights**

We recently held two worship nights—one at the end of October for the entire community and another in mid-November for the youth of the greater Haifa region. Unfortunately, on the evening of the first event, a hostile drone warning was issued across the area for an hour beforehand, which deterred many from travelling. However, those who attended enjoyed basking in the Lord's presence and lifting up our nation in prayer during this time of war. The second evening was particularly special, as we hosted around 80 youth representing over a dozen congregations from all over Haifa and from Netanya in the south to Karmiel in the north. They came together to praise and worship the Lord. Our aim is to help the youth in the area form bonds, as many attend the same schools but are unaware of one another. The evening was full of fun and God's presence, and we received excellent feedback that the youth were deeply blessed.



A Rectifying Shabbat Meal

On the Friday evening of the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot), we held our first congregational meal since the last one, which was on 6th October 2023, the eve of the war breaking out. It was a special blessing to be together at this time, and we praise the Lord that war did not break out again the following day! We shared the traditional Shabbat blessings and sang songs of praise before enjoying the delicious contributions of meals and desserts. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, much needed after a heavy-hearted year of war and its effects, not to mention correcting the memory of the last gathering.

### **Thanking Our Deacons**

For many years, our three deacons have faithfully served the congregation by tending to its practical needs. However, due to changes in their life circumstances, they are no longer able to continue in this capacity. We are grateful for all they have done and were blessed to honour them as a community for their years of loving service. We are now seeking those whom God is calling to fill their shoes - ideally two men and two women to support the leadership and care for the community's practical needs.



## Prayer Requests

**The War:** Praise the Lord for the relative calm since the ceasefire. Pray for continued success for Israel and its security forces as they combat the forces of evil seeking to destroy her and God's plan for Israel, the Middle East, and the world.

**Grief and Suffering:** Though much of the fighting has ceased, soldiers continue to fall in battle, and 100 hostages remain captive in Gaza. Pray for those enduring unimaginable loss.

**Youth:** Praise the Lord for the seeds sown at the youth worship night. Pray for the youth to grow strong in their faith as they face challenges due to their beliefs, as well as the pressures and temptations of their age.

**Deacons:** Pray for the right individuals to step into the role of deacons and for the Lord's guidance in the selection process.

**Pastoral Team:** Pray for Stefan, Keren, and Yonatan as they oversee most congregational duties until additional positions are filled.

**Reservists:** Pray for members of our congregation serving on active duty in the coming month, as well as for their families at home.

*Dan Arnold.*



Or HaGalil Fellowship

Led by Efraim & Jeannie Goldstein

Support code: 4260 - Area 2 - North & West

03.01.2025

May the peace of God be with you in all you do in 2025.

As we stand at the start of a new year, the words of the apostle Paul serve as both a challenge and an encouragement: *"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*  
**Philippians 3:14.**

This is the first update we are sharing with you this year. The past year has been a difficult one, with the war in Israel continuing to rage around Israel and Gaza, southern Lebanon, and Syria. Enemies of Israel, such as Yahya Al-Sinwar of Hamas in Gaza and Hassan Nasrallah of Hezbollah in Lebanon, have been eliminated. There has been success on the battlefield, and weapons as well as enemy terror tunnels have been systematically destroyed.

On a personal level, the over 460 days of constant war from five different fronts have led to sorrow, mourning, fear, and a war-weariness among many Israelis who live continually under this stress. In our Or Hagalil Congregation (Light of Galilee), the rockets of Hezbollah rained on our city for almost two months, causing damage and loss of life. The regular air-raid sirens give citizens just 15 seconds to get to a shelter. Daily errands and activities had to be planned around the location of the nearest safe shelter. At night, shoes and bathrobes were kept by the bed in case an alarm went off and we needed to rush to the shelter.

The mayor of Nahariyya had shelters placed on the streets. Some of them were painted, like this one near the train station.



Painted bomb shelter, Nahariyya.

We were in Israel for just 75 days in 2024 and experienced so much. Our hearts went out to others in our Or Hagalil family, who live under these conditions continuously. Many in our fellowship are war-weary, yet they encouraged us by their faithfulness to stand firm and proclaim Yeshua despite the circumstances. Pierre, as co-pastor, is God's man for this time. He and his wife Maggie regularly provide practical and spiritual support to the Or Hagalil family.

Our team packed the bags, and then everyone wanted to help distribute them to the soldiers!

On our last trip to Israel, we left the US with four full suitcases of supplies for the men and women serving in the IDF. With the winter months upon them, their need was for warm clothes and jackets. We were able to hand these out

personally to soldiers passing through Nahariyya. There were some very touching conversations with soldiers who stopped to talk. While running errands in Nahariyya, we also had several conversations with shop owners, leading to pleasant exchanges about our faith in Yeshua. These moments were the result of building good relationships over the years.

On a poignant note, Ruth Nessim passed away on 10th December after a long illness. She was 88 years old at the time of her passing. Ruth and her husband, Albert, moved to Nahariyya in 1976, and for more than 30 years, they laboured faithfully to establish an unshakeable testimony for Yeshua in Nahariyya and the surrounding area. They founded our Light of Galilee Congregation, which continues to minister to the many Jews and Arabs in Western Galilee. May her memory be blessed.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- The return of the hostages being held by Hamas.
- The restoration of the 80,000 people evacuated from Israel's northern border
- Continued growth and well-being of our Or Hagalil Congregation.
- Strength, health, and wisdom for Pierre and his wife Maggie as they lead the congregation.
- Strength and vision for us as we continue to serve the Lord from Pennsylvania with our children.

We are deeply grateful for your prayers for us in 2024. Your financial support enabled us to move forward with the

projects, programmes, and ministry that we are regularly involved in.

We give you our heartfelt thanks and offer our prayers of thanksgiving. In His service,

*Grain & Jeannie Goldstein*



**Kehilat HaCarmel Congregation**

**Led by Dani Sayag**

Support code: 4200 - Area 2 - North & West

15.01.2024

As we start this new year of 2025, we have been focusing on the founding vision of Kehilat HaCarmel, in order to bring understanding of our calling as a congregation.

Several years ago, we sat down as a leadership team to pray and write out a concise vision statement that would clearly express what we believe the Lord has called us to be and to do. Here is the statement:

Kehilat HaCarmel is an Israeli Messianic community of Jews, Arabs, and others, dedicated to the centrality of God's Word and worship, pursuing His presence, developing congregational life, and impacting Israel and the nations. We achieve this through:

- Corporate prayer and worship
- Equipping and biblical training
- Nurturing the whole family
- Reaching out to hurting people
- Providing humanitarian aid
- Social involvement
- Outreach, both local and international

In our first Shabbat meeting in January, Dani presented our vision statement and started a series to talk about the vision. In the first meeting, he spoke about prayer, and Karen spoke about worship. The following sessions will be about discipleship, the one new man, help for the needy, outreach, and the Word of God.

From the early days of the congregation, it was clear that Kehilat HaCarmel was called to be a house of prayer for all people (Is. 56:7-8). The health of a local congregation is directly related to the prayer life of the people. Restoring the altar of the Lord on Mount Carmel has been our mandate from the very beginning as the Lord positioned us strategically on the highest point of Carmel. We understood that God was calling us to continue in the legacy of Elijah who repaired the altar of the Lord which was torn down on this mountain (1 Kings 18).

When we come together as the living stones, with one heart and one spirit, we are *"being built together as a dwelling place for the Lord"* **Eph. 2:22**. Worship is key in becoming this dwelling place, as we know that the Lord dwells in the praises of His people. This is our great desire, that He would manifest His presence in our midst and bring many others into close relationship with Him through Yeshua's atoning sacrifice.



### Prayer Points:

- That we would be consecrated unto the Lord for His purposes.
- For spiritual awakening in Israel and its neighbours.
- For the return of all the hostages.
- For comfort and healing for the grieving and the hurting.
- For protection over Israel and wisdom for our government.
- For protection over our soldiers, and the leading of the Lord as they go into battle.

With love and gratitude,  
The Kehilat HaCarmel Leadership Team.

### AREA 5

#### The Shelter Hostel

Led by John and Judy Pex

Support code: 4550 - Area 5 - South



## 40 YEARS OF THE SHELTER

10.01.2025

### **Forty Years of Hospitality, Service, Community, and Evangelism**

God often tells us to remember. *"He has made His wonderful works to be remembered: the Lord is gracious and full of compassion"* **Psalm 111:4**. For the children of Israel, their memories tied them back to their Fathers – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to Moses and the Exodus, to the judges and prophets, and more. As followers of Yeshua, we focus

on remembering His birth in Bethlehem, His crucifixion, and resurrection. Furthermore, each of us has a personal history of wonderful works God has done in our lives. Looking back at His grace and faithfulness encourages and strengthens us as we move forward.

Why am I beginning an article about the Shelter Hostel with 'remember'? Forty years ago, in December 1984, we opened the doors of the Shelter and began receiving guests. Last month, on January 3rd and 4th, we had a weekend of celebrations with two meetings, three meals, a group run, a Kahoots game (sort of Shelter trivia), and many conversations, pictures, and memories. We felt it wasn't the time for a large festivity as we had for our twentieth and thirtieth anniversaries due to the sombre mood in the country and the difficulty of finding flights from abroad. Yet we still wanted to commemorate this occasion and thank God for His goodness and faithfulness through the years.

Our thoughts go back to the beginning when we simply wanted a place where everyone would feel welcome – unbelievers and believers; Israelis and folks from abroad; Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Although we didn't have experience running a hostel or a business, and not being planners, we had no long-term vision. But we did have a passion for hospitality and for sharing the good news about Yeshua. Through our experience of inviting people to stay with us in our one-room apartment in Key West, Florida when we first married, our tent in the Sinai, our first small apartment, and then house in Eilat, we believed that an open home was an ideal way to demonstrate God's love.



**John** was born in Holland in 1946 to a secular Catholic family who saved a Jewish friend from the Nazis. So, when he began to travel after completing his military service and

sailing the world in the merchant marine, his first stop was Israel. He loved the communal life on the kibbutz and began learning Hebrew, but nothing satisfied his inward restlessness until, on Christmas day 1972, a hippie friend gave him a Bible, and he began reading it. Matthew 6:34 expressed how he was trying to live as a traveller but not succeeding: *“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.”*

In John 3, Jesus’ words about being *“born again”* spoke to his heart, and he realised Jesus was the answer to his search for truth and purpose in life. John’s life totally changed, and he enthusiastically began telling his friends, family, and anyone who would listen to what he had found.

I was born to a Reform Jewish family in Washington, D.C., with roots going back to Ukraine and Poland. After a couple of generations in the U.S., they had lost their orthodoxy, and Judaism was more of a cultural identity. I went to university upon finishing high school, but growing up in the sixties, I was drawn to alternative politics and lifestyles. I decided to travel to Alaska for the summer with my boyfriend and ended up living for three years in a small Eskimo village above the Arctic Circle where we practiced a subsistence lifestyle.

Still feeling I was missing something, I flew to Europe, hitchhiking and working for a year with the goal of reaching India to find a guru. My parents suggested I stop in Israel on the way, and I had no objections. After helping for a couple of months on the farm of relatives, I hitchhiked down to the Sinai, which still belonged to Israel. In Nueiba, an oasis on the Red Sea, I met a long-haired Frenchman who was reading the Bible.

I went up to Bethlehem on Christmas day 1973, and someone gave me a Bible. I began reading it avidly upon returning to the Sinai and simply fell in love with Jesus. When I read in John 14:6, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life,”* I felt I had no choice but to believe in Him even though it went against everything I had grown up with. God changed my life, and some months afterward, I met John.

We married in a civil ceremony and lived for a year in Key West, Florida, inviting young people we met to join our twice-daily Bible studies and stay with us. We were blessed to see people giving their lives to Jesus and growing in their faith but believed God wanted us back in Israel where there were so few followers of Jesus. We already loved the way of life here and the warmth of the people. In December 1976, we landed in Israel as new immigrants and came straight down to Eilat. There was no church here at the time, just a handful of believers meeting in an apartment.

John found odd jobs, and we began doing what made us happiest – telling others about Jesus and inviting them to Bible studies in our home and to stay with us. Concurrently, we lived off and on in a tent in Nueiba, finding it

a wonderful place to share the gospel with all the hippies and travellers staying on the beach. After a few years, with two young children and many guests, our apartment became too small, and we found a larger house with a garden. However, a few years later, with four children and even more house guests, we knew we couldn't sustain that lifestyle and began looking for a hostel. Thankfully, God provided a building not far from our home and from the centre of town that we called The Shelter Hostel. *"A refuge and shelter from the storm and rain"* **Isaiah 4:6**.

The Shelter's goal is to create a home away from home for our guests and for those seeking an oasis from the hardness of this world. Travelers, as well as outsiders in society, including refugees and immigrants, are often particularly open to the gospel. We aim to care for the whole person: body, soul, and spirit, to share the love of Yeshua with the lost, and to live together in a caring, supportive community. Without leaving home, we found a wonderful way to take part in world evangelism.

With a young family, we knew we couldn't run a forty-bed hostel alone, and from the first day, God provided help, not realising then how our volunteers would be the backbone of the Shelter's work. Since we don't live on the property nor spend all day there, our staff are the ones who are instrumental in creating the welcoming, friendly, and accepting atmosphere that so many of our guests remark about. Visitors began to arrive, the word about the Shelter spread, and soon we were full. Our first guests were young backpackers, as we had been. Israel at that time was popular

for kibbutz volunteers and was known as a cheap place to visit not far from Europe with year-round sunshine. We accepted nearly everyone who arrived, including those trying to get clean from alcohol or drugs. Interesting situations arose, and looking back, we thank God that He protected us from major troubles. In many ways, the Shelter was an extension of the lifestyle we'd begun in Key West and continued in our tent in the Sinai, our apartment, and our house, with the emphasis on welcoming everyone, creating community, and sharing Jesus' love. Guests experience how our multi-national volunteer team relates to one another and feel drawn in. By God's grace, during those first years, we saw many people come from darkness to light and start new lives with Him. We also saw marriages among guests and volunteers who met at the Shelter, and up to now, we've had thirty-three couples formed.

Our Friday evening meetings were a regular weekly practice begun around our dining room table in our apartment to invite travellers and outsiders who didn't have a place to celebrate Shabbat. As the numbers grew and we had more room, we built wooden benches and changed the menu from chicken to large pots of rice, beans, soup, and salad, always beginning with worship songs and a short gospel message. Later, we moved from our living room to the Shelter's courtyard, but except for during Covid, we never missed a Friday.

### **Wave upon Wave**

As we look back on our forty years, we tend to divide the time into waves, or the dominant people groups we hosted, although there was always an overlap



and a mixture of different guests. An early group was Israeli Arabs from the Galilee. Although twenty percent of Israel's population is Arab, Eilat, being a new city that didn't exist before 1949, has no native Arab population. However, they often come to Eilat for work and to get away from the stifling pressure of their villages and close-knit families. Through word of mouth, one began bringing the other, and though all were Muslim, being away from their homes and in the friendly environment of the Shelter, many became attracted to the gospel. We saw a number of these young men confess to believing in Jesus, but when they returned home, they had to go into hiding. For these reasons, it was often better to let them keep their new faith private.

Then came the Russians. It was the early '90s, and after the fall of the Soviet Union, Israel opened up its doors to Jewish immigrants from Russia and the former Soviet republics. At first, they had no jobs, no housing, and no help from the government, and many had been promised in their propaganda to experience a utopian lifestyle in Israel. This group of immigrants was highly educated and very intelligent, though for the most part, they didn't believe in God. Nonetheless, some of them began asking questions, and some came to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. During this period, we also began seeing some young Israelis, mostly students, visit us. After their military service, many Israelis travel abroad, often stopping in Eilat.

During the last decade, we have increasingly hosted people from Africa, primarily Sudanese and Eritreans who made it across Egypt and into Israel.

At first, the Shelter was the only place for them to stay, but later, they went to other cities. As they had few resources and limited access to social services, we were able to meet their needs as they tried to integrate into society.

### **Moving Forward**

Forty years ago, we couldn't have predicted the success of this work, which has been our joy and privilege to be part of. Each person who stays here leaves a mark on our lives, and their lives are also impacted by the love of Yeshua we share with them. Thank you to all those who have supported us, prayed for us, volunteered, and joined us in this wonderful adventure of serving God in Israel. We are grateful for all those who have been a part of The Shelter, and we look forward to continuing this work for the next forty years – if God is willing.

Reminiscing with dear friends and family during our anniversary celebration, multiple names and stories came to mind. Remembering what God has done for us in the past gives us hope for the future. We look forward to many more years for the Shelter Hostel while praying for someone with a similar vision and passion to continue.

Written by John and Judy Pex.



16.01.2025

**IT'S OFFICIAL: 33** of the hostages will at last be coming home soon, some even this weekend. The deal was reached after Israelis paid a dear and heavy price in blood over the past 15 months, with over 2,000 murdered and fallen in action. The hostage deal takes place just one day after the funeral of a Messianic Jewish soldier here in Israel. Redeeming captives is a subject well known and written about in Jewish literature. Starting from the exodus from Egypt, through the first and second diasporas, and unfortunately throughout church history, Jewish communities have always redeemed their captives. This hostage deal is therefore but a chain in the history of Israel.

As followers of the Messiah, the release of captives is very dear to the heart of us all, and part of the message that Jesus Himself came to bring. The ceasefire has been agreed for 42 days, during which just a third of the remaining hostages, some of whom will be alive and others already dead, will be returned at last to their families. The first three hostages will come home on Sunday. Those hostages on the list to be set free are women, children, adults over the age of 50, and severely sick and wounded civilians. Starting with the women and children, around three to four additional hostages will be released every week over the course of six weeks. The famous red-headed Bibas children, taken captive from Nir Oz, are on the list to be released, but their mother, Shiri, is not.

We have no idea which of the hostages are still alive and who are dead. Families are getting ready either to embrace their loved ones or bury them.

In exchange, up to 1,650 Palestinian prisoners will be released—30 for each civilian and 50 for each female soldier. These are not political or even usual criminal prisoners – they include arch-terrorists with a lot of blood on their hands, convicted and some sentenced to life imprisonment, and Gazan terrorists arrested in connection to the atrocities of October 7. There are no civilians nor innocent people among them. Here in Israel, emotions are very high. We are overjoyed at the thought of hostages finally coming home to their families, but we are paying a very heavy price. Some Israeli families whose relatives were brutally murdered by the terrorists about to be released in the hostage deal are trying to apply pressure not to release them, and thus not sign the deal. The situation poses yet another moral dilemma.

Some of the prisoners will be deported to Qatar and Turkey, but there is great concern about so many dangerous terrorists who are determined to destroy Israel walking free. One of the conditions of the agreement is that Israel will not be allowed to rearrest them. During this first six-week phase, Israel and Hamas will discuss the details regarding a second phase, with the goal being a final end to the war in Gaza. Please pray with us all at this time: Pray for our leaders here in Israel, and the other nations in the mediation process, who have to navigate these waters. Our God is a God of peace, life, and freedom. Join us in prayer for His will to be done.

*Erez Soref*

**Ethiopian Wide Ministries**  
**Updates from Fasil & Gwen**

Support code: 4640 - Area 7 - Israel & International

01.01.2025

**Evangelistic campaign in Kechene:**

Through four days or intensive outreach, including one-on-one evangelism and public preaching, we reached over 3,000 individuals with the Gospel. We rejoice that seven individuals accepted Christ as their Saviour.

**Church Planting in Southern Ethiopia:**

We conducted a needs assessment visit to explore the possibility of establishing a new congregation in Southern Ethiopia. Sadly, we found the Jewish community there facing severe hardship, including poverty, persecution and social isolation. We believe the Gospel is urgently needed in this region and are actively preparing to plant a new church in the city of Jineka. Please pray for the successful establishment of this new congregation and the of the ongoing spread of Gospel among the Jewish community in Southern Ethiopia.

**Impact of the Ethiopian Civil War:**

The ongoing conflict has tragically led to the displacement and loss of life within the Jewish community. We urgently request your prayers for the safety and protection of our brothers and sisters.

**Support for ministry leaders:**

The rising cost of living in Addis Ababa is significantly impacting the financial stability of our ministry leaders and their families. The financial strain poses a significant challenge to our ability to effectively carry out our ministry. We humbly require your prayers for financial

provision and for the continued strength and perseverance of our ministry team.

In Christ's love,  
Bet-Abraham Messianic Congregation.



## ALIYAH MINISTRY

03.01.2025

**Ukraine/Georgia**

Please continue to pray for the safety of our teams as they carry out their work with the families wanting to make Aliyah. Also please pray for the very unsettled situation in Georgia and the safety of our team there.

**New Areas**

Please pray for us to have wisdom as to whether we should be opening Ezra offices in other parts of the world. It's always quite a big undertaking and we need to find the right, key people.

**In Process**

Please pray for all the people in the countries we work in who are in process of preparing to make Aliyah. Pray for help in finding all the necessary documents; for them not to give up on the process, even when it's difficult. Pray for the teams to have wisdom in advising them. Pray for all obstacles to be removed!

Many thanks as always,  
Shalom Friend,

*Pat Frame*  
CEO EZRA International  
Director.





# REFLECTIONS

FROM THE NORTHERN BORDER

PASTOR WERNER ODER

**H**aving just returned from the Syrian border where I was privileged to meet Israel's newly formed QRF (Quick Reaction Force) who have been tasked to secure the new boundary lines on the Golan heights, Prime Minister Netanyahu declared this to be a permanent move to secure Israel security. It was great to encourage the members of the unit, who gave us some precious moments in which we could express our love and our prayer for them, before sending them on the way with our best wishes and the slogan I saw on a car sticker: *"FINISH IT! Am Israel Chai"*.

Meeting some of the young men, who have been fighting in Gaza, Lebanon and now Syria, I saw afresh what a miracle God was creating before our very eyes. God's ways and His miracles are not always obvious. As I said before, we need to seek first the Kingdom of God in order to 'see'. What I 'saw' on the northern border was more than the terrain of Jordan or Syria or Israel. I saw the coming about of the wonderful promise given to Israel, but applicable to us all: Deut. 28:13 'The Lord will make you the head and not the tail.'

On Oct 7th, 2023, it looks as if Israel was the tail, her plight and her suffering

was largely ignored by the international community, her determination to defend her nation and rescue her captives was even condemned by the nations. (And the Church I am embarrassed to say).

Yet against all odds and despite political opinion and, because of the prayers of the saints, Israel activated her Defense Force and started to 'overthrow the house of the wicked' (Prov.14:11) and 'destroy the transgressors' (Ps.37:38). With increasing dismay of worldwide Anti-Semites and the astonishment of war experts, Israel's military accomplishments became nothing short of miraculous.

***"FINISH IT!  
AM ISRAEL  
CHAI"***

Netanyahu speaking to the people of Iran on Dec. 12th: *"As we see history unfold before our very eyes, I can only imagine what you're feeling right now. Your oppressors spent over 30 billion dollars supporting Assad in Syria. Today, after only 11 days of fighting, his regime collapsed into the dust. Your oppressors spent billions supporting Hamas in Gaza. Today, their regime lies in ruins. Your oppressors spent over 20 billion dollars supporting Hezbollah in Lebanon. In a matter of weeks, most of Hezbollah's leaders, its rockets, and thousands of its terrorists went up in smoke. It's the money your oppressors stole from you that truly went up in*

*smoke. You know why Iran's oppressors keep losing? It's because they seek to conquer other nations, to impose fundamentalist tyranny on the Middle East and the entire world. The only thing Israel seeks is to defend our state. But in doing so, we're defending civilization from barbarism. Israel wants peace. We want peace with all those who truly want peace with us. And I have no doubt that you, the people of Iran, know this ... You know what this regime is truly terrified of? It's terrified of you, the people of Iran. And one day, I know that... one day this will change. One day Iran will be free."* (INN/ VFI News)

For that reason, it will be important not to become too euphoric in thinking that 'we are ok now'. The Rebels masquerading as 'liberators,' are none other than ISIS and AL Qaeda, probably the most brutal terror group in the world, surpassing that even of Hamas and Hezbollah! Their leader Abu Mohammad al-Jolani hides his anti-Christian and Anti-Israel brutality behind the image of the long-awaited liberator or Syria.

This would be laughable were it not for his hidden agenda of 'Syria now, Israel next!' ISIS is, as do all terror groups, using the banned drug Captagon, which changes the personality and neutralizes any feelings of compassion, creating demonic euphoria and complete disregard for human life. One of the greatest tragedies, in my mind, is the indifferent and ignorance of the western Churches, including those in the UK, who are, with few exceptions, indifferent to the plight of the suffering believers around the world. After all, bringing up the holocaust of Christians around the world makes the congregation very

uncomfortable, so let's avoid the issue and have a healing meeting instead. Let's think again!

This, besides being largely ignorant of God's plan and purpose for Israel, is sadly one of the makings of the end-time Church: Church leaders, afraid of 'upsetting people' ignore the biblical revelation of Israel, misapply the scriptures preaching that the New Testament has replaced the Old, that the Church is the new Israel, and that God finished with the Jews. You can do well with this teaching, build large Churches, receive great offerings, become powerful and visibly successful, yet fail miserably in the basics of our faith: For God is the God of Israel, Jesus is the Jewish Messiah and Saviour of the world, that God has not finished with Israel who is His inheritance (Is.19:25).

I am sending this with my prayers and best wishes as I am preparing to return to the UK.

*"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

P.S. On visiting the Alliance cemetery, we discovered to our horror that Lance Lambert's grave has been badly vandalized.

Pastor Werner Oder.

# A for Israel

An article originally published in 2021, in commemoration of Peter and Sandra Schuptar.



In July 2020, Peter and Sandra Schuptar of Brisbane assumed the role of Administrators of Prayer for Israel-Australia.

Peter and Sandra had been involved in Israel ministry since 2008, not long after their first visit to The Land. They had been holding monthly Prayer for Israel meetings in their home since 2014. They were also known for their *"Israel Restoration Seminars,"* held annually since 2017 in the Queensland capital, Brisbane.

They had been taking small, intimate tours of Israel since 2013 (6-8 people) but had to cancel their largest tour (16 people) due to the Covid-19 virus.

*"It was truly amazing," said Peter. "We started with 6 people, and within 2 weeks, we had another 10, even without advertising!" Sandra continued, "In every place where we traveled, we discovered Christians who had received a love for Israel from the Lord, giving them a burden to visit and, more importantly, pray for Israel, which, in some cases, they could not even explain."*

The main thrust in prayer and purpose was for the salvation of the re-gathered nation. This was the main distinguishing feature of Prayer for Israel – Australia

Inc. That this was close to the Lord's heart became evident, as in 1969, the number of born-again believers in Israel was very small, with only two fellowships. By 2021, 52 years later, there were many thousands, with over 100 fellowships established. The number of born-again believers in Israel was greater than at any time since the first century!

Richard and Shirley Jones of Toowoomba (Qld) were the first Australian Administrators. They gathered a supportive team around them and established the Incorporated Association of Prayer for Israel Australia in 1991, faithfully promoting the work to gain prayerful and financial support for Messianic believers in Israel. They continued to develop this support until 2004, when Richard became ill, prompting them to seek the Lord's wisdom for someone else to take on the responsibility. Rev. Fraser and Jayne Harding were approached to take over in July 2005. However, 2005 turned out to be a momentous year for them, as Jayne was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in May. This delayed their full takeover until the first Prayer for Israel Conference in June 2006. These conferences became an annual event and were a great encouragement to Australian supporters.

Sadly, on September 7, 2008, Jayne Harding succumbed to her illness and went to be with the Lord. Rev. Harding remained on the board of Prayer for Israel for some years after Jayne's death, but it was understandably difficult to continue as Administrator without his life's partner. Therefore, Patrick and Joan Sheehan from Brisbane were approached by Rev. Fraser to undertake the responsibility of leading the work.

Since 2008, Patrick and Joan faithfully undertook the ministry's responsibilities as well as the administration of Prayer for Israel Australia. After 12 years of faithful service, they stood down (although still serving on the board), and Peter and Sandra Schuptar took over the administration of this important work.

Peter ran his own transport company and computer installation business, while Sandra, trained as a teacher in Special Education, worked as an Early Intervention specialist within the Queensland Education Department.

They were also on the board at their local Messianic Congregation in Brisbane. Both had been heavily involved in Israel advocacy since their first visit to Israel in 2008. On that first visit, Peter in particular felt as though he had arrived 'home' after a long absence. For both of them, it was a major step forward in their walk with the Lord, having both become believers at an early age.

Growing up in Hobart, Tasmania, Peter's exposure to all things Jewish came at an early age. His great-great-great-grandfather Nisson Jacobson was one of the first Jewish men in Australia, arriving in Tasmania (then Van Diemen's Land) in 1826 as a convict on the Lady Castlereagh from London.

Although raised in a decidedly Christian home, Peter's mother Muriel kept Jewish traditions alive within the family, keeping Passover and Purim. *"My mother would, at Passover, do an extreme clean of the home, getting rid of all the heaven (dust) in the house. This was an annual event, of course. Not to mention the huge meal that, as a child, seemed to go on forever."* Thus, discovering Israel was a natural progression for both Peter and Sandra. Since 2008, they had been going back to Israel every year, leading small personal groups of up to 8 persons. *"We lost count of how many times we went to Israel. I think it was over 20,"* said Sandra.

In 2015-16, they both attended Hebrew Ulpan (Language School) in Jerusalem to get a better grasp of the language. They rented a house only 300 meters from Netanyahu's residence and considered them neighbors. *"We invited them over for a BBQ, but strangely, they were always busy!"* Peter said.

*Peter and Sandra overlooking the Dead Sea near Arad.*







Peter's Grandmother Miriam (L) and mother Muriel at Purim. Hobart, Tasmania. (C1940)

Since taking over as Administrators of Prayer for Israel-Australia in July, during the Covid-19 pandemic in Australia, we faced many challenges. Prayer was needed in the following areas:

- One of the biggest challenges was our inability to visit the many Prayer for Israel home groups in our state and also interstate. Whenever there was an outbreak, neighbouring states went into hard border shutdowns, making travel almost impossible. Due to our membership demographic, many of our members did not have email accounts, making contact almost impossible.
- The churches in Australia were tremendously impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown as well. This made it almost impossible for us to 'spread the word' about Prayer for Israel. We asked for prayer for open doors in churches so we could visit, introduce people to Prayer for Israel, and get people praying for Israel.
- One of the biggest concerns worldwide was the inability or lack of desire of younger adults to be involved in Israel

advocacy. There were many reasons for this, including Replacement Theology being taught in churches, political and social issues, and sadly a 'who cares' attitude among the under 30s. This situation needed urgent prayer. We moved in the right direction in Australia by adding a '30 something' husband and wife team onto our board.

*"I know many people have had the same experience who have **travelled to Israel**. All of a sudden, your **Bible opens up** like a picture book, like the ones we used to use in Sunday school as children, but this time it was **tangible, touchable, surreal** even, as I could see it with my own eyes,"*  
Peter.

#### \*Ed

Peter and Sandra's legacy will forever be cherished, and their absence leaves a deep void in the hearts of all who knew them. Their unwavering commitment to the ministry and their selfless dedication to the work of Prayer for Israel-Australia (PFI) played an instrumental role in growing the Australian base of prayer partners, which has reached over 200 faithful supporters.

As they have now entered into their eternal rest, we take comfort knowing they have been received in heaven with shouts of joy and praise, hearing the words, *"Well done, good and faithful servants."* Peter and Sandra's impact will continue to echo in the lives they touched, and we are forever grateful for their dedication and love. They will be deeply missed, but their legacy of faithfulness, generosity, and love for the work of the Lord lives on.

# Supporting Israel, financially.

The following are some general PFI support codes that you may prayerfully consider.

**4740**

## Emergency Relief Fund

For direct support to individuals and congregations as a result of the effects of the current conflict since October 7th, 2023.

**4001**

## General Fund

This can help support PFI's operational costs including salaries, overheads and expenses.

**4706**

## Where Most Needed

This allows PFI to designate funds to specific congregations/ministries/individuals in need, as they become known to us.

**4760**

## Aliyah Fund

For direct support of Israel based Aliyah ministries. (Jews immigrating to Israel).

**4901**

## Bulletin Costs

To offset production costs of the prayer Bulletin.

## Making donations online

We invite you to **consider setting up your donation online**. It's a quick, secure, and easy way to support the ministries and causes that are closest to your heart. Online donations allow us to direct your contribution exactly where it's needed, making a tangible difference. By setting up a regular standing order, you can provide ongoing support for the vital work we do. Your generosity helps us continue sharing faith, hope, and love with those who need it most. We are truly grateful for every gift, no matter the size.

\*Prayer for Israel is a faith-based ministry that relies on the generosity of our prayer partners to continue its work. We take no fees on donations made through PFI - 100% of your contribution goes directly to the designated recipients. While we distribute funds quarterly, in time-sensitive situations, we ensure that funds are sent promptly to meet urgent needs.

For the full list of  
**Support codes**, visit  
[www.prayerforisrael.co.uk/congregation-list](http://www.prayerforisrael.co.uk/congregation-list) or scan  
our QR Code.



# PRAYER BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP



## HELP CONTINUE OUR PRAYER BULLETIN!

Producing our monthly prayer bulletin incurs significant expenses. While we recognize the vital role it plays in guiding our community's prayers, the costs associated with creating and distributing the bulletin place a substantial financial burden on Prayer for Israel (PFI). If you feel moved to support this important work, please consider helping us offset these costs.

**£1.13**

Cost per bulletin  
(incl delivery)

**£4254**

Total cost per month

**4800**

Bulletin quantity

For just **£20** a year, you can sponsor the production and distribution of our prayer bulletin for an entire year. This small contribution ensures that this vital spiritual resource continues to reach and inspire individuals across our community, guiding them in their prayers and strengthening their faith.

\*Total cost includes bulletins sent to the same address

Please quote code **4901** when donating



# PRAYER POINTS

*An overview of prayer requests  
highlighted in this Bulletin*

## AREA 1

### Morning Star Fellowship

For the necessary funds from the Lord for the purchase of a room that would enlarge our premises. This room would be used by the youth who need their own space.

Amos oversees the youth ministry, and his wife Versavia is in charge of the teen ministry. Leading the youth through these challenging times is not easy, especially with the distractions and pressures of the world. Please pray for them as they guide the young people in faith and resilience.

For prayer for wisdom for the leaders, and for the safe return of all hostages. We also pray that God would intervene in the situation, as only through prayer can a breakthrough happen.

### Andrew & Jackie Lessey

For a return of the hostages. The matter is a cause of great heartache for many Israelis and proper closure is needed.

For mercy on the people of Israel, that they would not be taken by surprise on their borders or within the Land.

That many Israelis would recognise their need of the Lord and seek Him with all of their hearts.

## AREA 2

### Kerem El Fellowship

For continued success for Israel and its security forces as they combat the forces of evil that seek to destroy her and God's plan for Israel, the Middle East and the entire world.

For Stefan, Keren and Yonatan as they oversee most of the congregational duties until additional positions are filled.

### Or HaGalil Fellowship

For the people of Israel, especially those who have endured over 460 days of constant war. Ask for God's peace to settle over their hearts and minds, and for comfort in times of grief and weariness.

For the Or Hagalil family as they continue to endure the challenges of living in a conflict zone. Ask God to strengthen their faith, protect them from harm, and help them remain a light in their community despite the difficulties

## AREA 6

### One for Israel

As 33 hostages are set to return home, some will be reunited with their loved ones, while others will face the heartbreak of loss. Pray for comfort, peace, and strength for the families awaiting news, whether to embrace their loved ones or prepare for mourning.

Pray for our leaders here in Israel, and the other nations in the mediation process, who have to navigate these waters. Pray for the Lord's will to be done.

## AREA 5

### The Shelter Hostel

For John, Judy, and their team, as they continue to manage and serve at the hostel. Pray for God's protection over them, their volunteers, and the guests they serve.

For God to raise up someone with a similar vision and passion to carry the work forward in the years to come.

That many more lives would be touched and transformed by the ministry, and that the Hostel would continue to be a place of refuge and hope for years to come.

## AREA 7

### Ethiopian Wide Ministries

For the successful outreach in Kechene, where over 3,000 individuals were reached with the Gospel and seven accepted Christ as their Saviour.

For the new church planting efforts in Jineka, where a Jewish community faces severe hardship, including poverty and persecution.

### EZRA

For us to have wisdom as to whether we should be opening Ezra offices in other parts of the world.

For all the people in the countries we work in who are in process of preparing to make Aliyah



# PRAYER FOR ISRAEL | DONATIONS AND GIFT AID

At Prayer for Israel, you can direct your donation to a specific ministry, congregation, or cause using support codes found in our bulletin updates or at [prayerforisrael.co.uk/congregation-list/](http://prayerforisrael.co.uk/congregation-list/). Include your chosen support code as the reference when donating. Donations without a code go to our general funds (use code 4000 to contribute directly). For assistance, email [finance@prayer4i.org](mailto:finance@prayer4i.org).

## OUR DETAILS

**Name:** Prayer for Israel  
**Number:** 49062962  
**Sort Code:** 30-99-50  
**Address:** PO Box 190,  
Telford,  
Shropshire,  
TF2 2DB, UK  
**Charity No.** 1197064

## ONLINE DONATIONS



**OPTION 1:** Visit [prayerforisrael.co.uk/donate](http://prayerforisrael.co.uk/donate)

**OPTION 2:** Online Transfer using our details to the left of this form.

**SUPPORT CODE:** Reference your Support Code upon Donation (e.g., "4000").

**\*Unallocated gifts are automatically designated to "Where Most Needed" and when necessary are used to help with operating costs.**

**GIFT AID:** Gift Aid, include "GIFT" in the reference (e.g., "4000GIFT") and complete the online form at [prayerforisrael.co.uk/giftaid](http://prayerforisrael.co.uk/giftaid)

**OPTION 3:** To set up a standing order **online** please contact your bank and fill out the online form at [prayerforisrael.co.uk/standingorders](http://prayerforisrael.co.uk/standingorders)

### A: YOUR DETAILS **REQUIRED\***



Title: .....Forename/s:.....  
Surname:.....  
Address:.....  
.....  
Postcode: .....  
Support Code/s (provide % if multiple):.....  
.....  
Email: 

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Date: ...../...../.....

### B: CHEQUES AND CASH PAYMENTS



Amount: £.....  
For cheques see 'our details' section and send the check with this form to the details

### C: CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS



Please ensure all details are accurate and complete to avoid payment rejection. Accepted cards: JCB, Maestro (UK only), Mastercard, Visa Credit, and Visa Debit (circle your card type).

Maestro Issue No: .....

Card No: 

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Expiry Date: 

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 3 Digit Security Code: 

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Name on Card: .....

Signature: .....

### D: STANDING ORDERS



Amount: £.....

Frequency: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

Start Date: ...../...../.....

To set up a standing order online please contact your bank

### E: RECEIPTS



Receipts are only issued upon request.

Please tick the box if you require an acknowledgement of receipt.

☐

### F: BOOST YOUR DONATION BY 25P FOR EVERY £1 YOU GIVE!



Tick the most relevant to you:

#### Section A

- ☐ I want a single one off gift aid to prayer for Israel  
☐ I want to Gift Aid this and future donations to Prayer for Israel.  
☐ Any donations that I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years as Gift Aid donations

#### Section B

- ☐ \*I am a UK taxpayer and understand I must pay enough tax to cover Gift Aid claims on all my donations.  
☐ \*I understand it is my responsibility to update PFI of any Gift Aid status changes.

Signature: .....

Date: ...../...../.....

# A Tragic Loss

*Edwin Christl*

*My mind is still numb; I could hardly believe it when I received the devastating news of the terrible accident that cut short the lives of Peter and Sandra Schupfart.*

*This special couple took on the ministry of PFI some four years ago with great dedication and faithfulness and were tireless in their endeavour to advance awareness of the growing body of Messiah in Israel. They made many visits to the praying members of PFI in our nation, offering encouragement, information, and prayer points to strengthen the believing body in Israel.*

*One of their innovations was a monthly Zoom meeting with different pastors and leaders of the Messianic community in Israel. This initiative brought firsthand knowledge of the various needs facing the fellowships, as well as an opportunity to get to know their leaders personally. What a joy it was to have these personal contacts.*

*Their passing leaves us grief-stricken, but joyful in the knowledge that God has called them home to glory. Their memory will live in our hearts forever.*

*In Yeshua's service,*

*Edwin Christl  
ex-Chairman of PFI  
Australia.*



*Peter & Sandra  
Schupfart*



Prayer for Israel was established to:  
Preach the Gospel of the Messiah by all means  
Foster Godly prayer events  
Provide Biblical teaching events  
Produce, publish and distribute Christian material  
Provide support and relieve need, hardship  
and distress in Israel and elsewhere  
The work has now continued for over 50 years.