



A NEW VIEW OF ISRAEL JOEL KRISCHER, PRESIDENT

Sharon and I have been privileged to travel to Israel numerous times and, as I write this, we are finishing up a trip with very close Catholic friends with whom we have traveled extensively, and who were making their first trip to Israel. We deliberately set the agenda to include all of the Christian related sites they most wanted to see in order to make it both more meaningful for them and different for us.

It is hard to put into words just how enjoyable and meaningful the trip has been for us as Jews, as Americans and as ardent supporters of Israel. While enjoying every place we stopped (some for the umpteenth time for us, others for the first time) we gained new meaning and insights for ourselves while also being thrilled in seeing our friends understand Judaism and more importantly, understanding and being enthralled by, the modern state of Israel. It is not too far of a stretch to compare it to seeing Disneyland through the fresh eyes of a young child.

At the outset, it is important to remember that, by and large, Jews and Christians agree about when and where Jesus (probably Yeshuah in Hebrew) lived and (holding aside a miracle or two) what he did. He was born in Bethlehem, had a public life of about three years ministering as a rabbi around the Sea of Galilee and died by crucifixion in Jerusalem. We obviously disagree on who he was – a man or the Mashiach. But as others much more biblically literate than I have pointed out, since both religions agree that the Mashiach is coming in the future, we can resolve that issue then by asking, "So, is this your first visit?"

In that spirit, we learned new things visiting both old places and new. At Caeseria, the Roman port city built by Herod the Great (yeah, that Herod), we learned that, according to the Book of Acts (New Testament), this was where the Apostle Paul was summoned for trial and languished in prison for over two years before being granted his right as a Roman citizen to have his case heard by Ceasar himself.

In Nazareth, we saw the Church of the Annunciation, the site where Christians believe the Virgin Mary received word from the angel Gabriel that she would conceive and bear the Son of God. The current building was built in 1969 over Crusader (1000-1200) and Byzantine churches (300-400) which in turn were built over a grotto which is built on the remains of what are believed to be Mary's childhood home. This is what makes Nazareth one of the most sacred places in Christendom.

We made four stops on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Capernaum, where we saw the remains of the synagogue where the then-rabbi from Nazareth ministered for three years.

Yigal Yadin Museum, where we saw the remains of a 2000-year-old boat. Even without any religious component this is an amazing story. During a drought in 1986, two members of the nearby Kibbutz Ginossar were walking along the uncovered silt and saw what appeared to be wooden nails sticking out of the mud. Then began an enormous effort by archaeologists and scientists to keep the wood moist (so it wouldn't turn to dust), keep it together while the mud was removed, cover it in polyurethane foam to actually "sail" it on the now-rising waters of the Galilee and remove it from the water, remove the polyurethane and finally treat it in a chemical bath in order to preserve and display it. The religious component is that it was found at the location, and is dated to the time, that Jesus and his disciples (many of whom were fishermen) were in the area. Did they sail on the boat? Did those that did sail on it know them?

Tabgha, what is generally considered the site of the Miracle of Loaves and Fishes, where we saw a modern church built over the mosaic floor of, and in the same style as, a Byzantine era church that preceded it.

Mount of Beatitudes on a hill overlooking the Sea of Galilee, traditionally considered the site of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The current building was built in the late 1930s near the site of another Byzantine church. (What is a Beatitude? The Simon and Garfunkle song, "Blessed," (from the Sounds of Silence album) quotes one: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit.") The Church is an octagon for the eight Beatitudes.

We also visited the site that the New Testament calls Ceasarea Phillipi, (later known as Panias during the Hellenistic period for the Greek God Pan, the god of desolate places) It sits near a grotto that feeds one of the springs at the base of Mt. Hermon that feeds into the Jordan and the Sea of Galilee, that is believed to be the site (about a 2-3 day walk from Capernaum) where Jesus revealed to Peter and his other apostles his mission to go to Jerusalem; kind of a game-planning session before the big game.

On our way to Jerusalem we made two stops related to biblical Israel. First, at the ruins of the Roman City of Beit Shean (where we had been before) we learned for the first time that this was the site where King Saul, and his son, Jonathan, both died in battle against the Philistines, prompting about-to-be King David to write his

Continued on page 2

THE VOICE MARCH 2018 A New View...Con't

"Song for Saul and Jonathan" (2 Samuel 1:25):

Your beauty, O Israel, is slain on your high places! How have the mighty fallen!....

(Why the coastal Philistines were fighting up in the northeast part of Israel is a story for another day.)

Our next stop was the Jordan River, on the border with Jordan, just south of Jericho, about 5 miles north of the Dead Sea. Three huge biblical events happened here: (1) where the Israelites crossed into the promised land and finally became a nation with a homeland, (2) where John the Baptist baptized Jesus/Yeshua and (3), where the prophet Elijah ascended to heaven.

From there we ascended to Jerusalem. After stopping on the Mount of Olives for a hazy overview of the Temple Mount we made a short visit to the Church of All Nations, built on the sight of the olive grove where Jesus and the apostles rested before going up to the Temple Mount.

Over the next few days we visited Mt. Zion, for a

look at the Room of the Last Supper (which is not really the room of the last supper, but a room in more or less the same air space in a building that replaced the building where the Last Supper was actually held).

We also went to Via Dolorosa, which we had only glimpsed in the past. It has almost innumerable churches from innumerable sects laid all around the Stations of the Cross, which we walked, ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, built over the site of the crucifixion, the Stone of Unction and, you know, the burial tomb, (i.e., the sepulcher). (The current street level in the old city is significantly above the streets of the time. Because of that, we made an interesting side trip to the Convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion which has beneath it ruins of the actual streets of the time.)

Through all of this, while we took great interest in the history of our stops, we also took immense joy from seeing how our friends were affected so deeply and spiritually. And we also took great joy in discussing and helping them learn about the Jewish history of Israel from North to South. They finally understood what the First and Second Temple Periods meant. They saw, touched and learned about what the Temple Mount is and what its history means. And they celebrated Shabbat with us and learned what it means to Jews and how they observe it (though they understandably found some customs perplexing). The reciprocity was indescribable. Each of us learned about the other's religion while reveling in the deep spirituality of our own. Imagine what this world could be like if that were an everyday occurrence.

But perhaps most gratifying is that, as the end of the trip approached, they said their favorite day was the one spent in the Golan Heights and how, for the first time they really understood the threats and dangers that Israel faced and how they started to understand the modern and political Israel (Prime Minister Netanyahu's legal problems surfaced during our first day in the country). They will return to the U.S. with a different and deeper understanding and appreciation for Israel as a 21st century nation. More on that front in next month's Part II of the trip.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MARCH 2018 ADAR/NISSAN 5778				1	2 5:32pm Candle Lighting 5:00pm PJ Library 6:30pm Shabbat Services	3 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat
4	5 7:00pm Nominating Comm Mtg 7:30pm Investment Comm Mtg	6 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1 7:15pm KM Choir	7	8 12:00pm Rabbi's Lunch n' Learn 6:30pm Intro to Judaism 7:00pm Challah Bake	9 5:38pm Candle Lighting	10 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat
1 1 9:00am RS 2-7	12 7:00pm Men's & Women's Club Event - WW1	1 3 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1 7:15pm KM Choir	14 5:30pm B'nai Mitzvah seminar (2 of 3)	15 12:00pm Rabbi's Lunch n' Learn 6:30pm Intro to Judaism	16 6:44pm Candle Lighting	17 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat
18 3:00pm Westside Chai 3:30pm KM Choir Concert	19 11:00am Yiddish Class	20 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1	21 6:15pm Exec Comm Mtg 7:15pm KM Choir 7:30pm Board of Trustees Mtg	22 12:00pm Rabbi's Lunch n' Learn	23 6:49pm Candle Lighting	24 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat
25	26	27 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1 7:15pm KM Choir	28	29 12:00pm Rabbi's Lunch n' Learn	30 6:00pm First night Community Seder 6:54pm Candle Lighting	31 9:30am First day Passover and Shabbat Services with Kiddush to follow

ANNIVERSARIES Mazel Lov!

Phillip and Marsha Furst 42nd anniversary Peter and Karla Gardner 18th anniversary Nicholas Mitchell and Dorine Kramer 35th anniversary David Packer and Lori Mendez 33rd anniversary Michael Norman and Susan Greenberg Norman 45th anniversary

Maury and Nancy Pearl 24th anniversary

Richard Roth and Yayoi Robinson Roth 10th anniversary Benjamin and Shaina Shapiro 10th anniversary

We celebrate the milestones of our community members!

Stephen and Judith Shapiro 50th anniversary Joseph and Naomi Yadegar 35th anniversary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR CONGREGANTS!

Allison Alter Samuel Averbukh Judith Baker Sara Barnard Elaine Behnken Alon Belman Martin Berkowitz Aaron Blake Noah Ezekiel Bolanos Rebecca Branda Bernie Bronstein Seth Etan Bronstein Susan Charette Brian Cohen Prissi Cohen Talia Coutin Israel Coutin

Eve Edelman **Thomas Erdosi** Kayla Eydel Ira Fistell **Caroline Fleiss** Benjamin (Benji) Fleiss Dorita Gotlieb Joyce Gottlieb Mark Gould Jamie Green Jennifer Jones Gerard Karsenty Matthew Kennel Joshua Kirschenbaum Olivia Margalit Kramarsky Brenda Krantz Sharon Krischer

Cathy Krop Rachel Kruglyak Anat Kuba Deborah Ellyn Kurtz Marcia Kurtz Norma Laine Nicole Laufer Helayne Levy Doreen Lewin Aaron Lewin David Lewin Andrew Lippman Cheryl Lorenzo Ness Moadeb Don Morris Donald Moses Ari Braden Moses

Lori Papernik **Brian Papernik** Mia Danielle Ricanati Eli Ricanati Loana Rosenblatt **Ellis Rosenblatt Richard Ross Benjamin Eric Rotberg Richard Roth** Yayoi Robinson Roth Perla Rothenberg **Baruch Rothenberg Baruch Rothenberg** Marla Rubin **Greg Samson** Darcy Savoy

Sloane Abigail Savoy Darcy Savoy Chloe Schwartz Graham Slater Rachel Solomon Alan Sperling David Ullendorff Abigal Ullendorff Allison Weiss Landon Robert Witt Jonah Wolfberg Tamar Wyte Marc Yure' Julie Ziegler Samantha Ziegler

CONDOLENCES TO

Lauren Levine and Barry Smith on the passing of Martin Levine, Lauren's brother, on Saturday, January 13.

CONTRIBUTIONS (as of February 23, 2018)

GENERAL FUND

Speedy recovery to Dorita Gotlieb, by Linda and Jack Topal

Mazel Tov to

Brana Hall on her birthday, by Elaine and Sherwin Olken, Linda and Jack Topal, Susan and Alan Sperling

Joel Strom on his birthday, by Mitch Silberman, Courtney and Julie

Sharone Weizman and David Meyers on the birth of their son, Ethan Nathaniel Meyers, by Gloria and Ellis Kirschenbaum

In memory of

- HIRSCH ADELL, husband of Judith Adell, by Stan Ziegler
- IRVING ALTER, father of Alan Alter, by Alan and Halina Alter
- DOROTHY ANDREW, mother of Gary Andrew, by Gary Andrew
- EDWARD BAKER,

brother of Manny Baker, by Judy and Manny Baker

• PHIL BAKER,

brother of Manny Baker, by Allison and Michael Goldberger

- FERN BIENSTOCK, mother of Bernie Bienstock, by Bernie and Beverly Bienstock
- HENRY BERKIN, grandfather of Larry Berkin, by Larry and Miyako Berkin
- HARRY COHEN, grandfather of Beverly Bienstock, by Beverly and Bernie Bienstock
- HELEN FRANKEL, mother of Judy Gottesman, by Stan Ziegler
- MORRIS GARDNER, father of Peter Gardner by, Peter and Karla Gardner
- JACK GOLDIN, father of Sharon Janks, by Sharon and Leon Janks

• WILLIAM GROSSMAN, uncle of Shelly Vedres, by Shelly and Thomas Vedres

- ZELMA KRAMER, mother of Jill Gotlieb, by Elaine Korowitz, Allison and Michael Goldberger
- ELIZABETH LEWIN,

sister-in-law of Marsha Latiner, by Marsha and Forrest Latiner

• PAUL LEWIS,

husband of Audrey Winograde, by Larry and Miyako Berkin

GEORGE LOUIS,

father of Carol Abrams, by Carol and Chuck Abrams

- GRUSHA PATERSON-MILLS, mother of Judy Baker, by Judy and Manny Baker
- ABE MOSES,

father of Don Moses, by Don and Lynda Moses

• ROSE OLKEN,

mother of Sherwin Olken, by Sherwin and Elaine Olken

LOUIS POSTERNACK,

father of Elaine Olken, by Elaine and Sherwin Olken

RUTH POSTERNACK,

aunt of Elaine Olken, by Elaine and Sherwin Olken

• MORRIS RADIN,

father of Allison Goldberger, by the Goldberger family

Continued on next page

THE VOICE MARCH 2018

Tributes con't...

PHILLIP RADIN,

brother of Allison Goldberger, by the Goldberger family

SYLVIA ROBBINS, mother of Sandi Diamant, by Sandi and Lou Diamant

HENRY SALBERG,

father of Jeffrey Salberg, by Jeffrey and Minda Salberg

- ESTHER GROSS SILBER, aunt of Shelly Vedres, by Shelly and Thomas Vedres
- SARA STERBA, mother of Les Sterba, by Gloria and Ellis Kirschenbaum

DAVID STROM,

husband of Shirley Strom and father of Joel Strom, by Shirley Strom, Joel and Holly Strom

WILLIAM STROM,

father-in-law of Shirley Strom and grandfather of Joel Strom, by Shirley Strom, Joel and Holly Strom

IRENE THOMPSON,

grandmother of Kim Israel, by Kim and Larry Israel

JOYCE WEISSMAN,

step-mother of Barry Weissman, by Barry and Linda Zwang-Weissman

MORRIS WITTENBERG,

father of Marsha Latiner, by Marsha aned Forrest Latiner

BERNARD WOLFBERG,

father of Ted Wolfberg, by Ted and Roselynne Wolfberg

CAROL ZIM,

mother of Valerie Zim, by Valerie Zim

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of

Zelma Kramer, mother of Jill Gotlieb, by Lori and Brian Papernik, Ellis Rosenblatt

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sharone Weizman and David Meyers on the birth of their son, Ethan Nathaniel Meyers, by Susie and Marc Yure'

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

A donation by Peter and Karla Gardner

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

A donation by

Peter and Karla Gardner

In memory of

Mimi Harris, aunt of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

Jennie Eckstein, grandmother of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

Joseph Gottlieb, grandfather of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

Zelma Kramer, mother of Jill Gotlieb, by David and Susan Oberman

Dear KM Family,

Dave and I are so grateful for the outpouring of love, welcoming and warmth from our congregational family. We cannot thank our KM family enough for all of your generous donations to KM on Ethan's behalf as well as your loving gifts and cards that have come to our home. In addition, we were blown away by the incredible overflowing Kiddush lunch sponsored by the Board of Trustees in honor of our new son. My entire family thanks KM from the bottom of our hearts for the beautiful and meaningful Shabbat services led by Rabbi Gotlieb and Cantor Cohen and for the meaningful honors including Aliyot and the Haftorah led by my father. The Religious School families put together a gorgeous, generous Moses gift basket filled to the brim with wonderful presents and goodies for Ethan and for the entire family. I am

eternally grateful for the love, support,

welcoming and warmth bestowed

upon me and my family during this



wonderous time of miracles. We are so blessed to have baby Ethan in our lives and could not be happier and filled with joy for our little miracle, gift from God, Etan Ness Natanel.

With love and gratitude, Sharone Weizman and David Meyers

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CLUB EVENT

WHAT YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT WWI PRESENTED BY-**IRAFISTELL&MATTMAIBAUM** MONDAY.MARCH12 7PM



Rabbi Cantor **Executive Director Director of Education & Youth** Head of Early Childhood & Arts **Events Coordinator Administrative Assistant Business Manager** Communications **Building Manager** President **Executive VP**

Michael Gotlieb Samuel Cohen **Kathie Rose** Sharone Weizman Masha Savitz **Cindy Roth Rose Piccirilli** Joanne Klein Mia Labowitz **Carlos Perez** Joel Krischer **Allison Goldberger**

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