

LCJE Bulletin

Issue 123, April 2016



"The LORD is my Rock and my Fortress"
PSALM 18:2

Networking Jewish Evangelism



Lausanne Consultation
on Jewish Evangelism



From the Coordinator

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Dear LCJE *mishpochah* (extended LCJE family),

This was originally your February 2016 Bulletin issue, delayed until April, for which I apologize. The May issue will also be delayed, but I hope to get our Bulletin production back on schedule soon.

We had a wonderful North American conference in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas from 22-24 February 2016 under Gary Hedrick and his staff's fine leadership. Dr. Randall Price was the featured speaker. Our next LCJE regional conference is scheduled for Australia from 20-23 June. It will be the fifth biannual AustralAsian conference, led by Bob Mendelsohn and will feature Dr. Michael Brown as the main speaker.

This issue opens with a devotional titled, "Why Do the Nations Rage?" by our new Israel Area Coordinator, Efraim Goldstein. I had the pleasure of visiting with Efraim and Jeannie at their home in Nahariya following this year's annual ICC meeting, which was held on February 12 at the Jews for Jesus Israel office in Tel Aviv. Many thanks to Dan Sered and his assistant, Simon Stout, for being our gracious hosts for that meeting.

Your ICC (International Coordinating Committee of LCJE) has now approved the location for our 2017 CEO conference. It will be held in Haslev, Denmark (near Copenhagen) from 8-12 May 2017, and ICC member-at-large Bodil Skjott will be our country host. Since the United Nations in its *World Happiness Report 2016* has designated Denmark as the "happiest place on earth," I am sure that we will have a wonderful and productive time! In this issue the ICC also responds to an important letter received during our conference time in Jerusalem from the "Under 40s" group (the ICC response is on page 21).

This issue contains the annual regional reports from our various regions as received from the Area Coordinators. Some are new and some have been updated from what was previously presented at our 10th International Conference in Jerusalem in August 2015.

Our financial reports for 2015, including both our regular income and expenses statement, as well as a report covering just the income and expenses related to the 10th International Conference itself, are found on pages 22-23.

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

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

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Front cover photo: *M'tsudah* ("fortress") in Psalm 18:2 also means "mountain stronghold." This photo shows the famous mountain stronghold of Masada, but from an angle not normally seen. It shows the Roman ramp on the upper right side of the mountain, built by soldiers of the Roman Tenth Legion and Jewish prisoners of war in order to finally overcome the last Jewish stronghold against the power of Rome. (Photo by the Editor. Feb. 2016)

Why Do the Nations Rage?

By Dr Efraim Goldstein, CJF Ministries

Days of rage and turmoil

These are days of rage and turmoil amongst the nations around the world. Every day brings more chaos and madness. Regional conflicts and local terror attacks are the norm. The media carries these conflicts, and when they are in remote or unfamiliar locations, we pass over it quickly. However, if the conflict involves people and places we are familiar with or where we live, we are affected.

When the conflict is nearby, it is hard to ignore the death and destruction that is a part of it. I live in the Israeli city of Nahariyya in western Galilee. We are eleven kilometres from the Lebanese border and a mere 125 kilometers from Damascus. This bloody civil war has so far killed tens of thousands of people and forced over 1 million people to become refugees. The ensuing conflict has helped given rise to ISIS and other murderous factions. If that wasn't bad enough, the Russians have inserted themselves into the conflict, adding to the massacres and chaos. The Syrian Civil War is so close that the brutality and human tragedy are difficult to ignore.

The situation is worsening, and the madness is spiralling out of control. Certainly the nations are raging and raining down death and destruction. The words of King David in Psalm 2 ring out truer now than ever: "Why do the nations rage, and the peoples murmur murderously?" (translation Peter C. Craig, *Word Biblical Commentary*, Vol.19 Psalms 1-50, Thomas Nelson Publishing Nashville, TN 2004). The translation by Peter Craig brings out the violent nature of the undertakings of the nations. This rage brings about violence and confusion. The nature of the murmur-

ings results in chaos and destruction.

Opposing the Messiah

All of the plotting and planning on the part of the nations of the world are ultimately in opposition to the Lord God and His Messiah. No amount of discussions and political analysis will get to the root cause of the conflicts in the world. The root cause is opposition to the Lord God and his Messiah. The antagonism to Israel that the nations have demonstrated throughout the ages is a part of their hostility against the God of Israel.

Recent studies in the Psalms bring us to the understanding that Psalms 1 and 2 are the pillars of the Books of Psalms. Psalm 1 lays the foundation for righteous living based upon the Torah. While, "the second major theme found in these two poetic pillars that runs throughout the book of Psalms is the person of God's Messiah, his perpetual dynasty and his permanent dwelling place." (O. Plamer Robertson, *The Flow of Psalms: Their Structure and Theology*. P&R Publishing, Phillipsburg, NJ 2015).

In Psalm 2, the nature of the conflict against God and his Messiah is first and foremost. The importance of Psalm 2 is that it is one of the psalms most frequently quoted in the New Testament. All of the rage and efforts on the part of the nations of the world in history are intended to overturn the rule of God and His will on earth. The feeble attempts of the nations are aimed against the earthly representatives of God and his earthly address, Zion. The attempts to overthrow and humiliate Israel, the body of Messiah and Yeshua himself are embedded in the motivation of the nations.

God's perspective

The Almighty's perspective is that the efforts of the world against him are pure vanity (verse 4). As a child, I remember my grandfather quoting to me the Yiddish version of this verse: "Man tries and God laughs." This was my grandfather's way of saying that the final word of our fate is in God's hand. A more theological way of stating that same idea is that the confidence of God's people rests in God himself who is unmoved by the vain efforts of earthly rulers.

A new king was coming whose rule would be established, and he would not be turned aside. The Anointed one is the Son of the Living God (verse 7). To the Son would be the ultimate homage and servant hood of the nations (verse 12). The proclamation and fulfilment of this message is that the Messiah has come and his name is Yeshua (Matthew 1:21).

"Kiss the son, lest He become angry and you perish" (verse 12) are the closing words of the Psalm. The act of kissing the son is an act of homage, a recognition that he is Lord and all peoples are his servants. It is a humble act of submission to a worthy and loving Messiah.

In these troubled times, we need to affirm the rule of God and his Anointed in Zion. Our hope is that God's rule will put aside the violence and suffering that envelops the earth today.

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LCJE President's Report - in Jerusalem

By Tuvya Zaretsky, LCJE President

Psalm 125:1-2 [ESV]

*Those who trust in the Lord are like Mt. Zion,
Which cannot be moved but abides forever.
As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
So the Lord surrounds His people
From this time forth and forever.*

Overview

The Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism convenes our 10th international quadrennial conference with the reading of Scripture and a prayer. We are gathered within those mountains surrounding this City of Jerusalem. In this setting, the good news of salvation in Yeshua was unsealed at His empty tomb. Excitement built in nearby neighborhoods with the first words that "He is risen." After that Pass-over week, and again 50 days later, after the Shavuot event at the Sha'ar Yaffa (Beautiful Gate), new believers carried that gospel (besorah) message out from this community into the Jewish Diaspora. The message penetrated the nations that were once far from the grace of God. It has transformed the lives of Jews and Gentiles, yours and mine. Yeshua has changed the world.

Historian Kenneth Scott Lattourette has said, "As the centuries pass, the evidence is accumulating that, measured by His effect on history, Jesus is the most influential life ever lived on this planet." That same good news of Yeshua is reaching Jewish generations in our time. We are energized by news of what the Lord is doing in our day. We are blessed to reflect on what has already been done. We have renewed hope for what is yet possible. I am reminded that the Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism is the only international network of Jewish evangelism efforts in the world today. We



Tuvya Zaretsky

are mission workers, denominational delegates, congregational representatives and interested partners. Among us are mission executives, area leaders, field workers, theologians, missiologists, practitioners, teachers, mobilizers, specialists and general missionaries. We welcome observers, and our guests, our brothers and sisters in Messiah Yeshua.

Others before us have met in similar conferences. Some of those first believers returned to this city with reports of the gospel outbreak among the Gentiles up north in Antioch; do you think they realized the impact of their discussions? They certainly didn't know that they were writing chapter 15 in *The Acts of the Apostles*.

What if those workers who attended the Jewish mission conferences in the early 1900's could have known the enormous tragedy that would befall the Jewish people by mid-century? Their reports by the 1930s tell us

that many saw what was coming. And how privileged we are, who followed them through the 1970s, to witness subsequent Jewish spiritual awakenings in North America, Europe, Eastern Europe and here in Israel.

What will others benefit from our reports this week? Think about how you can further the work of Jewish evangelism. Look for those new ideas, methods or partnerships. Pray that the Holy Spirit provides wisdom and faith to trust Him for whatever we shall do after this gathering.

What have we been doing since High Leigh?

What has our network accomplished since the 9th International LCJE at the High Leigh Conference Center in 2011? First, our relationship with the larger Lausanne Movement has improved and our connection is strengthened. We have been fully embraced as one of the 36 Issue Networks of the Lausanne Movement. We reciprocate by sharing the Lausanne logo, web link and the words, "Connecting Influencer and Ideas for Global Mission" on our website.

The Lausanne Board of Directors has invited Bodil Skjøtt and me to serve as Senior Associates for Jewish Evangelism. We function as liaisons and communication links with the Lausanne Movement and our LCJE network. The presence of Michael Oh, Lausanne Executive Director/CEO,

and Grace Matthews, Vice-Chair Lausanne Board of Directors, is a bright signal of the closer working relationship between the larger international movement and our network.

The North American LCJE network continued to meet annually between 2011 and through 2015. In 2014 alone the Israel LCJE network met in Tel Aviv. The European LCJE network held two conferences. Its 10th conference in Kiev, Ukraine, proved to be an important time of fellowship in the face of mounting political strife in the region. A subsequent conference was held in the fall to mark the 130th anniversary of the Messianic Movement Restoration in Kishinev, Moldova.

In October, the South African network held its bi-annual meeting in Cape Town with 150 attending. The LCJE Japan prayer network celebrated its 20th anniversary with September meetings in Osaka and Tokyo. Reports from these and gatherings of the regional networks in AustralAsia, Latin America and China have been reported online at lcje.net and in the LCJE Bulletin.

At the 9th International Conference, your International Coordinating Committee was asked to arrange a fourth LCJE CEO conference. That was in May of 2013 in Basil, Switzerland with 37 participants attending. They discussed social and political contexts of current Jewish evangelism ministry. Key discussion topics included the use of Internet and media for evangelism, women in Jewish ministry and how to serve and include the next generation in Jewish evangelism. At our 35th year, the LCJE network is an important subject at all of our conferences.

What will we do here in Jerusalem?

So that's where we have been active. Now for a reminder of what we will do here. Our five-fold network activities are stated in our charter:

- *Share information and resources*
- *Study current trends*
- *Stimulate one another's thinking on theological and missiological issues*
- *Strategize on a global level so more Jewish people will hear and consider the good news of Jesus*
- *Arrange consultations that will be useful to those engaged in Jewish evangelism*

Our general meetings this week are where we hear reports from the ICC and provide feedback about network business. We will elect the four members of the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) to do official business on behalf of the network. Those four members are the International Coordinator, the President and two Members-at-Large. Rules and procedures for nominations and election are available online. You will also be electing regional coordinators in separate gatherings of your area networks.

How will we related to one another?

Our purposes state that we are here to share and study, stimulate and strategize together. You will note that none of those purposes states that we are here to synchronize our efforts. God has called each of us to serve Him. We all do that with many unique capacities, methodologies, and ...personalities. We can all rejoice and agree that Jesus is the only Savior of Jews and Gentiles. No one can come to the Father but through Him. We delight to

hear what God is doing among, around and through His people.

We respect that our Lord calls each of us into our specific areas and methods of evangelism. Therefore, we need to listen to one another with patience and respect. The Lord is using each of us in our unique ministries to accomplish His purposes. As the Lord's servants, we ought to prefer one another above ourselves. We need not agree with one another. I don't expect that to happen in this life anyway! We trust that "iron sharpens iron," but we want to be careful that no one gets sliced up in the process! So, let us regard one another as servants of the Messiah Yeshua. I'm confident that He shapes each of us.

As a network, we are not trying to coordinate the efforts of all our members. That isn't one of our five purposes. We do want to connect and stimulate ideas for global mission.

I personally believe in the need for the LCJE network. I believe we need one another. I understand why Moishe Rosen said that if the LCJE network did not exist then we would have to create such a network. Even as the mountains surround the City of Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds us, His people. That is true for all and forever. I pray that He meets us all during this week. Let's pray.

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International Coordinator's Report

By Jim Melnick, LCJE International Coordinator

Welcome

Shalom and welcome to Jerusalem and the 10th International Conference of the LCJE! As your International Coordinator, this report is an overview of the main events that have occurred since our last international conference in High Leigh in 2011.

New agency members

First, we have added four new agency members (within LCJE we use the word 'agency' for organization, but the meaning is the same). Those four are: Life in Messiah International (my own mission), IRR-TV in Finland, the Southern Baptist Messianic Fellowship (SBMF) and Alliance Jewish Ministries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA). We are very pleased to welcome them. Also during this timeframe, FELM in Finland requested and withdrew their agency membership in LCJE. I am pleased to announce that Jewish Voice Ministries International (JVMI) has become a regular supporter of LCJE, which has been a big help to us.

LCJE Archives

During our 2014 North American conference in Wheaton, Illinois (near Chicago), we were able to establish good relations with the Billy Graham Center (BGC) concerning the possibility of housing our LCJE archives there. This is based on the fact that LCJE is part of the greater Lausanne Movement, whose archives are also being housed at the BGC, since Billy Graham was one of the founders of the Lausanne Movement. The ICC decided to go ahead with this option, and we are now in the first stages of preparing materials for the archives. I want to especially thank Tuvya our President and Susan Perlman for making the initial inroads in getting this underway at the BGC, and to past ICCs, including my predecessor, Kai Kjaer-Hansen, for all their preparatory work. Kathi Graham of LCJE North America has been our first person to begin preparing and submitting archival material to the BGC from her 'home repository'! This is a wonderful first step.

LCJE Europe - Kiev in 2014

The LCJE European regional conference in 2014 was held in Kiev during a time of great political turmoil and fighting. Thanks to the very able leadership of former European Area Coordinator Jean-Paul Rempp and our Ukrainian hosts, the conference went forward with great success despite these concerns, also welcoming numerous guests and speakers from the former Soviet Union. This was a great encouragement to our Ukrainian brethren.

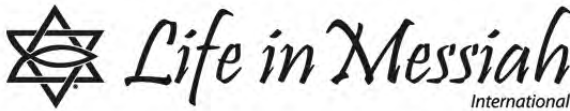
First Russian edition of LCJE Bulletin

In preparation for the 2014 European conference in Kiev, I developed our first LCJE Bulletin in Russian and also developed a Russian language section on our website for our Russian-speaking members and other believers.

LCJE Japan - 20 Years / Michael Oh's comment

Also during 2014, LCJE Japan celebrated its 20th anniversary, and I was honored to go to Japan to be a part of that celebration. At that time I also met with Michael Oh, CEO/Executive Director of the Lausanne Movement, who is based in Japan. As I have previously shared with our network, Michael remarked to me and to LCJE Japan member Isaac Ishiguro: "Jewish evangelism is part of our DNA" - speaking of the greater Lausanne Movement. This was and remains an enormous encouragement to us.

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*New agency/organizational members of LCJE
since 9th international conference*

Annual Report 2015 for AustralAsia

By Bob Mendelsohn, Area Coordinator, LCJE AustralAsia

Some history of the LCJE AustralAsian corner

In Pattiya in 1980, one Jewish believer from Melbourne, Miss Betty Baruch, a former schoolteacher, was appointed representative of LCJE for Australia. Her participation was limited and mostly figurehead. Following her in the role was Miss Joy Hickman, an accountant and host of Israeli travelers from Auckland, New Zealand. After her tenure, Lawrence Hirsch, who heads Celebrate Messiah in Melbourne, took the helm. No national meetings took place during anyone's tenure. Each made reports to the LCJE at the international level. In 2007, at the LCJE 8th International conference in Hungary, I was appointed AustralAsian representative, a new term with a wider geographic perspective. This new territory includes New Zealand, Singapore and other South Pacific islands. In Hungary, I met with the representatives of LCJE Japan and Hong Kong, as well as others from Australia, and we purposed to conduct an LCJE AustralAsian conference before the next international, which would take place in four years.

After meeting with some members from Melbourne a few months later, we decided to conduct that conference in 2009 in Sydney. This was historic. And since 2009 we have had three other such gatherings (2010, 2012, 2014). In other words, every two years we meet now with the purpose to convene those interested in Jewish evangelism along the principles and under the rubrics of the Lausanne covenant. Major speakers at these past conferences have included Darrell Bock twice, David Brickner and Wayne Hilsden. Our own representatives, including



Bob Mendelsohn

Mark Warren, our prayer chairman here at this conference, as well as Lawrence Hirsch, Ashley Crane, Kon Michailidis, Paul Cohen, and Scott Brown among others, have brought wonderful papers and led discussions.

Our next conference will be in Sydney in 2016 with Michael Brown as our main speaker. Natasha Michailidis, one of our members, continues as our historian and reporter of our conferences to the Bulletin of the LCJE.

Prayer matters

One of the major activities at each of our four conferences is prayer. We seriously pray together. At the start of each day, over 90% of the participants gather to seek God together and to listen to one another. It sets the tone for the rest of our interactions and we also pray for our works back home and situations that might arise. Also as we are a network we have had two different prayer chairwomen whose ministry among us, throughout the years, month by month, is to collect prayer requests from each ministry and each individual member,

collate them, and distribute these prayer targets electronically. We owe a great debt to both Marion Hall and now Juanita Doody, who continues in that voluntary post.

Locally

In Sydney since 2001, every four months on average, we have a meeting of leaders we title "JOOS" (Jewish Outreaches Of Sydney). It is sort of a mini-LCJE without papers being delivered. During this fellowship evening we hear stories from one another and pray for each other. We eat together first and have dessert after the somewhat formal gathering. We move from house to house over the years. It's a very helpful method to seriously care about each other in Messiah.

What about the churches...who gets it?

There is significant interest in Jewish evangelism among Asian Christians. The "Back to Jerusalem" movement is a Chinese-driven, 10/40 evangelism scheme, but features an ending in evangelism in Israel, even among Jewish people. Many Israeli Jewish ministries visit Singapore each year and find good reception. The Anglican cathedral there features "One New Man" meetings which highlight the linkage of the Christian church to her Jewish roots. Simply put, ethnic churches 'get it' when we speak about Jews needing a particular outreach to them. Generic (sometimes I title them 'vanilla') churches don't get us at all. This is true in New Zealand and Australia especially.

In Australia there is increasing interest in Jewish evangelism among only a small section of the Church. For most pastors, Jewish

evangelism is not on their radar. The issues the opponents of Jewish evangelism raise are usually either sociological or theological. For some Christians, any issue related to Jews is linked with Zionism, and in their view, usually ultra-Zionism, and as such is political only and not biblical. For others, particular evangelism, that is, reaching any subset of humanity, is not in keeping with biblical universalism, by which I mean reaching the whole planet, without emphasis on any one people group. For them, our emphasis on reaching Jews is racist. For other Christians, Jewish people had their chance in the first century and now are cast aside as a special people. Therefore our interest in reaching Jewish people is seen as unhistorical and certainly irrelevant. For other Christians our interest in Jewish people is theologically inaccurate since the Jewish people will be saved in a rapture-begun, dispensation to come, so our interest in them today is too early and thus a waste of resources.

All that said, within a slightly widening circle of Christians, Jewish evangelism is of notice and support. Income for Jewish Christian missions is up over the last decade in a dramatic fashion. Both of the major missions, Jews for Jesus and Celebrate Messiah have taken on staff and increased national and regional activities. Other missions carry on good work among Jewish people and/or among the churches in teaching about Jewish people.

Mention "Jewish people" to most Christians in Australia and they will consider this something of an oddity. Most will use adjectives like rich, cheap, or the phrase 'to jew someone down' without thinking of the derogatory nature of the labels. Most Sydney Christians think all Jews live 'over there' in the Eastern suburbs, and in Melbourne Jews live in Caul-

field and are an enigma. They wear those 'funny little hats' and have different rules about eating and worship on a different day. Evangelism? Most admit, "I wouldn't have a clue how to begin," or "I don't know any Jews." Anecdotally, a pastor in Caulfield North told me that he wasn't interested in having me speak at his church, since none of his parishioners knew any Jewish people, because the Jews all live in Caulfield South, approximately only eight minutes away!

Particular matters

There are mostly-English speaking messianic congregations in Australia, most notably the one in Melbourne. There are two Russian-speaking congregations. There are many small outreaches, each of which is faithful to Messiah's calling to communicate the love of God to His ancient people. For decades The Vineyard has been published by David House Fellowship, formerly "Jewish Evangelical Witness" and the previously-mentioned Mark along with his wife Robyn Warren, along with a great group of volunteers send out loads of those witnessing tools throughout the region. You have heard much already from Lawrence about the work of Celebrate Messiah in Far East Russia and their congregation in Melbourne if you went to those sessions. Celebrate is also hoping to build a messianic centre and art gallery on their current location in the heart of Jewish Melbourne. So I don't need to rehearse those good efforts.

New Zealand

Scott Brown among others in New Zealand in other organizations like HIT (with our friend Omri Jaakobovitch whose talk some heard on Monday night), and JFJ host Israeli tourists in their homes and camp to wel-

come them to NZ and to welcome them into the Kingdom of God, with commensurate discipleship.

Jews for Jesus: Making enquiries at the book shop

Jews for Jesus continues to operate as we do worldwide with broadsiding creative Gospel tracts and visiting one-to-one in Jewish enquirers' homes and offices. But we have a couple distinctives. One, our newsletter is translated each quarter into Chinese, Korean and Spanish from Australia. And our major distinctive for the last eleven years in Sydney has been a book shop in the middle of the Jewish neighborhood, in the centre in what is called Bondi Junction. With over 800 products from Israel, England, the US and anywhere and everywhere, it's a comfortable place for people to consider Yeshua for themselves. Each week at least one, and more often than not, several unsaved Jewish people enter the shop and enquire or argue or buy products.

Here is a typical example from three weeks ago. Chaim from Jerusalem came into the shop, wearing full chasidic regalia. Black and white with fringes abundant. He was wearing a fedora and on entry kissed the mezuzah. He asked if we had large kippot. I showed him our supply of kippot and he looked, but underneath his fedora he already had a large kippah! Why was he querying? Because he couldn't come in and make a simple enquiry; he had to have a 'real' reason. He left with a shake of the head and a lot to consider about our message of faith in Messiah. Some like Daniella came in and left with a Bible in her own language and she, a 26 year-old Jewish woman from South America, returned every week this year for four months to our Bible class. She's still not a believer, but we are delighted in her growth,

in her Bible reading, in her questioning, and in her being 'almost persuaded.' And God's not done with her yet. Others like Zeke do come to faith, after having come to the shop and meeting with our staff. It's an expensive proposition, but we find it a great entry point for people, especially our Jewish people, to discuss what really matters in life.

Yeshua Tsidkenu, Russian Messianic Jewish Congregation (Sydney, Australia)

Yeshua Tsidkenu (YT), under Pastor Konstantine (Kostya) and Natasha Michailidis continues to minister to Russian Jewish folk in Sydney as it has been doing for eighteen years. It meets as a congregation each Shabbat in a community centre hall in inner Sydney. The services are in Russian, and Ps Kostya preaches in English with an interpreter.

Each month YT runs a 'Club of Eternal Years' in Bondi Junction in the afternoon. It is for those who are interested in spiritual matters, or who think they might be, or who definitely are not but, 'gee, it can be lonely' in Sydney. We examine questions and watch videos on subjects like creation vs evolution, the historicity of the Bible and its events such as the Flood and the Exodus, the Holocaust, and Israel. Naturally we also tell some good jokes and funny stories. After the meeting we have a cup of coffee with

snacks. It has been a good introduction to faith in God for some.

Celebrating the feasts has always been part of the life of YT and has been a good opportunity to invite those who would not normally come to a Shabbat meeting or who have been coming to the Club of Eternal Years. At these times the congregation is out knocking on doors, handing out invitations and copies of literature, including our own.

The small congregation is a tightly-knit group that is always reaching out. Prayer for healing is a regular feature of our services and many have found the power of the Name of Yeshua for their physical as well as their spiritual needs.

The number in the congregation has remained fairly constant over the years. This is so in spite of the community ageing, many people dying, going into nursing homes or being house-bound.

Yeshua Tsidkenu is part of the Russian Jewish community in Sydney, called to reach out to Russian Jews with the good news of Yeshua through their congregation. It looks forward to reaching out even more as the Lord empowers, especially aiming to reach the next generation.

To summarize

Seventeen years ago I moved to Australia from New York City to found Jews for Jesus and have been privileged to preach in over

1,400 churches, Bible colleges and Christian schools. Along with my staff, our total rises to 2,500. We are finding people who really do want to reach the whole world with the whole gospel. Jews are coming to faith in Jesus, one at a time. Evangelism among Jews is happening in homes and in programs, in magazines and public events sponsored by David House, by CWI and JFJ and CPM and others. God is putting Jewish evangelism on the map of Australia. This is a good sign; we are encouraged and hopeful for the next decade if Jesus' return is delayed.

Thank you to each of you who participates in LCJE international and who guide it well. May you continue to remember the needs of the Jewish people in Australia, Singapore, New Zealand and beyond, and help us as required to make Jesus known among them.

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**Fifth Bi-annual LCJE AustralAsian
Conference: 20-23 June 2016
Naamaroo Centre, Chatswood NSW**

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Annual Report 2015 for Europe

By Rolf Gunnar Heitmann, Area Coordinator for Europe

Report from AMZI

2015 brought two highlights for amzi. The first was its participation in a day of study on the significance of both the entire people and the state of Israel for the Church. This event was hosted by the Theological Seminary of St. Chrischona near Basel (Switzerland), a branch of the Chrischona movement with churches in Switzerland, France, Germany and southern Africa. It was there that AMZI was founded in 1968. New Testament scholar Dr. Jacob Thiessen pointed out that most of his present day colleagues agree that no change in the meaning of the name "Israel" within the New Testament writings has ever occurred – this statement being an indirect repudiation of replacement and fulfillment theology. How popular these attitudes towards the Jewish people still are was demonstrated last fall in a thriving evangelical Anglican church in England where a young preacher put it like this : "There is a new Israel; it is us, the church."

Only weeks after that day of study both AMZI and St. Chrischona were in charge of an exhibition, designed by a Jewish-Israeli historian. This exhibition demonstrated the vital role that evangelical Christians from Germany and Switzerland played in the development of Eretz Israel in the second half of the nineteenth century, among them many graduates of St. Chrischona's Theological Seminary. In the Holy Land they joined Christians from the United Kingdom who had in their hearts and minds the restoration of Israel. Together, they served both the Jewish and Arab population of one of the most neglected and poor provinces of the Ottoman Empire, pioneering the establishment of schools and



Rolf G. Heitmann

hospitals. Their center was Christ Church, Jerusalem, the see of a joint Anglican and Lutheran bishopric, today the meeting point of both an evangelical Anglican church and a Messianic congregation.

AMZI specializes in partnering with both Messianic-Jewish and Arab-Christian followers of Jesus, the Messiah. Together with his wife, the pastor of an Arab Christian congregation in Israel spent several weeks in Germany last year, supporting an Arab pastor with building up a church consisting of Arab-speaking refugees. The crisis in the Middle East with the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees being welcomed especially in Germany is a huge challenge for Christians in Europe: How can we demonstrate to them the love of the living God, the father of Jesus, the Jewish Messiah? We are grateful for support by fellow Christians from the Middle East.

The Gospel of the Jewish Messiah is directed to all mankind with the Jewish people as its primary addressees. The Gospel is spread today by Jewish followers of the Messiah towards both fellow-Jews and gentiles – and vice versa. What makes these

days special is the fact that evangelism does not only take place cross-culturally; it is meanwhile also taking place between representatives of the same ethnic and cultural groups in countries that have become areas of refuge in a time of widespread violent conflicts, as the example mentioned above clearly shows.

Another example of the Gospel crossing political, ethnic and cultural boundaries: a partner of amzi, a gifted and committed Messianic Jewish female evangelist from Israel, was invited to Russia where she had the opportunity to share the Gospel at a Kabbalat Shabbat taking place at a university with an influential person in the political scene of the community as the most outstanding person among the audience. This (gentile) lady gave her heart to the Jewish Messiah, bestowed our partner with the role of a spiritual mother and re-invited her to teach the university staff on the Messiah later this year.

*Catherine Meerwein and
Martin Rösch, CEO*

Report from The Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ)

At the heart of the work of CMJ is sharing the Gospel faithfully and appropriately with Jewish people and equipping the wider Church to share in this task. During 2015, I rejoice in highlighting the following nine points:

- CMJ UK were able to see the beginnings of two new evangelistic ministries as our two recently appointed (part-time) Community Based evangelists (CBE's) began to develop their ministries. One is based in North London and one is based mainly alongside the Orthodox Jewish community in Manchester. Both of our CBE's gave encouraging reports to the

annual CMJ conference in the summer. Currently we know of seven Jewish people who have made first-time commitments (in 2015) to Jesus through these ministries, and those seven are now being supported and followed up.

- Ongoing street outreach continued in the Stamford Hill area of London as CMJ staff joined with other missionary staff and local volunteers.

- Three CMJ staff members invested time in sharing in outreach at two major New Age events.

- A new Hanukkah outreach took place in Trafalgar Square. This was pioneered by colleagues from Chosen People Ministries, and three CMJ staff members took part.

- The CMJ evangelism training course is in the process of being updated, and hopefully this will be available during the latter part of 2016.

- CMJ UK also continues to partner closely with CMJ Israel in terms of funding and providing other support for outreach ministries. Four CMJ staff shared in various Israel-based events during 2015, including a major distribution of Hebrew Scriptures in partnership with The Society for the Distribution of Hebrew Scriptures.

- CMJ UK hosted and led a prayer gathering for Jewish evangelism on Yom Kippur (23rd September). This took place in central London and about 30 people attended, representing a range of Jewish ministries.

- CMJ UK has invested in improving our website and social media presence and elements of this has a clear evangelistic dimension.

- CMJ UK has continued to build good supportive links with a number of Messianic congregations, and two staff members are attending the 150th anniversary of the BMJA later this year. Two staff are submitting chapters to a

major book which will celebrate this anniversary and offer a wide-ranging theological reflection.

Rev Alex Jacob, CEO CMJ (UK)

Report from Danish Israel Mission (DIM)

For the Danish Israel Mission (DIM), 2015 has been a year where we have had the benefit of workers in Israel who have been there for a good period of time and who have been able to establish and maintain the relationship we have with our different partners there. Over the last couple of years our focus has been on partnership in mission as part of our strategy, and 2015 has been a year to strengthen our work with regard to that. This has happened through our workers in Israel but also through bringing groups from our supporters to Israel and meeting with our partners there.

The goal has been to introduce our supporters to our partners and projects in Israel in order to create longer and stronger ties between them and help people to focus on what is happening in Israel in terms of mission and church-building relations. In a Danish context, the political situation in Israel gets all the attention, and often it is negative. We find that this influences how people perceive all that has to do with Israel – also mission work. However, it is a challenge to go from a congregational study tour to Israel to a partnership with a local congregation or a long-term involvement in a project. But we are trying!

To strengthen ties between people in Denmark and believers in Israel we have also in 2015 had visits from our partners in Israel on a speaking tour to groups and congregations. It has created good interest and support, but it still needs to be seen if this will be a long-term relationship or just an interesting visit. We see it as part of our work to involve

churches in Denmark in prayer and care for the Jewish people – in Israel and elsewhere. Despite the frustrations, we find that one of the best investments in Jewish mission and Jewish evangelism we as a small organization can do is to work through partnership and bless and inspire people in Denmark to be involved in our work through letting them know our partners.

We took part in the 10th International LCJE conference in Jerusalem in August and were able to participate with altogether nine people, of which seven were below 35. For some of them, this was their first introduction to the family of LCJE. Others were also at the European LCJE conference in Kiev in 2014. We find that it is important for our young people to be able to engage with others involved in Jewish evangelism. In Denmark we have very limited contact with the Jewish community and with others involved in Jewish mission. To be able to interact with others and hear what God is doing in other places is stimulating and helps all of us see where our small part in God's mission fits in. The network that LCJE provides for us is vital.

It is sad to say it, but one event last year that influenced the relationship between the Jewish community in Denmark and the Danish community at large was the terror attack at the synagogue in Copenhagen in February where the young Jewish man guarding the entrance was killed. Also, the Muslim community in Copenhagen came out and expressed their sorrow and condemnation of the attack. Prior to the incident there had been very heated discussion among politicians and others to make it illegal in Denmark to perform circumcision and also to make ritual slaughtering illegal. I am not sure if there is any connection, but since the terror attack and the killing of the young Jewish

man, legislation against Jewish customs have not been voiced. The discussion on the legislation provided an opportunity for us to come out in favor of the Jewish community in Denmark and their rights to live as Jews in our country. But we also realize that there is a long way from that to a qualified dialogue or inaction with Jewish people in Denmark. May we find the resource and the boldness to upgrade our work in this regard!

Bodil Skjott, CEO

Report from Yachad, Holland

As the support organization to Jewish evangelism, Yachad has been rooted in the Dutch Reformed Churches since 1986. Currently, the organization is hosted by the local congregation of Ommen-West, a town in eastern Holland, sponsored also by other churches in the region.

Yachad produced a proposal to become part of the structural central committees of the Reformed Synod, underlining the intentions of our Reformed Churches to the Jewish people. Although the Synod decided not to follow this strong recommendation, Yachad still continues to be governed by the church of Ommen in the coming years, acting on behalf of the Dutch Reformed Churches to the Jewish world.

In this context a lot of preparatory work was done by several (advisory) Board members. A variety of contacts were managed with several members and committees of the Synod. Fortunately, not all this work was in vain. Parts could even be made productive in continuing the support of Yachad to churches and Jewish groups in closer connection with centers and institutions, also from other denominations. This is important, as worldwide the efforts to invite Jewish people into Messianic reality are growing, and the Reformed Churches certainly have the ambition to

join this movement. We work and pray that the Lord will bless the extension of those networks.

Support to the Kol ba'Midbar congregation in Jerusalem and its related projects was evaluated during a field visit in the spring. Yachad decided to continue the support on a project-by-project basis and also to extend it where relevant to other projects in Israel.

The same Reformed Synod 2014/15 asked Yachad to expand its support to Dutch churches and stimulate and guide them in connecting to Jewish people. The programming for this was delayed because one of the core Board members, Elder Gerrit te Rietstap, suddenly passed away in August. This also caused some discontinuity in governance relationships within the supporting region. However, for early 2016, meetings with the new Dutch brand of Christian Witness to Israel are planned.

The support of Yachad to church groups to enhance knowledge and to get a feel for the way the Jewish festive holidays are celebrated was widely appreciated. It was decided to renew the way in which Yachad is communicating with its constituency and in-church target groups (website www.yachad.nl and Facebook) and preparations were started in this area.

Some planned changes in the Supervisory and Advisory Board occurred. Rev. Hoksbergen and journalist Aad Kamsteeg were replaced by Rev. R. de Boer and Douwe Slot, while journalist Andre Groenewegen committed himself to "special services" for the Board.

For 2016, an Action Day is planned for inviting churches, supporters and relationships in order to discuss actual issues and to keep connected to the ongoing work of God amongst the Jewish people. To be dedicated servants in this context is what

keeps Yachad going, also in times of disappointment, searching to intensify the cohesion of involvement and participation of Reformed people in this outreach.

*Rein Visscher
Section Netherlands / PR*

Report from Apple of His Eye, Russia

Since the world at this time is going through a difficult time, various circumstances can bring us to a state of indecision or even deep depression. But the Lord is good, so we continue our ministry.

Messianic online radio

www.mashiah.info

<<http://www.mashiah.info/>>
Our radio keeps on going; after almost ten years of operation, the number of listeners has reached the level of tens of thousands (at this point more than three million hits have been accumulated).

My friend and colleague Nikolas Haskin is currently recording new programs - both thematic programs, as well as interviews with interesting people.

Publishing activity

We also continue our publishing ministry. Nowadays we start preparing a new issue of the messianic journal 'SHALOM' together with the Finnish mission "Friends of Israel". After my relocation to Crimea, we began a new project — a Crimean Christian newspaper called the "WORD". In this newspaper, which prints six times per annum, there is a special column dedicated to Jewish themes. The circulation is 6,000 copies per year.

The ministry in Belussia

We continue our ministry in Minsk. After the immigration of Nikolas Haskin to Israel, his ministry in congregation KIDUSH was picked up Michael, which continues the quarterly ministry of food parcels for aged Jews -

one such parcel provides meals to one senior for one week. We ask you, our readers to pray for our ministry in Russia, Israel and Belarussia.

Rev. Alex Shepelev, CEO

Report from LCJE Finland

The activities of the LCJE Finland in 2015 - Juutalais-evankelioimisen Suomen työryhmä (JUST) in Finnish - consisted of two gatherings. The first one was the breakfast gathering for Finnish Israel ministries in the Culture Centre Sofia, Helsinki, on the 13th of April. For one morning we discussed our visions and ideas for reaching the younger generation. In the gathering we had members from seven ministries, with some 10 participants together.

The other gathering was on November 21st at the Finnish Bible Institute as part of the annual Israel conference. We arranged two workshops: first, concerning the vision of Jewish mission according to the Willowbank declaration, and second, concerning how to reach especially the young generation through the media. In these workshops we had some 40 participants.

The JUST group had six meetings. We form a network of many Jewish and gentile mission organisations in Finland, with some individual members also belonging to the group.

In Finland many organisations do this kind of work both in Israel and also in Europe. One new mission organization is starting to support work among Jews in Israel. The year 2015 was the 20th Anniversary of LCJE Finland.

During 2016, JUST plans gatherings, the topic being the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the Jewish Mission.

Since November 2009, LCJE Finland has also belonged to the Evangelical Alliance in Finland (Suomen Evankelinen Allianssi)

and is part of its networks.

*Juhani Koivisto,
Finnish Lutheran Mission*

Report from Finnish Lutheran Overseas Mission (FLOM)

Finnish Lutheran Overseas Mission (FLOM, in Finnish Lähetysyhdistys Kylväjä) is working on Jewish Evangelism in three different geographical areas: St Petersburg in Russia, Odessa in Ukraine, and in Israel.

In St Petersburg FLOM supports St John's congregation, which belongs to the Ingrian Lutheran church. Members of the congregation are Jews or have Jewish background. In Odessa, FLOM works together with Jews for Jesus. We support the evangelism and education work of JFJ, and we have sent one couple to work in co-operation with JFJ – Ukraine. In Israel FLOM works with the Caspari Center in Jerusalem, with Immanuel Ministries in Tel Aviv - Jafo, and with the Ebenezer elders' home in Haifa. We have sent four people to work in these initiatives, and we support their work.

New initiatives in 2015

There were no new initiatives, even though FLOM was discussing the possibility of joining the planning of JFJ's new work in Berlin.

Achievements and results

FLOM's work among Jews has continued, and gospel was preached to the Jewish people in all of these three places. Some people came to faith and were baptised, although there were no revival.

Trends

Berlin is once again becoming one of the places in Europe, where Jews live and could be reached with the gospel.

*Pentti Marttila,
Head of overseas work & supervisor for the work among Jews*

Report from Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel (NCMI)

Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel (NCMI) has a holistic approach on mission, which includes proclamation and evangelism, as well as deaconal ministry and involvement in society building. NCMI emphasizes partnership in mission and long-term commitments, based on our vision to share the Gospel with the Jewish people. In order to do that, NCMI is a sending organization, both through financial support and sending people for longer or shorter term ministry.

Israel

Through 2015, NCMI had five expatriate long term missionaries in Israel, based in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa. In addition, we have local staff, either employed by NCMI directly or through our partners. Four to five volunteers are sent each year to Israel for a period of 11 months to serve at institutions, congregations and organizations. In 2015 we sent short-term teams of youth to Israel for evangelism and practical support. NCMI is cooperating with a Bible college in Norway where a three-months' stay in Israel is part of their curriculum. For 2016 we are planning a mission trip to India.

Due to our relationship with, and power of attorney from Lutheran World Federation, NCMI is granted long-term visas for clergies and other expatriate workers. This is a privilege we want to keep.

Through our partners (Immanuel Church in Tel Aviv, Beit Eliahu Center and Congregation in Haifa, Caspari Centre in Jerusalem, Machaseh ministry in Jerusalem and Musalaha reconciliation centre) and our staff workers, we have been in touch with a huge number of people, and we have seen more people coming to faith and being baptised than before. A number of people are ap-

proaching our staff members for counselling and with their search for meaning in life. During Christmas 2015 more than 800 people attended our services and events at Immanuel church.

Our fourth programme of Bridgebuilders (reconciliation programme among Israeli, Palestinian and Norwegian youth) was finalized in Jordan in spring 2015. A new programme is starting up in fall 2016.

East Europe

NCFI is partnering with Jews for Jesus in Ukraine/Russia through a seconded worker. We also have partnership with Apple of His Eye Russia, supporting online radio ministry and publications, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of

Hungary through Gisle Johnson Institute, and the Messianic congregation "Mesiah lui Israel" in Bucuresti.

We have been involved in establishing a partner organisation in Sweden, and want to contribute to a similar establishment in Scotland in 2016.

Norway

The Lausanne movement in Norway has merged with The Evangelical Alliance and the ecumenical mission council into one body, NORME. The annual conference in 2015 had a special focus on reconciliation and Jewish Evangelism, with a guest speaker from Israel. More than 100 participants attended the conference. About 30 younger leaders

from different countries in Europe also gathered, preparing for the LCWE Younger Leaders Conference in Indonesia 2016.

A special missiology course for Norwegian mission leaders was arranged in partnership with Caspari Centre in Jerusalem in 2015.

*Rolf G. Heitmann, CEO
rolf@israelsmisjonen.no*

Europe to the Ural Mountains



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Introducing Our New LCJE Israel Coordinator — Efraim Goldstein



Efraim Goldstein

Sharing Yeshua in the Middle East

As the new LCJE Israel Area Coordinator, I realize my term of service comes during a time when dark clouds hang over Israel and the Middle East. My Jewish people are facing challenges as never before. We are embroiled in a conflict with Arabs that seems irreconcilable. As the conflict festers on, the prospect is only for more suffering and hardship for Jew and Arab alike.

My hope is that through the LCJE network in Israel, believers might have another channel for cooperation and sharing of resources. I further hope that through the LCJE network we can work together to proclaim the message of peace and hope that comes from Yeshua to the nations, forgiveness of

sins and new life in the Messiah.

For more than 35 years I have been serving the Lord in the proclamation of the good news to the Jewish people. In 1994 my wife, Jeannie, and our two sons immigrated to Israel, living in Tel Aviv. Now we are in Nahariyya, where I pastor the local congregation Or Hagalil. For many years we directed a national camp and youth program. My burden lies in evangelism and discipleship.

We serve with the CJF Ministries, and I am currently the International Director. I love hiking and am in the process of hiking the Israel Trail.

Efraim Goldstein
efraim.goldstein@gmail.com

**Visit the Lausanne Movement website:
www.lausanne.org**

Report from LCJE Japan

By Charles Klingensmith, Chapter President, LCJE Japan



Charles Klingensmith

Greetings from Japan

Shalom in Messiah Yeshua to all LCJE co-workers throughout the world. As the calendar speeds on from year to year, we are happy to report in this year 2016 that LCJE Japan has been supporting all of you in prayer, as in years past. We continue our basic activities of translating into Japanese articles and presentations from the *LCJE Bulletin* and various international and regional conferences, and publishing them in our own *LCJE Japan News* for our subscribers to read and use for prayer reference material. Also, we hold as usual monthly LCJE Japan prayer meetings in Tokyo and Osaka, with LCJE Japan Committee members speaking on topics related to the Jewish people, the Scriptures, and Jewish evangelism. Last year we hosted special events in Tokyo and Osaka, as well as reporting on topics from the 2015 10th LCJE International Conference, with myself (Klingensmith) as speaker.

Advocating for the Jewish People

In addition to our usual activities, we also continue to face our usual difficulties in appealing to the wider circle of churches and Christian organizations to join us in this work on behalf of Messiah and His Jewish people. We also are called to advocate not only for Jewish evangelism, but more basically for understanding and knowledge of the State of Israel, and the existence itself of the Jewish people, as Japanese people and the churches here often nurture blind spots towards these issues. Thank you for remembering us in prayer, even as we remember you!

*Charles Klingensmith
rehoboth@gol.com*

Annual Report 2015 for North America

By Gary Hedrick, North America Area Coordinator

Overview

For many of us here in North America, the highlight of 2015 was traveling to Jerusalem for our 10th international conference (with the theme "From Jerusalem and Back—An Unchanging Gospel") and the opportunity to meet with LCJE friends from all over the world. It was an amazing conference, and we would like to commend Jim Melnick (LCJE international coordinator), Tuvya Zaretsky (LCJE president), and David Zadok (Israel area coordinator at the time), as well as all of their helpers, for a job very well done. We all know that planning and organizing a conference like this takes a lot of time and effort!

10th International Conference Schedule

John Monson (from TEDS in Deerfield, IL) wasn't able to make the trip to Israel for the international conference, so Randall Price (from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA) graciously agreed to stand in for him on Monday as the sessions for that day focused on "The First Three Centuries." Subsequent centuries on the Messianic Jewish timeline were covered over the next several days, culminating with the 21st century on day four. The sessions were carefully and effectively organized, and the material was well presented.

Music

Another special blessing during the week was the music. Our worship leader was Jaime Hilsden (son of Wayne and Ann Hilsden), who serves as young adults and music coordinator for King of Kings Community in Jerusalem. Jaime is a gifted musician, and his ministry of music and worship turned all of our hearts toward



Torah scroll exhibit at LCJE-NA February 2016 conference in Dallas

Heaven. Thank you, Jaime!

A walk down memory lane at the Pavilion

King of Kings Community allowed us to use their Pavilion downtown to close out our conference on Thursday night. Susan Perlman led us on a walk down memory lane with a slide show of photos from past LCJE conferences. It was both nostalgic and entertaining to see some of us when we were much younger! It was sobering, as well, to see photos of dear friends who are no longer with us—reminding us that we stand on the shoulders of faithful Yeshua-followers who have gone before us, many of whom were true pioneers.

The skit

During the closing session at the Pavilion, we all enjoyed a dramatic skit by Murray Tilles and Rob Styler (playing Joseph Rabinowitz and Rabbi Lichtenstein). The script was written by Richard Harvey with a little help from Susan Perlman and Rich Robinson. Also, Jaime and his musical team led us in more worship during that final session, including an Arabic worship song that is being used in many of the Messianic congregations in Israel these days. This musical blending of cultures (Hebrew and Arabic) in worship was a powerful reminder

that Yeshua is the real answer to reconciliation in the Middle East—and everywhere else, as well.

2015 North America Conference in Vancouver

Earlier in the year, we had our North American LCJE conference in Vancouver (April 20-22). Our theme was "Messiah at the Exclamation Point—Evangelism and Reconciliation in the Land." We had a good number of informative and helpful presentations during those three days. On Tuesday afternoon we all enjoyed some free time and spread out all over the downtown area. What a lovely city! The much-acclaimed Anglican theologian J.I. Packer—who is associated with Regent College in Vancouver—attended our Wednesday evening banquet. We are grateful to Professor Donald Lewis (Regent College) and Tuvya Zaretsky (Jews for Jesus) for helping us make Dr. Packer's appearance happen. This dear brother is almost 90 years old now and has been in the news lately because he's now blind from macular degeneration. But as someone commented in a recent piece in *Christianity Today* magazine, Dr. Packer "sees" more even in blindness than many people do who are fully sighted. I'm sure he would appreciate your prayers whenever his name comes to mind.



J. I. Packer at our 2015 LCJE North America conference in Vancouver

Responding to current issues

Last year, two issues arose that some of us felt required a response. The first issue had to do with an article that appeared in a Lausanne publication in January 2015. The article in question took a critical tone regarding pro-Israel Christians and also made some misleading statements in attempting to establish its case. Michael Oh, CEO and Executive Director of the Lausanne Movement, wrote a remarkable rebuttal of the article, corrected the misleading statements, and instructed the publication to issue a retraction. A link to Michael's letter is available on our North American webpage (www.lcje-na.org), as well as on the LCJE international website at www.lcje.net.

The second issue came up when the Vatican issued an official document in December 2015 entitled, "The Gifts and Calling of God Are Irrevocable," declaring that Jewish people are exempt from the requirement of believing in Yeshua the Messiah in order to be saved. Jim Melnick, LCJE international coordinator, issued a statement on December 12 in which he affirmed, on behalf of our LCJE constituency, that "... whereas the Jewish people were not strangers to the covenants and promises of God, ... they still stand in need of reconciliation to God through the Messiah Jesus" (The Lausanne Cape Town Commitment [2010], II. B). This statement is also available as a PDF on our LCJE websites.

By the time you read this, we will

have concluded our 2016 North American conference in Arlington, Texas (Dallas-Fort Worth, Feb. 22-24), and our sights will already be set on our next meeting in Denver, Colorado (March 6-8, 2017). It would be wonderful to see some of our international friends next year in "the Mile High City"—home of the world champion Denver Broncos (if you follow American football)! Please consider this your invitation to join us there.

*Gary Hedrick
garyh@cjfm.org*

**LCJE 2017 North American Conference
6–8 March 2017
Denver, Colorado**

Annual Report 2015 for South Africa

By Cecilia Burger, LCJE Area Coordinator, South Africa

Overview

Greetings from LCJE South Africa! I'm pleased to mention that, apart from myself, five members from South Africa attended the 2015 international conference in Jerusalem – John Atkinson (CMJ), Manfred & Isit Nochomowitz (Emet Ministries) and Michael & Teresa Sischy (Jews for Jesus).

LCJE Membership

We have 17 members in South Africa – 12 in Cape Town and 5 in Johannesburg. Our members represent the following ministries committed to reaching Jewish people with the gospel:

1. CMJ South Africa in Cape Town with John Atkinson and Edith Sher.

Since 2007 John and Edith have been holding quarterly half-day conferences at Christ Church, Kenilworth in Cape Town called Roots & Shoots. These conferences focus on the Jewish roots of the Christian faith and draw 300-400 people at a time. They also lead a weekly Bible study, which is regularly attended by 70-100 people.

Edith presents a weekly radio programme called "Messiah's People" on a local Christian radio station reaching both Christians and Jews. Many people in South Africa and around the world now listen to the programme via the Internet.

2. David and Jonathan Foundation in Cape Town with Jack Carstens

promotes covenant friendships between churches in South Africa and Messianic congregations in Israel with the main objective to assist Messianic congregations in spreading the Good News. Recently another partner congregation, Trumpets



Cecilia Burger

of Salvation, led by Yacov Damkani, was incorporated as the 12th member to receive donations from the supporters of the Foundation.

To engage the public in efforts to support these congregations, the Foundation holds regular Shabbat meetings during the year. In 2014 the Feast of Tabernacles celebration was attended by over 1,000 people.

3. Emet Ministries with Manfred and Isit Nochomowitz in Pretoria.

They hold Messianic Shabbat services (with the aim of inviting unsaved Jewish people and reaching them with the gospel), prayer meetings (praying for the salvation of the Jewish people and Israel), teaching seminars and equipping weekends (equipping people to reach Jewish people with the gospel) in the four main cities in South Africa. In Cape Town Emet Ministries partner with David & Jonathan Foundation and in 2014 ran a teaching seminar with the topic, "How to reach your Jewish neighbour."

4. Jews for Jesus South Africa.

Michael and Teresa Sischy are running the Messianic Congregation, Beit Y'shua in Johan-

nesburg, and the Johannesburg work of Jews for Jesus: with weekly Bible studies, Shabbat services and festival celebrations as appropriate during the course of the year. They coined three key words to embody the vision and focus for Beit Y'shua: "Word-Worship-Witness" - creating and making available opportunities for members to engage in all three.

In 2014 they also ran an evangelism seminar called "reaching your Jewish neighbour" in partnership with Manfred Nochomowitz of Emet ministries.

One of the highlights of 2014 was an evening celebrating 25 years of Jews for Jesus in South Africa. At this occasion the late Maisie Pillemer, a pioneer in Jewish mission in South Africa was honoured, and her biography, *Dared to believe* Dared to believe, was launched. The year's activities ended on a high note with an evangelistic outreach in Cape Town with volunteers and staff of Jews for Jesus from the USA and South Africa teaming up under the banner "Arise, shine, your light has come!"

5. Messianic Testimony with Leigh Telli in Cape Town.

One of the main areas of her ministry is at a retirement home in Sea Point, Cape Town, which houses a large number of elderly Jewish residents. Leigh has been ministering there for approximately a decade. Leigh is often a guest on a Christian community radio station, Radio Tygerberg, and she runs an annual conference where Israeli believers have been amongst the speakers for the last couple of years.

6. Simcha Ministry to Jewish People in Cape Town

Both Francois Wessels and I are

members of the Beit Ariel Messianic Congregation, where we participate in the life of the congregation. Francois often preaches during Shabbat services, and I'm involved in helping to organise the celebration of the Jewish festivals, particularly the Passover Seder. These celebrations provide us with the opportunity to invite Jewish and Christian friends who are not part of the congregation.

Francois is a frequent speaker on the weekly Israel programme of a local Christian radio station. Visits to Jewish friends, and efforts to share the Good News with them, as well as weekly Bible Studies form important parts of the ministry. Simcha Ministry joined David & Jonathan Foundation and have been arranging meetings with Jewish believers in Yeshua and other Christians since 2012.

Prayer meetings

The distance of about 1,200 km between Cape Town and Johannesburg makes it difficult for LCJE members to meet regularly. Up to 18 months ago we had bi-monthly prayer meetings for members in Cape Town. I hope to resume these meetings again in the near future.

CONFERENCES

Since the High Leigh International LCJE conference we had two national conferences in Cape Town:

24-25 August 2012 – He is our Peace (Eph 2:14)

From 24-25 August, LCJE SA hosted a conference with "He is our Peace" (Ephesians 2:14) as the theme. The guest speaker was pastor Umar Mulinde from Uganda. Umar Mulinde is an ex-Muslim, who survived a terrible attack on Christmas Eve 2011. His attacker threw acid into his face and he was badly burnt. He was treated in Sheba Medical

Centre in Israel where doctors at one stage feared for his life, but by the grace of God he survived. He arrived in Cape Town ten days after his last operation, and by that time he had already had five major operations and there were more to follow.

To hear him fearlessly proclaiming his love for God and the Jewish people inspired us all. He quoted Genesis 50:20: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Pastor Mulinde told us that in the eight months since the attack he was able to reach more people with the gospel than during his entire time in ministry. This was a unique conference bringing believers in Messiah Jesus from diverse backgrounds together.

Amongst the 150 who attended there were Messianic Jews, Christians from a Moslem background, and other Christians.

31 October – 1 November 2014 - "Our Journey" Conference

In line with the theme, "Our Journey – Meeting the Jewish Messiah," we had six Jewish believers in Messiah Jesus sharing their testimonies at our LCJE SA conference from 31 Oct – 1 Nov 2014. The idea was to engage in conversation with these believers and to learn from their experiences, so as to be more effective in reaching Jewish people with the Gospel. Many people who attended became aware, once again, of the importance of sharing the gospel with Jewish people. Too often in the past Jewish people have been side-lined.

Our Journey-booklet

We compiled a booklet, *Our Journey – Meeting the Jewish Messiah*, available at the conference, containing the testimonies of 15 Jewish believers in Yeshua who

found their Messiah in South Africa. At the moment we are in the process of collecting more testimonies. We want to reprint the book to use as a ministry tool.

I thank the Lord for the LCJE network that presents a wonderful platform encouraging cooperation between the various organisations working in the field of Jewish evangelism.

*Cecilia Burger
simchaministry@gmail.com*

Open Letter Response to “Thoughts and Wishes from LCJE Under 40s”

From the LCJE International Coordinating Committee (ICC)

Editor’s Note:

Although this open letter is from the entire ICC, I wish to especially thank ICC Member-at-Large Dan Sered for his work and input in preparing our response.

Dear LCJE Members:

At the 10th International Conference in Jerusalem, those under 40 met during a late session and composed a thoughtful, gracious letter to the ICC. We want to thank them for their words which have challenged us and have moved us to actively respond. We share in their concern of not seeing enough under 40s engaged and involved in LCJE.

During our daylong meeting, held in February 2016 in Tel Aviv, the ICC devoted an agenda item and spent ample time discussing this important issue. Namely, as LCJE and its members are growing older, we concernedly ask ourselves, “Will the LCJE die with us?” Our desire, and we know yours as well, is that we can firmly answer, “May it never be.” The purpose of this letter is to respond to this pressing matter and to move LCJE forward in a way that benefits our network and all of its members.

The LCJE network is an organism dependent on its membership for actions and engagement. As the newly elected ICC, we want to reach out to our younger members saying that our desire is to come alongside them as they participate, write, present, and lead our network into the future. We are committed to seeing them succeed and to having

them move us forward.

Therefore, we are committing the LCJE network and ourselves to the following goals:

1. Encouraging all CEO participants to invite a young, upcoming leader from their organization/ministry to attend the 2017 CEO conference (individual invitations to CEOs will be sent out in the near future)
2. Sending fifty percent of our speaking invitations for the 2019 LCJE international conference to our under 40 LCJE members; These invitations will be to speak on all topics and areas of interest.
3. Communicating with all LCJE area coordinators to invite, engage and encourage our under 40 LCJE members in their own areas. We suggest that local area coordinators consider sending fifty percent of speaking invitations for their local conferences to LCJE members under 40 as well.
4. Publishing papers and articles from our LCJE under 40 members in the *LCJE Bulletin* and on our Facebook page. Therefore, we call on all of our members, especially those under 40, to submit proposals for devotionals, articles and papers on whatever topic that you wish. Please contact the LCJE international coordinator, Jim Melnick (lcje.int@gmail.com) with your proposals.

We know that we have much to learn. We want to do better in developing, encouraging and standing alongside our next generation. Our prayer is that this open letter is a good start. We are in this together, and we want to see our LCJE network grow healthier and stronger. So, to our members

under 40 who took it upon themselves to write us a heartfelt letter, we say, “Thank you for caring and for believing in LCJE!”

Sincerely,

Dr. Tuvya Zaretsky,
LCJE President

Jim Melnick,
International Coordinator

Bodil Skjott,
ICC Member-at-Large

Dan Sered,
ICC Member-at-Large

Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism

2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT - LCJE International (INCOME & EXPENSES - 31 December 2015)

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

Balance in accounts	(as of 12.31.2014)	\$27,194.44
Cash balance in accounts	(as of 12.31.2015)	\$17,956.09

Income and Assets for 2015

Membership dues (Agency & Individual)	26,205.74
Balance forward from 2014 surplus	9,238.35
Foreign cash reserves on hand (in USD equivalencies):	2,155.85

TOTAL 2015 INCOME & ASSETS **\$37,599.94 USD**

Expenses for 2015

Reimbursement for administration	0.00	<14,500>*
Accounting fees	200.00	
Operations		
10th International Conference deficit	6,908.29	
Credit card balance	~5,000.00	
Bank fees	1,806.66	
Printing (LCJE Bulletin)	5,384.47	
Finance charge	18.73	
Foreign transaction fee	34.38	
Foreign exchange	33.24	
Office supplies	307.60	
Postage, mailing services	3,640.39	
Copying & printing	60.00	
Web hosting (LCJE.net)	191.52	
Other Expenses		
Miscellaneous	549.77	
Travel insurance	285.08	
Travel, conferences & meetings	1,081.11	

TOTAL 2015 EXPENSES **\$25,501.24 USD**

NET ORDINARY INCOME (ACTUAL) **\$12,098.70 USD**

[BUDGETED NET ORDINARY INCOME] <2,401.30>

*EXPLANATORY NOTE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR:

The figure of <\$14,500> represents a budgetary deficit based on the approved budget for 2015. Given that some expenses going into the 10th International Conference in Jerusalem in August 2015 were higher than anticipated, combined with the fact that several years' worth of generally higher levels of operational expenses for LCJE were also higher than anticipated, I as your International Coordinator personally requested and the ICC in November 2015 approved a declination of reimbursement for administration (salary) for 2015. On that basis, net ordinary income for 2015 (actual) was \$12,098.70. If the administration for reimbursement had been taken, that would have left a budgeted net deficit of <2,401.30>. We are starting out 2016 with new plan to re-build a surplus in preparation for our next international conference in 2019. Dues collection for 2016 has already been robust, for which I thank the members and the diligent work of our LCJE Secretary, Christine Fulcro. With God's help, I have every confidence that we will be able to meet all of our obligations and plans over the next four years.

10th International Conference - Jerusalem (16-21 August 2015)

INCOME (Conference-related)

Online registration income for conference.	
Gross online sales	62,617.25 USD
Checks and wire transfer registrations:	80,116.45
Offering at the Pavilion (20 August 2015)	2,562.42
(total included \$USD, Euros, NIS and other currencies)	
Donations for meal subsidies	2,000.00
Payments from day attendees	6,834.00
Caspari Center/Apple of His Eye-sponsored reception	3,000.00
(paid to LCJE post-conference)	
Discount from tour company (credit)	5,115.00
Post-conference registration payments	2,509.00

TOTAL INCOME: **\$164,754.12 USD**

EXPENSES (Conference-related)

Hotel registrations (room and board)	
International guests	\$101,268.00
Israeli guests staying at hotel	9,340.00
Individual meals for day guests	14,299.00
Online vendor fees for services	2,501.49
Meeting room rentals, hotel equipment rentals	26,427.00
Non-hotel equipment rentals	5,800.00
Buses to the Pavilion	1,230.00
Conference program printing expenses	692.08
Car rental (conference support)	1,013.30
Flash drives for conference	1,135.66
Music groups	1,400.00
Reimbursement for travel (conference)	3,190.88
Refunds for cancellations	1,900.00
Donation to Pavilion company toward rental costs	1,465.00

CONFERENCE COSTS **\$171,662.41 USD**

Conference total (deficit): **<\$6,908.29 USD>**

Any questions or requests regarding our financial statements should be directed to me as your International Coordinator.

Jim Melnick
LCJE International Coordinator and Treasurer
lcje.int@gmail.com

LCJE FACEBOOK and TWITTER Accounts



LCJE FACEBOOK ACCOUNT:

LCJE.Intl



LCJE TWITTER ACCOUNT:

@LCJE_Intl

TO ALL LCJE MEMBERS: For those who are on Facebook or Twitter, please take the opportunity to 'like' our new LCJE Facebook page and to 'follow' our new LCJE Twitter page!

UPCOMING LCJE MEETINGS

LCJE AustralAsian Bi-annual Conference
20–23 June 2016
Naamaroo Station, Chatswood NSW, AUSTRALIA

LCJE North America Conference
6–8 March 2017
Denver, Colorado, USA

CEO Meeting
8–12 May 2017
Emmaus Conference Centre, Haslev,
DENMARK (near Copenhagen)



Caspari Center - *Media Review*

CASPARI CENTER for Jewish and Biblical Studies

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

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Israel Director.

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THE ISRAEL DIRECTOR

CMJ Israel is looking for a mature leader who is both a skilled communicator and manager, to take up the position of Director of CMJ Israel from October 2016.

The Director provides leadership to the CMJ staff and direction to the projects that they lead. Projects include a major building project, educational institutions, guesthouses and conferences and tours.

The ideal candidate will have at least 7 years' experience in leading an organisation and the ability to manage complex business processes. Experience of working in Israel would be a definite advantage. Tertiary qualifications in management and/or business, human resources and theology would strengthen your application.

Interested persons may apply for further detailed information about the position.

Applicants may send their CVs (with at least 3 referees) plus a half page letter of motivation all in pdf format to:

The Chair of the CMJ Israel Board john@cmj-sa.org



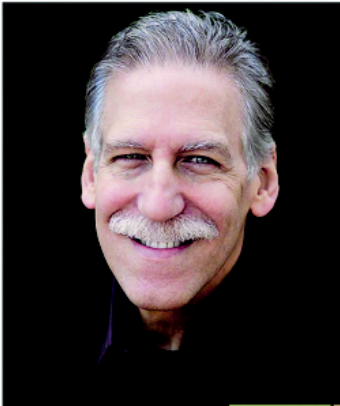
Rainbow over the Old City, February 2016



LCJE CONFERENCE

20TH - 23RD JUNE 2016

LANE COVE, SYDNEY AUSTRALIA



THE PREMIER BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON
JEWISH EVANGELISM IN AUSTRALASIA

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

DR. MICHAEL BROWN PH.D

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MESSIAHIC RABBI & DIRECTOR OF
CELEBRATE MESSIAH



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AUSTRALASIAN DIRECTOR OF
JEWS FOR JESUS



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DIRECTOR OF CHOSEN PEOPLE
MINISTRIES NEW ZEALAND



DR. ASHLEY CRANE
AUSTRALIA'S LEADING MESSIAHIC JEWISH
AUTHORITY ON OT STUDIES

Fifth Bi-Annual AustralAsian Conference
June 20–23, 2016

Naamaroo Centre, Chatswood NSW
AUSTRALIA

Networking Jewish Evangelism



Lausanne Consultation
on Jewish Evangelism

President Tuvia Zaretsky [tuvya.zaretsky@jewsforjesus.org](mailto:tuvia.zaretsky@jewsforjesus.org)

International Coordinator Jim Melnick lcje.int@gmail.com

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