

# The Holy Land

## *Yesterday and Today*

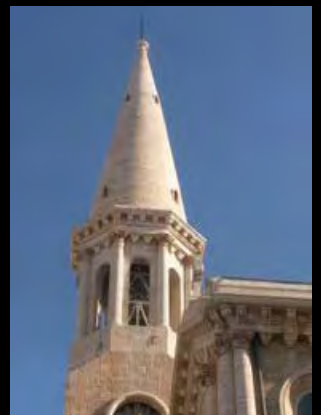
February 8-18, 2010 11 Days

Hosted by Reverend Eric & Kris Shafer, Trinity Lutheran Church



### *Tour Highlights*

- See the stories of the Bible unfold as you walk as a pilgrim along the paths of Christ and the early church with a Christian guide
- Visit Nazareth, where Jesus grew up
- Enjoy a relaxing boat ride on the Sea of Galilee
- Take an optional float in the Dead Sea
- Visit various ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) and see how the world's only Arabic-speaking Lutheran church ministers faithfully in a unique context.
- Visit the Church of the Nativity and Manger Square in Bethlehem
- Dialogue with the Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb of Christmas Lutheran Church about the role of Christians in the Palestine/Israel conflict
- Walk the Palm Sunday Road and the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem
- Experience the highlights of Jordan during visits to Madaba, Mt. Nebo, Bethany-beyond-the-Jordan and the ancient rock city of Petra



## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### MON, 08 FEB Depart USA

A meaningful journey of learning and discovery begins today. Board your aircraft and relax on your international flight to Amman, Jordan. (Meals in-flight)

### TUE, 09 FEB Arrive Amman

Upon arrival in Amman, meet your guide and driver. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the Old City, and possibly visit the Lutheran Church. Transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight. Golden Tulip Hotel (Meals in-flight, D)

### WED, 10 FEB Amman/Bethlehem

Depart Amman, and visit the Christian village of Madaba to see the ancient mosaic map of the Holy Land. Then drive to Mount Nebo from where Moses viewed the Promised Land. Standing atop the hill you overlook the Jordan Valley, Jericho and the Judean hills beyond. Continue to Bethany-beyond-the-Jordan. This is the recently opened site that is thought to be the location of Jesus' baptism by John. Travel to the Jordan/Israel border; after clearing Customs and Immigration, you will be met and greeted by your Christian guide and driver. Board your private motor coach and drive to the archeological site at Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. The last stop of the day will be at the Dead Sea, where you will have time for an optional float in this unique body of water. Transfer to Bethlehem, and check into the Intercontinental Hotel Bethlehem. (B, D)

### THU, 11 FEB Bethlehem

Start the day with a walking tour of the Old City of Bethlehem, including Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity. Then board your coach for a tour of Dar al Kalima School & Wellness Center, a part of the ELCJHL ministry. Visit a classroom, and learn how this complex, which serves Palestinians living in the West Bank – Christians and Muslims alike, brings hope and healing to a suffering community. Visit the Kanda Gift Store, where you will see the Separation Wall up close. Visit Shepherds' Fields in nearby Beit Sahour (which means Place of the Magi). This is the best place to view Bethlehem, as it would have been seen by nearby shepherds during the time of the birth of Jesus. Return to Bethlehem for a tour of the International Center of Bethlehem (ICB), which is connected to Christmas Evangelical Lutheran Church and a part of the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land. Here you will see how the ICB empowers local Palestinians by offering training in various fields for employment, among other causes. Followed by a dinner meeting with Rev. Mitri Raheb at Il Ilyeh Restaurant. Overnight at Intercontinental Hotel Bethlehem. (B, D)

Rev. Mark and Marcia Holman



Pastor and Mrs. Eric and Kris Shafer have made multiple trips to the Holy Land and are eager to share this holy place from its ancient roots to its present challenges with you. In addition to the Middle East, the Shafers have traveled extensively in North and South America, Europe and Africa. This trip provides the special opportunity of visiting with Trinity's missionaries, Pastor and Mrs. Mark and Marcia Holman, in Jerusalem. We also hope to have time with Bishop Munib Younan who visited Trinity in 2007. Join us!

*Eric and Kris Shafer*

### FRI, 12 FEB Bethlehem/Galilee

Drive to the Galilee, and travel along the shore to Tabgha for a visit to the Church of the Beatitudes, one of the most beautiful in the Galilee. Continue to the Church of Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes. Visit the Ancient Synagogue and St. Peter's House at Capernaum; this is where Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law and others. There will be time for lunch on own at St Peter's place. End the day with a peaceful boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Check into the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

### Galilee/Nazareth/

### Caesarea/Netanya

Drive to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation, the Greek Orthodox Church and Mary's Well. There will be time in Nazareth for lunch on your own. Continue to Caesarea, once the Roman capital of Palestine. See the Crusader fortifications, the Roman amphitheater, aqueduct, and the harbor from where the apostle Paul was taken to Rome. Transfer to Netanya for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

### SUN, 14 FEB Galilee/Jerusalem

Drive to Jerusalem for worship at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer followed by lunch with Pastor Mark Holman and/or Bishop Younan. The remainder of the day is at your leisure for personal reflection and independent activities. Overnight in Jerusalem. (B, L)

### MON, 15 FEB Jerusalem

Start the day at the Temple Mount or Haram al Sharif, with the Al Aqsa Mosque, sacred for the Muslims, second only to Mecca; continue to the Western Wall, the holiest site in Jerusalem for Jews; and then walk the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa ending up at the Church of Holy Sepulchre. End your day with visits to the Church of the Ascension where Jesus ascended to heaven after his resurrection, and the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus instructed his disciples in the Lord's Prayer. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B, D)

### TUE, 16 FEB Jerusalem/Petra

Meet with Rev. Mark Brown (LWF regional representative) this morning, visit Augusta Victoria Hospital located atop the Mount of Olives, and hear the story of the work being done there. Savor the stunning panoramic view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, walk down the Palm Sunday Road stopping at Church of All Nations and Gethsemane. There will be some time for lunch on your own before departing Jerusalem this afternoon. Cross the border into Jordan, and clear Immigrations. Travel southward, cross-country through the desert to the village of Wadi Musa, which nestles around Petra. Check in at your hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

### WED, 17 FEB Petra/Dead Sea

This morning tour Petra, the rose-red city carved out of the mountains, which was lost for 1000 years. As you draw near Petra you have the choice of walking or taking a carriage through the dramatic "ciq" or canyon (cost of the carriage ride is not included). From the 3rd century B.C. to the 2nd century A.D., the Nabateans made Sela Edom (red rock city) their capital and carved buildings befitting their status along an important trade route. Visit the most interesting carved monuments such as the elegant Treasury (Al Khazneh), the field of tombs, and the colonnaded street. Travel to your hotel on the Dead Sea. Join the group for a farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

### THU, 18 FEB Return to USA

Transfer to the Amman Airport for your home-bound flight. Arrive home this same day enriched with a new understanding of the ancient and contemporary world of the Holy Land. (B, Meals in-flight)

Code: B Breakfast, L Lunch, D Dinner  
Itinerary subject to change.

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Round-trip economy class airfare from New York/JFK via Delta Airlines or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier.
- Nine nights accommodation in superior tourist hotels and Christian guesthouses, double occupancy, with private facilities. Hotels as listed or similar.
- Breakfast daily, lunches and dinners as outlined in the itinerary.
- Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach.
- Extensive sightseeing throughout; entrance fees included.
- Luggage handling of one piece per person.
- Experienced English-speaking tour guides from arrival in Amman through departure.
- Gratuities to drivers and guides (for your convenience, \$140 per person has been included).
- Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently \$400 per person).
- Israel/Jordan Border Taxes (currently \$50 per person).
- Jordan visa (fee currently \$47 per person) is required for U.S. citizens; GTD will assist with processing. No visa is required for U.S.

citizens visiting Israel and Palestine; non-U.S. citizens may require a visa.

- Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name tags, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

deposits; October 6, 2009 – February 1, 2010 – Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; February 2, 2010 or after– No refund.

**CHANGES TO GROUP FLIGHTS:** The group airfare contract for this tour may not allow travelers to make any date or itinerary changes. If you are considering other dates or cities, please submit your request in writing well in advance to secure the best rates and schedule, but no later than October 6, 2009. A minimum fee of \$175 per person will apply for changes to group flights in addition to a possible airfare increase.

**LATE BOOKINGS:** Passengers registering within thirty days of tour departure will be charged a \$50 per person fee. Tour payment in full is required before we can request and confirm space. This fee does not cover any additional airline or ground service charges.

**Items Not Included**

- Fuel surcharges and/or tax increases levied since the pricing of this tour.
- Beverages other than coffee/tea at breakfast.
- Any meal or sightseeing item not listed in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature.
- Optional insurance for health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption is not included and highly recommended. Please refer to the Travel Insurance section.
- Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.

**TOUR CONDITIONS**

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** Your reservation and deposit of \$400 per person are requested immediately to fulfill the group deadline requirements. Note that space is limited and reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis. A second payment of \$1000 is due October 6, 2009. Final payment is due December 4, 2009. For credit card payment Group Travel Directors accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

**REFUND POLICY:** All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for partial or unused land arrangements. Note: Airline tickets will be issued well in advance prior to departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to October 5, 2009 - \$100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable

**NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:**

*Please be assured that GTD continually monitors industry events, such as airline strikes and bankruptcies, etc. If any such events affect your tour, you will be notified. At the time this tour was developed there was a U.S. State Department Travel Warning in effect for this destination; please refer to the following website for current information or call Group Travel Directors. [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/tw/tw\\_1764.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)*

**COST SUMMARY**

**\$3940**

Group Flights From New York/JFK

Tour Gratuities (\$145).....Included  
 Airport/Foreign Departure Taxes (\$400).....Included  
 Visa (\$47).....Included  
 Israel/Jordan Border Taxes (\$50).....Included

*Costs per person based on double occupancy in USD*

**Optional Individual Supplements**

Single Room\*.....\$449

*\*In addition to base tour cost  
 Very limited availability on request basis.  
 GTD can assist in finding roommates;  
 however, this can not be guaranteed*

**Roundtrip motorcoach to JFK \$85 paid to Trinity Lutheran Church by separate check.**

**Costs:** The tour cost is per person based on current airfare from New York/JFK (other cities available), double occupancy, tariffs and currency valuations as of August 2008, a minimum of 30 travelers, and subject to confirmation. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed price and/or itinerary, they are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Single room supplements may have limited availability and are on a request basis only.



Dead Sea Scroll Cave

**RESERVATION APPLICATION • APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.GTD.ORG G# 100201 OR PHOTOCOPY, CLIP AND MAIL**

Trinity Lutheran HL • February 18, 2010 • (G#100201) • Group Travel Directors • 2000 W 98th Street, Bloomington, MN 55431

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address (no P.O. boxes please) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Day ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate \_\_\_\_\_

*Advise if we can assign you a roommate or single supplement. GTD can assist in finding roommates; however, this can not be guaranteed and the supplement may apply.*

**PRE-EXISTING medical conditions and other circumstances are covered when insurance is purchased at the time of reservation / deposit. Contact Travel Insured for more info. 800-243-3174**

**FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (please check one)**

- I/We will take the group flights from New York/JFK.
- I/We will need assistance with flight arrangements from \_\_\_\_\_ airport to join the group.
- I/We will make all of my own flight arrangements  
*Please contact GTD for land-only rates.*

**DEPOSIT/TRAVEL INSURANCE (please check one)**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s) for me/us; we choose the following deposit option:

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$568 per person inclusive of travel insurance for the tour.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$400 per person without travel insurance. I/We decline now, but understand it can be purchased later without the pre-existing waiver

**Form of Payment**

- Check
- Charge my deposit(s) to  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
 Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name as it appears on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to Group Travel Directors G#100201.**

I/We have read and understand the conditions of this brochure.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Parent or guardian signature is required for travelers under age 18.*



For more information, contact:

**The Rev. Eric C. Shafer**  
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 1000 West Main Street  
 Lansdale, PA 19446  
 Tel: 215-368-1710  
 Fax: 215-368-5844  
 Email: eshafer@trinitylansdale.com

Or

**Group Travel Directors**  
 2000 West 98th Street  
 Bloomington, MN 55431-2593  
 Tel: 952-881-7811 or 800-747-2255  
 Fax: 952-881-6276  
 Email: groups@gttd.org  
 www.gttd.org

**GTD TRAVEL INSURANCE**

Travel insurance is included as an option with the initial tour deposit and is highly recommended. GTD offers a competitive policy from an independent company. By purchasing insurance at the time the tour deposit is made, you can be covered for events that may cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip, i.e., pre-existing medical conditions (certain restrictions apply). If you decline travel insurance at the time of reservation, you may purchase it within 14 days with the pre-existing conditions waiver or you may purchase it later without the pre-existing conditions waiver. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174.

**CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY**

Group Travel Directors (GTD) provides customized travel planning throughout the world for group travelers who have a variety of reasons and goals for travel. The goals and/or opinions of these groups do not reflect or imply the position of GTD in any matter. Brochure contents may not be duplicated without permission from GTD. In offering these travel arrangements, Group Travel Directors, Inc. (GTD) acts solely as an agent for the sale of air transportation and other travel related services. GTD maintains no control over the personnel, equipment or operations of any entity furnishing services, products or accommodations. GTD assumes no responsibility or liability for, and shall not be expected, asked or required to pay for any injury, damage, expense, personal injury, property damage, inconvenience or any other loss experienced by reason of: (1) any intentional, wrongful, negligent or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any supplier, its agents or employees; (2) any defect, breakdown or other failure of any vehicle, equipment, service, product or other instrumentality which is owned, operated or otherwise used by a supplier; (3) any intentional, wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any other party not under the direct control of GTD; (4) financial problems causing nonperformance by any supplier; or (5) any other cause, condition or event whatsoever beyond the direct control of GTD. GTD cannot guarantee any rates, bookings or reservations of any supplier. Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the foregoing provisions. All prices quoted are subject to change if airlines or ground operators increase their prices, the U.S. dollar is devalued significantly against foreign currencies, the group falls below minimum numbers, or a fuel surcharge, government tax or user's fee is imposed. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. GTD reserves the right to withdraw from any tour any tour member whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the group as a whole. The above Conditions and Responsibility also includes Reverend Eric and Kris Shafer, Trinity Lutheran Church and its affiliates.

**GTD TRAVEL INSURANCE INCLUSIONS**

Trip Cancellation.....	up to Tour Cost*
Trip Interruption.....	up to 150% of Tour Cost**
Travel Delay.....	\$750
Missed Connection.....	\$300
Baggage.....	\$1,000
Baggage Delay.....	\$200
Medical Expense.....	\$50,000
Evacuation/Repatriation.....	\$500,000
Accidental Death.....	\$10,000
Assistance Service.....	included
	* a maximum of \$4000 per person
	** a maximum of \$6000 per person

Cost of this optional GTD Travel Insurance is **\$168** per person. Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered.



Gethsemane



The Dead Sea



Potter



Church of the Beatitudes

