



2017 LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IN THE HOLY LAND

October 16-29, 2017 14 Days

Host: The Reverend Dr. Mitri Raheb and the Diyar Consortium
Leaders: Mike Abel, John Lindner and Susan Wilder

This program offers new and creative ways to understand and respond to the context of the Israel/Palestine conflict. It raises the possibility of different strategies for resisting the power of empire and supporting those who both struggle against it and suffer its daily injustices and violence. This is an in-depth program during which new insights, experiences and strategies will be explored.



DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

MON 16 OCT

Depart USA

Depart Washington Dulles on your transatlantic, overnight flight via Turkish Airlines. (Meals in-flight)

TUE 17 OCT

Arrive Tel Aviv/Bethlehem

- Arrive Tel Aviv, meet the bus and guide for transfer to Bethlehem.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (Meals in-flight)

WED 18 OCT

Bethlehem

- Briefing and tour of Bethlehem followed by a meeting with the Mayor of Bethlehem.
- Afternoon presentation by Dr. Jad Isaac, environmental expert and Executive Director of the Applied Research Institute.
- Late Afternoon, Our Story: The Palestinian Narrative, Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, President of the Diyar Consortium.
- Welcome dinner with Mitri Raheb.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

THU 19 OCT

Bethlehem

- Morning transfer to Hebron with briefing on the situation in Hebron.
- Meeting with the Mayor of Hebron.
- Visit Ibrahim Mosque, followed by lunch and touring the old city of Hebron.
- Meet with settler at Cave of Machpelah.
- Dinner at Il Illiyeh Restaurant followed by debriefing.
- Evening meeting with veterans of the Israeli military.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)

FRI 20 OCT

Bethlehem

- Leave to Jericho and the Jordan Valley.
- Jordan Valley briefing on water and environmental issues.
- Lunch on own and free time in Jericho.
- Visit to the village of Zochrot.
- Dinner at Il Illiyeh Restaurant.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

SAT 21 OCT

Bethlehem

- Morning hiking in Battir, a world heritage site.
- Lunch at the Battir Heritage Kitchen.
- Afternoon program on Cremisan Valley and Home Demolitions including visits with families.
- Dinner with representative of the Carter Center office in the West Bank.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)



We invite pastors, church leaders, educators, and other professionals committed to the struggle for a just peace in Israel/Palestine to participate in this leadership experience. The aim of this program is to gain a deeper understanding of the current realities in Israel/Palestine as well as to view the Holy Land through a new, biblical/theological lens. This opportunity is open for people already interested in the region, who are committed to making a difference and investing in hope.

The study tour will explore the question: Where do we go from here on the journey toward peace, human rights and building bridges of understanding? The program will highlight the experience of

courageous Palestinians attempting to build a future even in the face of occupation.

The Palestinian Christian community in the 2009 Kairos document sent out a cry to the Christian community abroad saying "Come and See." This invitation is even more urgent in 2017, fifty years after the 1967 war. Come and see the facts on the ground, listen to diverse narratives, be inspired by ministries of hope, and consider future directions for advocacy and support. We hope you will join us for this ecumenical program of faith and learning.

—Mike Abel, John Lindner,
and Susan Wilder

SUN 22 OCT

Bethlehem

- Morning Worship at Christmas Lutheran Church.
- Lunch at Il Illiyeh Restaurant.
- Tour of Solomon's Pools and the new museum in Artas Village.
- Special tour of Church of the Nativity restoration.
- Dinner at The Grotto Restaurant.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)

MON 23 OCT

Bethlehem

- This is the day when we meet with Israelis. We begin with a tour of Jerusalem and conversation with settlement expert and human rights advocate Daniel Seidemann.
- Meeting with "Arab Joint List" member(s) of Knesset.
- Dinner with Dr. Alon Liel, former Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and an International Relations lecturer at Tel Aviv University and the Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

TUE 24 OCT

Bethlehem

- Visit Al-Aqsa Mosque plus meeting with Prof. Mustafa Abu Sway.
- Lunch at student café and program with political science faculty at Al Quds University.
- Free time in Jerusalem Old City with free evening.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L)

WED 25 OCT

Bethlehem

- Diyar Ministries tour. Day at Dar Al-Kalima University College and meet with students and staff.
- Lunch prepared by culinary program at the university.
- Meeting with Ambassador Hind Houry, Gen. Secretary of Kairos Palestine and former PLO Ambassador to France.
- Dinner at Il Illiyeh Restaurant.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)

THU 26 OCT

Bethlehem

- Visit Rawabi, a new Palestinian City.
- Meet with Dr. Michael Sabbah, the former Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem for lunch in Taybeh.
- Tour Taybeh village and Taybeh Beer Brewing Company and Taybeh Winery.
- Conversation & Dinner about business and economics in Palestine with Zahi Houry and Sam Bahour in Ramallah.
- Return to Bethlehem.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)

FRI 27 OCT

Bethlehem

- Visit Ramallah.
- Meeting with PLO Negotiations Office.
- Lunch with leading Palestinian women.
- Visit Arafat Tomb and Darwash Museum.
- Return to Bethlehem.
- Dinner at Il Illiyeh Restaurant.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, L, D)

SAT 28 OCT

Bethlehem

- Free morning and early afternoon in Bethlehem.
- Group debriefing and discussion.
- Farewell dinner with Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb at Il Illiyeh Restaurant.

Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

SUN 29 OCT

Return to USA

- Early departure with box breakfast for transfer to Ben Gurion for flight check in and departure at 8:50A.

(B, meals in-flight)

Code: **B**reakfast, **L**unch, **D**inner
Itinerary subject to change.
Speakers subject to availability.

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 June 13, 2017. Final payment is due August 11, 2017. For credit card payment Group Travel Directors accepts Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.

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 of departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to June 12, 2017 - \$100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable deposits; June 13 - October 1, 2017 - Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; October 2, 2017 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 June 13, 2017. 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.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- AIRFARE:** Round-trip economy class airfare from Washington Dulles via Turkish Air Lines or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier.
- ACCOMMODATION:** Twelve nights accommodation at Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse, double occupancy, with private facilities (overflow to the Grand Hotel).
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily with seven lunches and ten dinners as outlined in the itinerary.
- GROUND TRANSPORT:** Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach.
- SIGHTSEEING:** Extensive sightseeing throughout; entrance fees included.
- PORTERAGE:** Luggage handling of one piece per person.
- EXPERT GUIDES:** An experienced English-speaking tour guide from arrival in Tel Aviv through departure from Tel Aviv.
- GRATUITIES:** Gratuities to drivers and guides (for your convenience, \$144 per person has been included).
- TAXES:** Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently \$503 per person).
- ALL THE INFO YOU NEED:** Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name badges, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

PRE-EXISTING medical conditions and other circumstances are covered when travel protection is purchased within 14 days of registration. Contact Travel Insured for more info. 800-243-3174

COST SUMMARY

\$3999

From Washington Dulles

Tour Gratuities (\$144).....Included
Airport /Departures Taxes (\$503).....Included
Costs per person based on double occupancy in USD

Optional Individual Supplement

Single Room.....\$329
In addition to base tour cost. Limited availability.

Costs: The tour cost is per person based on current airfare from Washington Dulles, double occupancy, tariffs and currency valuations as of February 2017, a minimum of 22 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. *Not all bookings have been made and all space/rates are subject to availability at time of booking.*

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 travel protection: trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. Please refer to the Travel Protection section.
- Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.
- No entry visa is required for U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens may require an entry visa.

RESERVATION APPLICATION • APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.GTD.ORG G#171008• OR CLIP AND MAIL

Bright Stars: Holy Land • October 16-29, 2017 • (G#171008) • Group Travel Directors • 2000 W 98th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55431

Name as it appears (or will appear) on passport:

1. _____ Male Female Date of Birth _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

2. _____ Male Female Date of Birth _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

Address (no P.O. boxes) _____ Tel. (Day) _____ (Eve.) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Email _____

Roommate _____ I will pay the supplement for a single room.

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

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (please check one)

- I/We will take the group flights from Washington Dulles.
- 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 PROTECTION (please check one)

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

\$ _____ \$624 per person **inclusive of travel protection.**

\$ _____ \$400 per person **without travel protection.**

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#171008

I/We have read and understand the conditions of this brochure. Parent or guardian signature is required for travelers under age 18.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____



GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION

Travel protection is optional, but we encourage all travelers to purchase a plan. GTD offers an extensive and competitively priced plan from Travel Insured International. Travel protection can help provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. If you decline coverage at the time of reservation, you may purchase it later, but the Pre-existing Conditions Waiver is available only if the plan is purchased within 14 days of the initial trip deposit. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174. Review your Plan Document for Schedule of Benefits and Plan Details.

GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION 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
Political Emergency Evacuation.....	\$100,000
ID Theft Resolution Services.....	included
Assistance Service.....	included

* a maximum of \$4000 per person
 ** a maximum of \$6000 per person

Cost of this optional GTD Travel Protection is \$224 per person. Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered. Travel protection is non-refundable fourteen days after you purchase a plan.

This document contains highlights of the plan. The Plan contains insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. Fairmont Specialty and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best Company 2015. The Plan also contains non insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization, OnCall International, and not by United States Fire Insurance Company or Travel Insured International. Review the Plan Document for complete terms, including benefits, conditions, limitations and exclusions that apply. The Plan Document will be provided to you upon purchase of the plan. Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions.



NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:

Please be assured that GTD continually monitors travel industry developments (strikes, etc.) as well as world events. If any such matters 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/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>

For more information, contact:

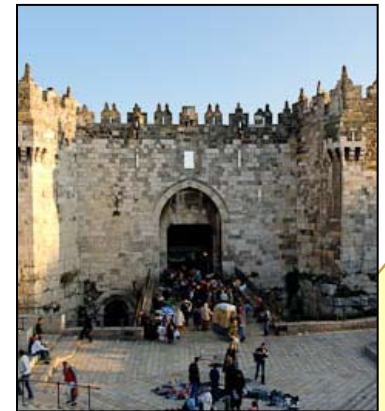
John Lindner
 26 Fowler Lane
 Middlefield CT 06455
 tel: 203-627-5327
 email: lindnerjb@gmail.com

or

Group Travel Directors
 2000 West 98th Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55431-2593
 tel: 952-881-7811 or 800-747-2255
 fax: 952-881-6276
 info@gtd.org
 www.gtd.org

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 covers the group leader(s) and their respective organizations.



About Our Host

Mitri Raheb and the Diyar Consortium

Born and living in Bethlehem, Palestine, The Rev. Dr.

Mitri Raheb is a world-renown champion of peace. He was ordained as a pastor in the Lutheran church in 1987 and has been serving since as Pastor of Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem, Palestine.

He has received a number of international awards including the 2016 Olof Palme Prize, the 2012 German Media Award, the Lux Mundo Award, the 2007 Peace Award of Aachen, and many more.

Widely regarded as the most prolific Palestinian theologian of our times, Raheb has also written numerous books and articles. His book "Faith in the Face of Empire" is a best seller. Raheb has received global media attention from outlets and networks including CNN, ABC, CBS, BBC, The Economist, Newsweek, Vanity Fair and more.

The Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb is President of the Diyar Consortium, which will host the program and serve as "home base."

About Our Leaders



Mike Abel is a Palestinian-American who has worked in healthcare for most of her professional life. She has traveled to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza many times on peace and medical missions. In 2009, she was part of a diplomatic pilgrimage with the is Council for the National Interest, visiting five Middle Eastern countries and Israel. In 2011, she spent three months on her own work-study program in Palestine/Israel. Currently, she is on the board for Delaware Churches for Middle East Peace. She is the co-founder of DelNATO (Delaware Neighbors Against the Occupation) and the recipient of the 2014 Peacemakers Among Us Award from Pacem in Terris. Through her advocacy work, she presents to a wide range of audiences, students, churches, and peace/justice organizations on the current environment in Palestine and Israel. Most recently she has returned from Bethlehem, Palestine, where she participated in a leadership conference.



John Lindner is retired as Associate Dean for External Relations, Yale Divinity School. He spent over a quarter century providing leadership for international, ecumenical/interfaith programs for the PCUSA, the National Council of Churches (NCCUSA) and the World Council of Churches (WCC). He served as writer for the task force that produced the NCCUSA's Middle East Policy (1980). He first traveled to the Middle East in March 1974 and was an intern in Beirut with the Middle East Council of Churches in 1975. Over the years, he has traveled many times to the Middle East; served on the Leadership Council of Churches for Middle East Peace and was on the Board of A Different Future. Currently, he volunteers with Bright Stars of Bethlehem as coordinator of the annual Leadership Program and as editor of the blog: "Peace Doers... building a future in Palestine."



Susan P. Wilder is an ordained Presbyterian minister. She is a member of National Capital Presbytery and has served several churches in Northern Virginia. She currently serves as a consultant to the Faith Forum on Middle East Policy, a network of Christian denominations and organizations working for a just peace in the Middle East. She has organized and led several pilgrimage study tours to Israel/Palestine. Susan is a member of the Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is on the Advisory Council of the Friends of Tent of Nations, North America. She has served in ecumenical and interfaith networks as a grassroots organizer, speaker, and educator, working to raise awareness about the Israeli/Palestinian situation and to promote avenues for constructive engagement and advocacy.

The program will be based in Bethlehem in comfortable accommodations in the Lutheran Guesthouse and a local hotel with many of the meals at the award winning Il'lliyeh Restaurant at the International Center of Bethlehem. The Leadership Program will include visits to various parts of the occupied West Bank of Palestine and to Jerusalem where the group will meet with outstanding religious, academic, business and political leaders for briefings and discussions. It is important to note that this program is organized in a travel seminar/program format, so opportunities for tourism will be limited. The price is based on a minimum of twenty-two travelers. In the event enrollment falls under the minimum, an increase of \$200 per traveler will apply (with seventeen to twenty-one travelers). Speakers listed in the brochure have been invited, although the program is subject to change.