

S P R I N G E D I T I O N 2 0 1 2

The NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY VAN OUWERKERK

Dear Friends

Much Love and Shalom (peace of God) from the Holy Land

About our daily life in Israel

Also in the last couple of months, family members, friends, and acquaintances of us payed us a visit in Israel. People from in- and outside of the country dine with us. Sometimes we share the dinner table with people from 3 or 4 different nationalities and ethnicities. Most of the time we have guests and friends that sleep over. It's great to spread God's message with so many people. Disregarding if they're strangers or close friends. We talk about God's love for his people, the bond God had with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and His love for everyone.





The Middle-East

Tensions in the Middle-East are still increasing, leaving all armies set and prepared. A wrong maneuver can lead to completely unpredicted consequences. Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Hamas, Hezbollah, America, the NATO, Russia, Lebanon; almost the entire world is involved. Iran keeps prodding Israel and the world; the Iranian President Ahmadinejad states almost weekly that Israel has to be destructed.

200.000 Missiles pointed on Israel

Aviv Kochavi, head of the Israeli secret service, the IDF, announced that at this moment there are 20.000 missiles pointed on Israel; on cities, schools, military bases, power- and water-plants, etc. Most of these missiles are located in Lebanon and Syria, but also in Iran and Gaza. According to Kochavi, every tenth house in Lebanon is momentarily a weapon-storage. Since friday evening, March 9, missiles are being fired from Gaza, and until today, March 12, 140 missiles have been fired.

Lies about Israel

Anti-Israel propagandists have been so successful the past few decades, that it's possible today to publish nearly any accusation on the the Jewish State. Whichever lie people spread about Israel in the newspapers, the radio, television or on the internet, people will believe it. Recently that was proved again, when a picture of an 'Israeli' soldier, stepping on a Palestinian girl's chest while pointing a machine gun at her head, was published. Great upheaval erupted in the social media about this picture. The real story behind this picture, however, most of us won't hear. The soldier on the photo appeared to be not Israeli at all. The shoes and the uniform he was wearing, weren't those Israeli soldiers wear. Most remarkably however, is that his gun was a Kalasnikov, a type Palestinian armies use and no M16 or M14 that the Israelis use. Currently, the original photo showed up on the internet; the scene was a part of a street-theater, where someone played an Israeli soldier repressed a Palestinian child. This photo dates back to 2009 and was taken in Bahrein.



Adopted Grandmother Esther and Grandfather Dimitri

Esther and Dimitri are a big part of our lives. We visit them on weekly basis, and sometimes we take them to our house to see the kids. Esther and Dimitri are happy as children when they are with us. They are limitlessly grateful for all the times we were there for them, the times we brought them over to our place, all the times we bring them to our church (Beit Asaph) in Netanya. When we pick them up, we see them sitting in the hall waiting for us to take them for another fun day. It's all very exciting for them because they are 84 and 95 years old, limping and Dimitri is practically blind. The whole happening is a big party for them.

Rain

It rained a lot since November. The sea of Galilee has rose 1.77 meters already, and if that isn't enough, all the melted snow from mountain Hermon adds half a meter to that!

Grandma and Grandpa

We're becoming grandparents again soon!! Andrea and Richard are expecting the second child in August. Andrea and Richard and Leviano are doing very well. Andrea is working momentarily in home care, Richard in security but will soon transfer to 'National Netherlands' to become a financial advisor. Leviano is a very sweet and clever 3 year old. He goes to a kindergarten nearby his house. He loves his family, playing with cars, having sleepovers with grandpa and grandma, eating treats etc.

Pray for Israel and the Jewish nation

Pray for Israel and the jewish community, pray for peace in Jerusalem.

The Lord has a plan with the Middle East, with Israel, with Iran, Syria, Egypt, and all the other countries of the world. The Almighty reigns the earth. He will never neglect us, whatever happens. Psalm 83, Isaiah 17, Zachariah 12 to 14, Ezekiel 38/39, Daniel, and Revelations, all confirm that and tell us what will happen (the apocalypse). Especially the Middle East will have to endure a lot. But even in the heart of all the misery, God will come with his kingdom.





The Kids

Noah, David and Jonathan (now 11, 16 and 18 years old), are still attending the American International School. Noah is in 5th grade, David in 10th grade, and Jonathan in 11th grade. They are performing at high level, they enjoy themselves, and they have many friends whom often visit us. David and Jonathan played in the schools' volleyball team. After months of intense practice, they participated in an annual volleyball tournament in Vienna and brought home victory, they got first place. It is mandatory for the High School to do a minimum of 30 hours of community service each year. That's why the boys often clean up beaches, help out in shelters for handicapped children, orphanages etc. Recently the High School organized a fashion show and raised a lot of money for a shelter for homeless youth. Since the beginning of the school year, Noah plays the trumpet and got entitled to a place in the school band which had a big concert two weeks ago.

Soccer

Levia still plays soccer at Macabee Hadera en trains often with the National team for women. Shamefully she can't play games with the national team because she doesn't own an Israeli passport yet. Besides her weekly soccer practices in Hadera, Levia also works part-time at Athena, which is a project set up by the Israeli government to promote sports amongst young girls across the country. Levia and the other members from Athena give soccer demonstrations, and play short games on music to show the younger generation that sports, in this case soccer can be a lot of fun.

The Donkeys

Dori and her baby Mercy are no longer in our possession. They simply became too expensive for us too keep. We have kept them for a few months in Bat-Hen with a man who owns a donkey himself as well. Sadly enough they didn't become friends. Now they live in "Donkey's Haven", a fantastic donkey-farm that is subsidized by animal lovers throughout the U.K. The people that work there have great love and passion for the animals, they definitely pamper them. We try to visit them a few times a month, which is nice for us and them. They always bray from joy when they see us.



Spiritual Battle

Please don't forget that there is a spiritual battle going on here.

The battle of the dark world against the world of light. The battle of Satan against God. Both militarily and through a big part of worldwide churches, especially where the replacement theology is studied and practiced, he makes himself strong.

***Business as a Mission* - Activities of Tah-Or LTD**

We are very busy trying to bring the products, in which we are specialized, on the market. Tail-lifts of MBB, a good, reliable and solid brand. We have sold many and the people who use them are very content. We also sell tail-lift parts of all brands, which is also a success. We are of course relatively new here, but we see that it's going better all the time. From the beginning of this year, we've started with the sale of 2 new Israeli wine brands in the Netherlands. After a search of several months we think we've succeeded with 'Recanati' and 'Arza'. We have searched for a wine with an excellent taste, whereby the methods and techniques used to make it, play an important role. The wine we have exported, 'Recanati' and 'Arza' have exceptionally low sulfite levels. Recanati has started in 2001 with the wine production and has since then built a very good reputation in a relatively short period of time. With the Yasmin red and white, we believe to have succeeded in a very good price/quality ratio. With the search of a qualitative 'Kidush', or, 'Shebat' wine, we chose 'David's Harp'. Winemaker Arza makes since 1847 superb Kidush wine from grapes near Jerusalem. With these Kosher wines, we hope to provide a good glass of wine for everyone who has a warm heart for Israel. If you drink wine from Israel, then you're connected with the county. If you want to know where you can buy these outstanding wines, search: www.tah-or.nl In order to support Israel, we aim to sell 100,000 bottles this year.

The Grace foundation

Through our foundation, we have had the possibility to support a variety of charities from 2007 on.

Momentarily our foundation supports:

- 5 adoption kids through Compassion Foundation (www.compassion.com)
- 5 people in Bangladesh through the India adoption plan (www.ywam-edc.nl/iap)
- Family Schaap of Petach Tikvah foundation (www.petachtikvah.org)
- Pro life organization Be'ad Chaim (www.beadchaim.com)
- Immanuel evangelical church in Bethlehem (www.immanuel.ps)
- Sabra foundation (www.sabrafund.org)
- The church Beit Asaph in Netanya (www.gratefullygrafted.org/ministries/congregations/beit_asaph.htm)
- Provide help to poor and old Jewish Holocaust survivors in Ukraine
- Our adopted grandmother and grandfather; Esther and Dimitri, see photo.
- A roof and hospitality in our house in Bat-Hen.

Family van Ouwerkerk - Rimon 3 - Bat Hen 40290 - Telephone: 00972-774-502-238