

**Israel/Palestine Peace-Building Tour
with Nazareth Peace Conference**

**\$2723/person double occupancy *;
\$3358/person single occupancy *.
Minimum of 15 people required.**

The ABCUSA Committee on Christian Unity and Interfaith Relations will be sponsoring a peace-building tour April 15-26 (to 30th with Jordan extension), 2015, in partnership with the Church of the Brethren and the Progressive National Baptist Convention. This visit will introduce you to the complex issues at play in this region that so desperately cry out for peace and to those who are actively working to build peace in the region.

We begin our tour by participating in a two day peace conference in Nazareth that is sponsored and hosted by the Association of Baptist Churches of Israel. We will engage in discussions of issues and challenges for Christian peacemaking in our time. This will give us a real feel for how Christians in Israel view the possibilities for peace.

Following the conference we will spend 7 1/2 days in a journey of understanding led by the Telos Organization. Following this part of the journey, there is also the option of continuing into Jordan to visit refugee settlements and view significant historical sites such as the site of Jesus' baptism and the Treasury at Petra.

The Telos Group (www.telosgroup.org) will be our guides for the land package. We have travelled with Telos before, and are impressed with their intentionality of exposing us to the persons and issues that tell the story of life today in what we call the Holy Land. They include visits to sacred sites (or ancient stones) but emphasize the "living stones," persons who embody the struggle for justice and peace today.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to make your reservation or if you have any questions or need any additional info: please contact the Rev. June Totten, chair

of the Committee, at jt10@juno.com or call 909-373-6672. (Pacific time zone.) Payment for the land package is due no later than Tuesday, January 13, 2015, by check or wire transfer to Telos Group, 9103 Colt Lane, Annandale, VA 22003

Airfare will be booked through Mennonite Travel Services. Contact Claudia Ford ASAP for information and reservations: claudiaf@mtstravel.com or 800-444-3004, ext. 19302, or her direct line 719-385-3302. Identify yourself as an American Baptist participant. Prices only rise, so booking immediately assures the best air fare price. Claudia checked some costs from sample cities for me and they were in the \$900 - 1,200 range if booked then. She will work with each of us to find the best itinerary and price. She will need this information: departure city, travel dates, legal passport name, birthdate, your contact info and credit card number. If you have frequent flyer miles, check with Claudia as many international airlines partner with US airlines for flying credit. We recommend purchasing travel insurance with MTS when you book air travel.

Todd Deatherage of Telos, one of our guides, will provide an extensive reading list for us so that we can prepare ourselves for in-depth discussions with our Middle Eastern brothers and sisters. Another great resource by which to follow unfolding news about this part of the world is to sign online to receive weekly updates and special notices from the Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP).

Blessings be yours as you consider this investment of time and resources and whether you are able to participate in this very special and unique opportunity.

I hope you can join June and me for this exceptional experience.

Roy

Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley, General Secretary
American Baptist Churches USA

Itinerary for American Baptist Churches, Church of the Brethren, and Progressive National Baptist Convention

April 15-26/30, 2015

Israel/Palestine:

Wednesday April 15

US departure

Thursday April 16

Arrival in Israel; transport to Nazareth

Friday April 17-

Saturday April 18

Conference with local Christians in Nazareth
3 nights conference lodging in Nazareth

Sunday April 19

Worship in Nazareth churches
Beginning of Telos program
Welcome dinner, Nazareth
O/N Nazareth

Monday April 20

Nazareth market, Church of the Annunciation
Visit Mar Elias School, Ibillin
Meet with Arab Israeli leaders
O/N Nazareth

Tuesday April 21

Sea of Galilee, Mt of Beatitudes, Capernaum
O/N Bethlehem

Wednesday April 22

Israeli overview
Guided tour of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial
Tour of Old City of Jerusalem
Islamic perspectives
O/N Bethlehem

Thursday April 23

Visit a refugee camp
Visit a settlement
Possible trip to Hebron
Tent of Nations
O/N Bethlehem

Friday April 24

Bethlehem Bible College
Diyar Center
Holy Land Trust
Shabbat experience
O/N Jerusalem

Saturday April 25

Geo-political tour of Jerusalem
Mt of Olives
Taybeh
O/N Jerusalem

Sunday April 26

Netiv Ha'Asara
Israeli security perspectives
Parents Circle
O/N Jerusalem for those going to Jordan
OR late night flight for those going home

Jordan Extension:

Monday April 27

Depart for Jordan
Meetings in Amman, meet with Syrian refugees
O/N Amman

Tuesday April 28

Transfer to Madaba /Nebo/Kerak Continue to Petra
O/N Petra

Wednesday April 29

Full day visiting Petra
Return to Amman
O/N Amman

Thursday April 30

Transfer to airport for departure; arrival in USA on same day

*For Jordan extension add:

\$907/person double occupancy,
\$1032/person single occupancy.
Minimum of 10 people required.