



# Join Shelby Presbyterian Church

## Israel Tour      May 18 - 27, 2019

### Led by Pastor Luke Harkey

Dear Friends:

I would like to invite you to join us on a pilgrimage to Israel. Our “Roots of Your Faith Pilgrimage” will begin in Tel Aviv on Sunday, May 19 and conclude on Sunday May 26, 2019 with an additional day for travel each way. Last May my wife and I traveled with America Israel Tours and were most impressed. I had been asked for several years by members of our church to plan such a trip, so this was an opportunity to see first-hand what to expect. It was a life-changing experience, and one that I look forward to sharing with you. I am very pleased with how the trip has come together. I hope you will consider whether this is a time for you to travel to the Holy Land. We would love to have you join us.

Pastor Luke Harkey

#### **Day 1: Saturday May 18, 2019 - USA Departure**

Our journey begins today as we depart Charlotte on our way to Israel - the Land of the Bible. Our flight departs @ around 6:30pm. Sit back, relax and enjoy your flight. Get some rest...tomorrow you will be walking where Jesus walked!

**Overnight: On Board    Meals on Board**

#### **Day 2: Sunday May 19, 2019 Arrival in Israel -/ Tel Aviv /Jaffa**

Today we arrive at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport. Our flight arrives @ around 4pm. You will be met and assisted by our Israeli tour guide and bus driver. We drive to Tel Aviv - Israel's largest and most modern city (20-30 minutes' drive from the airport). Check in at our Hotel. You'll have free time to rest and relax in your hotel room or stroll the Tel Aviv famous sidewalk. After our welcome dinner, we will explore Old Town Jaffa at night. We will arrive in Jaffa and walk through the narrow passages of Old Jaffa, believed to be the oldest port city in the world. See the amazing St. Peter Church at night and take in a spectacular view of the Tel Aviv shoreline from Jaffa's Hilltop. Return to our hotel

**Meal included: Full Buffet Dinner      Lodging: Herods Tel Aviv**

#### **Day 3: Monday May 20, 2019 - From Tel Aviv to the Sea of Galilee via the Mediterranean Caesarea / Mt. Carmel / Megiddo / Nazareth / Cana / Sea of Galilee / Tiberia**

After breakfast we start our tour heading north to the Sea of Galilee. We will have a relaxing drive along the beautiful coast of the Mediterranean Sea and stop at Caesarea Maritime (Acts 9:30; Acts 10: 24-48), which was the center of early Christians. Here Cornelius the Centurion and his household were saved and baptized (Acts 10), and it was also here where Paul made his defense before Festus and King Agrippa prior to his final journey to Rome (Acts 25 & 26). Next, we will stop at Mount Carmel (Mchraka), where Elijah issued his challenge to the False Prophets. Then on to Megiddo (1 Kings 4:28, 9:15; 2 Kings 23:29 & Rev.16:16), and the Valley of Armageddon (Revelation 16), to see the remains from Solomon's days, and view the site where the Battle of Armageddon will be fought. We continue along the Jezel valley to visit the town of Nazareth and the Church of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26, 4:16-29; Matthew 2:23). Our last stop will be in Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed his first public miracle - the turning of water into wine at a wedding feast (John 2:1-11). Drive through the Lower Galilee region to the Sea of Galilee. We'll check in at our hotel on

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the shores of the Sea of Galilee. **Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner** **Lodging: Galei Kinneret Sea of Galilee**

**Day 4: Tuesday May 21, 2019 - Sea of Galilee and the Upper Galilee  
Mount of Beatitudes / Tabgha / Capernaum / Upper Galilee / Caesarea Philippi**

Today we will experience the area of Jesus' early ministry around the Sea of Galilee. After breakfast, we will drive along the shores of the Sea of Galilee and visit the Mount of Beatitudes (Matt. 5,6,7,8), where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. We will visit the famous chapel, constructed in 1939 by the noted architect Antonio Barluzzi, and enjoy the breathtaking view. We will continue to Tabgha - the site of the Feeding of the 5,000 and Primacy of Peter (Matt. 13; Mark 33-45; John 21). Here we will visit the Church of Multiplication with its 4th century mosaic floor. Continue on to the 2,000 year old remains of Capernaum (Matt. 4:13, 13:54, 17:24; Luke 7; Mark 1:2; John 4:46-54). Here we can stand in what is left of the synagogue in which Jesus ministered. It was from this city that Jesus did most of his Galilean ministry, where he performed many miracles, and where Peter's mother-in-law lived and was healed. We will drive to the upper Galilee to visit Banias - ancient Caesarea Philippi (Matt. 16:13 and Mark 8:27), where Jesus said "on this rock I will build my Church". We will hike through the natural Banias nature reserve to the water falls. We will drive through the natural Hula Valley and the Upper Galilee region back to the Sea of Galilee. We'll return to our hotel for dinner and a restful evening. **Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner**  
**Lodging: Galei Kinneret Sea of Galilee**

**Day 5: Wednesday May 22, 2019 - Sea of Galilee and Jordan River  
Sail on the Sea of Galilee / "Jesus Boat" / Yardenit / Beth Shean / Dead Sea / Free time to float & enjoy the resort**

After breakfast we will board a wooden boat and sail on the Sea of Galilee as the disciples did 2,000 years ago. We will dock at Kibbutz Nof Geonsar and visit the "Ancient Jesus Boat" - the remains of a 2,000-year-old boat that was discovered in 1986. This boat was used at the time of Jesus and his disciples. We conclude our Galilee tour with a visit to Yardenit - the wonderful baptismal site on the Jordan River. From here we will drive south along the Beth Shean valley and the ancient city of Beth Shean (Mark 5:20, 7:31) for an overview of this remarkable archeological site. It was here that after defeating Saul and his sons on Mount Gilboa, the Philistines hung their bodies on the walls of Beth Shean (1 Samuel 31). We will drive through the Jordanian Valley past the city of Jericho and arrive at the lowest place on earth - the Dead Sea. We will check in at our hotel, located on the shores of the Dead Sea. After check in and before dinner we will enjoy relaxing free time at our wonderful Dead Sea resort hotel, conveniently located on the shores of the Dead Sea. Walk to the beach and float in the salty water of the Dead Sea. You can also take this opportunity to enjoy the Dead Sea famous mud and mineral treatments at the hotel's spa.

**Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner** **Lodging: Herods Dead Sea**

**Day 6: Thursday May 23, 2019 - Exploring the Dead Sea and the Judean Desert  
Dead Sea / Masada / Ein Gedi / Qumran / Jerusalem / Mount of Olives / Garden of Gethsemane**

Today we will explore the Dead Sea and the Judean desert region and its biblical and historical sites. After early breakfast, we will drive along the shores of the Dead Sea to visit one of the most spectacular sites in Israel - the 1,500 foot mountaintop fortress of Masada. We will ascend to Masada by cable car and discover the 1st century Synagogue, Herod's Bathhouse and many other sites. We will continue along the shores of the Dead Sea and stop at Ein Gedi, where David hid in a cave when running from Saul (1 Samuel 23). It was here that David composed several of his Psalms. Next, we will visit Qumran and walk through the ruins of this ancient Essene community. In this spot, an amazing cache of ancient biblical texts was discovered in 1947 - commonly called the Dead Sea Scrolls. From here we will ascend to Jerusalem - the holy city of Zion. Upon arriving in Jerusalem, we will head to the top of the Mount of Olives to stand where the Lord ascended into heaven (Acts 1) as we take in a breathtaking panoramic view of the city across the Kidron Valley to the Eastern Gate where the Prince of Peace will enter (Ezekiel 44). We will pass by Pater Noster Church and visit

Dominus Flevit where “the Lord wept” as he beheld the Holy City, and take the Palm Sunday Road down to the Garden of Gethsemane where we will see 2,000-year-old olive trees that date back to the time of Christ. Ending our day, we will check in our hotel for dinner.

**Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner    Lodging: Herbert Samuel Jerusalem**

**Day 7: Friday May 24, 2019 - Jerusalem Old & New City**

**City of David / Temple Mount Archaeological Excavations / Southern Wall / Southern Steps / Davidson Center / Western Wall / Jewish Quarter / Mt. Zion / Room of the Last Supper / Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu**

Today we walk where Jesus walked. Following breakfast, we will head to the Old City and visit the City of David, which is the original, ancient site where Jerusalem started. We will then enter via the Dung Gate to visit the Western Wall (“Wailing Wall”) - the holiest site in Judaism and one of the original ancient walls that retained the Temple. We will continue to the Southern Temple Mount archaeological excavations. Here we will visit the “Southern Steps” - the archaeological reconstruction of the Temple Steps where Jesus walked so often. From here Jesus entered the Temple Mount and drove out the vendors and money changers who were exploiting the people. We will visit the unearthed southern end of the western wall, the paved street and the Robinson’s Arch. At the Davidson Center museum, we will view a documentary of the excavation and a 10-minute film describing a visit of a pilgrim to the second temple as it was in Jesus’ time. We will walk through the historic Jewish Quarter all the way to Mt. Zion. We will visit the room of the last supper and then continue to the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. According to tradition, this was the place of the palace of the high priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought to jail after his arrest. (Mark 14: 72) We will return to our hotel for a festive Shabbat dinner.

**Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner    Lodging: Herbert Samuel Jerusalem**

**Day 8: Saturday May 25, 2019 - Jerusalem Old City**

**Lion’s Gate / Via Delarosa / St. Anne Church / Pool of Bethesda / Judgment Hall of Pilate / Church of the Holy Sepulcher / Christian Quarter / Garden Tomb**

Following breakfast, we will then enter the Old City via the Lion’s Gate. The Lion’s Gate, located in the eastern wall of the Old City, is the entrance marking the beginning of the last walk of Jesus from prison to the crucifixion - the Via Delarosa. We will start our walk along the Stations of the Cross to visit St. Anne Church (we’ll sing with an 11 second echo!), the Pool of Bethesda, then continuing to the Judgment Hall of Pilate and all the way to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Matt. 27:33-57, 28:10). We will end our day visiting the Garden Tomb, where we will celebrate the resurrection with communion and a time of praise. Return to our hotel for dinner.

**Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner    Lodging: Herbert Samuel Jerusalem**

**Day 9: Sunday May 26, 2019 - Bethlehem / Yad Vashem holocaust memorial / Shrine of the Book / Holy Land Model / Farewell Dinner**

After breakfast we will enjoy a free morning. Around 12 noon we will check out from our hotel and will drive to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity (Luke 2: 1-7). We venture out to the Shepherd’s Field, referenced in Luke 2:8-20, where an angel appeared to announce the birth of Jesus. From here we will continue to visit Yad Vashem holocaust memorial. Our next stop will be at the Israel Museum to visit the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. We will also visit the Holy Land model to view Jerusalem as it looked like during the second temple period. We will end our journey with a great Farewell dinner.

**Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner    Lodging: Sadot hotel close to the Airport (Extra night)**

**Day 10: Monday May 27, 2019 - Arrive back in the US**



Early transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our departure flight back to Charlotte. Our flight departs around 7AM.

Today we arrive back in Charlotte. Our flight arrives today around 4:25pm.

\* Remember to bring your Bible and notepad as we study the Scriptures at each site identified in the Bible.

## AIR AND LAND PACKAGE FROM CHARLOTTE

\$4167 All Taxes Included (Per Person in Double Occupancy)

Rates are Based on a minimum of 21 travelers / Single Room Supplement - \$925

### Payment Details

- A \$500 per person tour deposit is due upon registration, no later than **Friday January 11, 2019**
- Final payment is due no later than **Friday March 08, 2019**
- For more information & registration please contact Pastor Luke Harkey Email: harkeyml@gmail.com

### Included Services

- Round trip flights from Charlotte to Tel Aviv, Israel as per below flights  
LH 429 18MAY CLT-MUC 6:30P 9:25A  
LH 688 19MAY MUC-TLV 12:20P 4:55P  
LH 681 27MAY TLV-MUC 6:55A 9:55A  
LH 428 27MAY MUC-CLT 12:15P 4:25P
- All Air taxes and fuel surcharges are included in your quote
- 8 nights' accommodation in moderate 5-star hotels (hotels are listed on your tour itinerary)
- Daily Breakfasts and Dinners served daily at the hotels
- "Meet & Assist" at the airport by an America Israel Tours airport representative.
- Group arrival transfer escorted by your tour guide
- Group departure transfer escorted by your tour guide
- All entrance fees as per your tour program
- 7 Full days of Private touring with your assigned tour guide + arrival day tour to Jaffa
- 7 Full days of Private transportation in deluxe A/C coach and top professional driver + arrival day
- Porter fees at airports and hotels
- Sea of Galilee boat ride
- Cable car transportation from/to Masada
- All land and service taxes are included

### Not Included

- Tip for the tour guide, bus driver and hotel staff (\$75 per person)
- Lunches daily

- Group travel insurance

\$187 per person for a group Insurance policy for up to \$3000 in coverage

\$248 per person for a group insurance policy for up to \$4000 in coverage

