



Christian Friends of Israel
נוצרים ידידי ישראל

CFI Projects Monthly Reports for International Representatives

May 2025

Dear CFI International Representative Family,

Thank you for your continued support of the Outreach efforts of Christian Friends of Israel. We continue to strive to encourage those in need and to offer practical assistance during times of struggle. It's during these times when relationships can be formed which please God and allow us to show Compassion to those who need it the most and have possibly never experienced it before.

Please receive the CFI Outreach electronic updates as a reminder of the impact each of you have in the lives of so many. We are grateful to represent those of you in the Nations - to those in the Land of Israel.

A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 (NKJV)



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Communities Under Attack

Responding with Relief Funds to Targeted Areas

Thus says the Lord: "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness – Israel, when I went to give him rest." (Jeremiah 31:2)

If there is one thing I wish for the people on the borders of Israel it is the above text. Year in, year out they are threatened by enemies from all around. Why would you say? I think because the God of heaven and earth has linked His Holy Name to this land and people. The automatic reaction of the enemy is to attack and destroy the houses and threaten the life in Israel. It is so important to pray against this.

Last month I witnessed these many attacks. I was able to meet three mayors from Shlomi, Metula, Maale Yosef and the leaders of Kibbutz Menara. They all showed us around and showed us civilian homes that were attacked with anti-tank missiles. There is so much destruction that it is difficult to keep an overview. Last month we completed all the paperwork to help 62 families in the town of Shlomi with their needs after being away from their homes for 1.5 years. We hope to visit many families and this will happen next month.



Last month we visited the Messianic community in Kiryat Smonah after we helped them with a donation to rebuild their community. Last year they were hit by a rocket after an attack from Lebanon. Their ceiling, windows and walls exploded. In this way we can bless Israel, but also help the local believers to rebuild their community.



Thank you very much for continued prayer and your support. Please pray for the people of Israel and for us at CFI to be a light in the darkness.
Blessings from Zion,

Gerrit van Vliet Project Supervisor



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Project David's Shield

Encouraging Soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces

David's Shield hosted three IDF lone soldiers who are also new immigrants from Russia. As stated in **Ezekiel 11:17, 37:21-22: "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again... I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will make them one nation in the land, in the mountains of Israel."**



The Lord has indeed brought these three men from different parts of Russia and united them in the army with other soldiers from around the world. They love Israel deeply, and they joined the IDF. Currently, they are in Gaza, fighting against Hamas, searching for hostages, and assisting Gazan civilians.

They were surprised by how deeply and compassionately CFI cares for soldiers. The first time I met one of them was at the base for loan soldiers, where we provided free haircuts, manicures, pedicures, clothes, towels, and a lot of fruits. Afterward, Eldar's brother and sister received gifts as new immigrants, and he too will receive assistance when he settles after the war.

They explained that when they finish their regular army service, they become reservists and will not have proper vests and helmets while knowing they will be in Gaza. Eldar is a combat medic, and Mark is a combat operations officer. Eldar has completed 16 combat entries, accumulating 198 days in active hostilities during the war with Hamas and Hezbollah. Mark has been in active hostilities since October 7.

Also, I am in fellowship with Eldar's family.

Thank you, dear donors, for supporting David's Shield. We trust that the Lord will raise up more partners so that we can meet the growing needs of our ministry to Israel's soldiers.

Lord's blessings

Lyailya Telgarina Project Supervisor



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Project Bridal Salon

Supporting Israeli Brides and their Families

Shalom, dear friends and supporters!

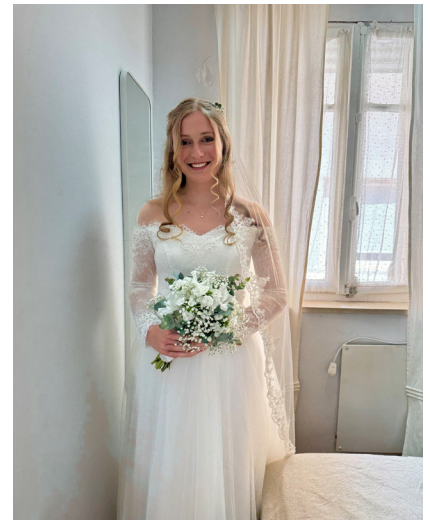
Our CFI Bridal Salon is doing well. We have been giving out beautiful dresses for different brides and their relatives. Every appointment has been special.

Iris spent the whole morning here with her mother. She tried on different options and could not decide.

We put three dresses aside for her. They will return to us soon so her mother can choose a gown for herself and Iris will make her choice! We can then choose a veil and matching jewels for our bride-to-be.

Katharina, who was living in Israel as a child, came to the Land with her fiancé and friends. Their wedding was planned for a Wednesday. In faith that God would provide her with a wedding dress she came to our salon on the Monday before! The first dress that she took out of the rack was the perfect one. Her friends rejoiced with her and enjoyed the special moment. A couple of days later Katharina returned the dress.

She and her husband thanked our ministry with all of their hearts. They had had a wonderful celebration here in Jerusalem.



One bride-to-be, Shirel, was just engaged. She was happy and excited about the coming wedding and about a future spent with the man she loves. We found a gorgeous dress for her. Her fiancé is serving in the IDF. May the Lord protect this young man from being harmed in the war.

We are privileged to bless these soon-to-be-born families. They are so precious. May the Lord lead and guide them into His perfect plan.

***“As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
so the LORD is round about his people,
from this time forth and for evermore.” Psalm 125:2***

Thank you for being with us. Israel needs friends like you and me. Jewish people are touched by your love from the nations, and as it is written God rewards those who bless His people. Be blessed and protected in the name of our Lord!

Tiina Danilevski Project Supervisor



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Project Forsake Them Not

Nurturing Relationships with Holocaust Survivors

Moreover, the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day when the Lord binds up the brokenness of his people, and heals the wounds inflicted by his blow. (Isaiah 30:26)

This month began with the Forsake Them Not team participating in a meaningful Passover event in Ashkelon. We had the honor of hosting 55 Holocaust survivors, who joined us in celebrating this special occasion. Each guest received a small gift, offered as a heartfelt gesture of love and appreciation. Olga spoke to the attendees, delivering an inspiring message of deliverance, comfort, and hope. Her words deeply touched many, and some guests approached her afterward to personally express their gratitude for her compassion and encouragement.



A central event this month was Israel's National Holocaust Remembrance Day. Our team was privileged to participate in a poignant candle-lighting ceremony held at the Ghetto Fighters' House Museum (Beit Lohamei HaGetaot) in northern Israel. This powerful and emotional gathering provided an opportunity to reconnect with leaders from local organizations of Holocaust survivors. Many attendees went to great lengths to join the ceremony, demonstrating a profound shared commitment to honoring history, combating antisemitism, and promoting unity through remembrance. Witnessing the survivors' enduring resolve to live meaningfully, remember courageously, and positively impact the world was profoundly moving. Taking advantage of our journey northward, our team visited Holocaust survivors in Ma'alot, a town near Israel's border with Lebanon. Thirteen of our dear survivor friends eagerly awaited our arrival. We spent two full days with them during this solemn period of remembrance, offering companionship, comfort, and healing through attentive listening and heartfelt interactions. It was a cherished time of sharing their stories and lovingly preserving their legacy.



Once again, as an organization, Christian Friends of Israel was honoured to participate in the official wreath-laying ceremony at the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Monument at Yad Vashem. Upholding this annual tradition symbolizes our unwavering support and solidarity with the people of Israel. It was a genuine privilege for our volunteers to stand alongside distinguished guests and representatives, united in solemn remembrance and mutual respect.

We wish to share this great privilege with you, our faithful friends and prayer partners. Thank you for continually standing with us, supporting Israel and its people with your prayers, love, and encouragement during these challenging days.

Tanya Lukomsky Project Supervisor



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Project Streams of Blessings

Assisting the Underprivileged in Israel

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; there is no God but Me.

I will strengthen you, though you do not know Me, so that all may know from the rising of the sun to its setting that there is no one but Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.

Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation; you will not be put to shame or humiliated for all eternity." (Isaiah 45, 5-6, 17)

What wonderful words of God! Yahweh, the God of Israel—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—our God, the Creator of the entire universe, is the LORD, and there is no other. He used Cyrus, His anointed one, even though he did not know Him yet. He strengthened him, although he did not know Him, so that all may recognize that there is no one but the LORD.

Further in the chapter, God gives a wonderful promise to Israel: Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation; they will never be put to shame or humiliated for all eternity. Wow! God loves Israel, His people. He will save them forever and will not allow them to be put to shame or humiliated. He cares for His children—for us—and for His people.



This month, we can also witness how He takes care of His people:

We visited a single mother of four children, including a one-year-old daughter, in Ashkelon who was in a very difficult situation. At the beginning of the war, a rocket struck her apartment. Since then, she has been suffering from PTSD. She receives only child benefits, which are not enough to cover rent and other basic needs. She is heavily in debt to the bank and has not been able to pay rent for the past three months. She constantly turns to others for help. Her landlord has warned her that if she does not pay the rent within two weeks, she will have to leave the apartment. We visited her together with her little daughter and her mother. They welcomed us warmly and were very happy to see us. We shared a meaningful time of fellowship and were able to support her with food vouchers and help toward the rent. They were deeply grateful and said that God had answered both their prayers and ours. It is truly a blessing to have the opportunity to help people in their time of distress.

We also supported organizations. The Central Organization of Iranian Immigrants in Israel works to preserve Iranian Jewish heritage and support the community in Israel. It assists new immigrants, organizes cultural events, supports authors, offers scholarships, and promotes the integration of Iranian Jewish students. The organization also helps Iranian Jews immigrate to Israel and aims to sustain their cultural legacy. We provided the organization with food vouchers for 22 poor Iranian families for Pesach. They had been eagerly awaiting this support and were very grateful. One day, S. and I were invited to a celebration hosted by the organization. It was a lovely event, and we were pleasantly surprised.

Several people in need came to our office—not only to ask for help but also seeking spiritual support. They were deeply moved. We love helping people. We also visited a woman who amazed us with her strong faith in God despite facing serious health challenges.

Many others have also reached out to us, asking for help in their difficult financial situations. Many are still waiting. We are their only hope. But it is God who loves His children and will not allow them to be put to shame or humiliated. He cares deeply for each one of them.

Thank you so much for your donations and prayers, which enable us to help so many in need. May the Lord bless you abundantly! He loves you and will care for you for all eternity.

Viktoria Muller Project Supervisor



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Project Wall of Prayer

Assignments of Prayer for Israel

“Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess’” (Joshua 1:11, CJB).

Almost 3,000 years ago, Israel was being pursued by enemies to a point of no return. Either the waters were going to part making way for their deliverance by God or they would turn, face their enemies in defeat and perish. This storyline could be inserted into Israel's history over the millennia and it is all the more true today as they are still being pursued not by one Pharaoh, but many. As scripture says, ***“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ...” (2 Corinthians 2:14, NKJV).*** Our prayer mandate this month was carrying Israel in prayer and intercession as they journey into the revelation of where and Who this eternal triumph and victory comes from—their Jewish Messiah Jesus.

God ordained that 4 of our short-term intercessor volunteers from the last two years would converge again with us all at the same time in the Land. We capitalized on this additional man power in prayer by going on several prayer missions. We went north praying over the Jezreel region, at the One New Man House of Prayer that focuses on reaching the unreached among the Druze community, and capped off our short prayer tour at Mitzpe Yericho and Kibbutz Gilgal facing the Jordan Valley mountains in Judea.



There was a recurring theme of repentance for crossover both on behalf of the Body of Messiah for not pressing into God's redemptive plan for Israel with leavened views like Replacement Theology as well as repentance for those who have yet to acknowledge the Risen Messiah Jesus. One hard to swallow passage was an anchor to cry for mercy for the Jewish people, “Every evil of theirs is in Gilgal; there I began to hate them. Because of the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of my house. I will love them no more; all their princes are rebels (Hosea 9:15, ESV). We sounded shofars calling his people back to God. Israel is still being pursued and the crossing over they are preparing for is epically eternal—more than seas will be parted— hearts will be rent as they look upon the One they've pierced.

In addition to the focus of building the Wall of Prayer, we never miss an opportunity to make a connection for our other CFI projects. Last year, I introduced Ilan, my Jewish neighbor of Iranian heritage who helps families make Aliyah from Iran to Israel. This month, partnering with project Streams of Blessings, under the direction of our Media Director Galya Hall, we supported Ilan's initiative by blessing over 20 families with significant food vouchers for Pesach. They invited us to their offices to meet their leadership and were moved that Christians were friends of Israel and were also willing to practically back up the word “friend.”



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Project Wall of Prayer

Assignments of Prayer for Israel

Because of your support, we were able to complete these prayer assignments, attend worship watches on Mt. Carmel and more. We also completed our first Zoom teaching series with Sharon Sanders, The Church's Responsibility to Israel—the feedback was great and people are excited for more. For good measure, God also sprinkled in visits from our CFI family from the nations. It was a pleasure and honor to meet and welcome our CFI UK representative, Jacob Vince and his lovely wife Kate, to our new WOP office space which we've affectionately dubbed the "upper room" since we're not located on the second story of our building. He shared much with me about his love and decades long service at the CFI UK office. We are so grateful for their support and praise God for keeping our international CFI family strong and united in Jesus.



Vince and his lovely wife Kate, to our new WOP office space which we've affectionately dubbed the "upper room" since we're not located on the second story of our building. He shared much with me about his love and decades long service at the CFI UK office. We are so grateful for their support and praise God for keeping our international CFI family strong and united in Jesus.

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners:

Thank you for being unrelenting in your prayers for Israel. Winds are whipping, storms are raging, and fires burning, but the God of Israel is our Rock of Ages—He never fails! Thank you for your financial support and prayers that undergird every Zoom meeting, prayer journey and visit so that we can keep a Wall of Prayer around Israel. "May the grace of the Lord Yeshua be with all" (Revelation 22:21, CJB)!

Maranatha!

Suzie Georges Project Supervisor



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Project Hope For The Future

Empowering the Ethiopian Community in Israel

“Do not take advantage of the widow or the fatherless. 23 If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry.” Exodus 22

Our largest event this past month was when we had the opportunity to return to B’nei Brak to bless many Ethiopian families with food vouchers for the Passover holidays. Many of these families are headed by single mothers (therefore fatherless), and the additional funds to purchase food was a huge blessing for them! Once again, over 40 families were assisted, and they showed great joy and appreciation at receiving our gifts. Some of these families have been affected by divorce, death, illness, unemployment, and a host of other things. One bright spot in the life of the youth previously was the Activity Center/ After-School program run by Rachel Mangoli for the past 20 years, however as of this writing, despite our best efforts, the center remains closed. We did however have the opportunity to visit the location and pray, and one of our prayer warriors even had a shofar with her and was able to blow it, accompanying our prayers for mercy from the Father, and His blessings on that community.



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Project Hope For The Future

Empowering the Ethiopian Community in Israel

Sewing classes also continue to go well, with the women learning very quickly! Our instructors, Francis and Vickie, are also enjoying the opportunity to share their skills with the women. They initially started with just learning how to thread and operate the machines, then quickly moved on to their first actual project, which was pillowcases for their beds. Our goal is to first teach them to make practical things that they can actually complete and use right away, then gradually move them along to more advanced items. Next they moved on to hand-bags (purses), and once these are finished, the plan is to make aprons next. As always, we greatly appreciate your prayers for Israel, for the hostages and survivors of October 7th, for our courageous IDF, for the funding for our various projects (especially the sound studio, and new youth activity center here in the Jerusalem area), for the workers to accomplish all that needs to be done, to continue to break through the many bureaucratic roadblocks, and for health and protection for all of CFI.



Thank you for all you do!
Shalom from Jerusalem,

Monica Ruby Project Supervisor



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Project First Fruits

Strengthening Israel's Believing Communities

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness". 2 Corinthians 9:10

Assisting A Congregation in the Land

Below is a photo of a Russian couple who pastor a congregation in Jerusalem. The congregation meets in a building that also serves as their home. Due to the small size of the congregation they got behind several months on the payment of the electrical bill. Christian Friends of Israel was able to assist with this need. We were also able to bring some Derek Prince books in Russian. These are always appreciated. Before leaving, the pastors wife shared some worship songs with us. This was followed by a time of prayer. Two Russian speaking ladies from our CFI office came with us. This made meaningful communication possible.



Assisting Believers in the Land

This month we have also been able to assist a couple from Tiberias with rent and some food vouchers. The cost of living is high and it is becoming increasingly harder to pay bills.

Another believer we helped is a single mother from northern Israel with an emotionally distraught child. The war has increased the child's anxiety and this has put more stress on the mother who is trying to work full time. At times she needs to be at home to care for her child. CFI was able to assist with rent payment and this was very helpful and greatly appreciated.

Requests for assistance continue to come in and with the war presently going on, needs are only going to rise. We appreciate your prayers and the financial assistance that continues to come in. This enables us to continue this ministry.



May the Lord bless you richly for it.

Thank you for your part helping us bless the body of Yeshua in the Land of Israel!

Rudy & Sharon Friesen
First Fruits Coordinators – CFI Jerusalem

Rudy & Sharon Friesen Project Supervisors



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Project Open Gates

Providing Practical Aid for New Immigrants

April is the month when Jews celebrate the Exodus from Egypt during Passover, and 80% of the population goes on vacation, with children on holiday as well. In this difficult time, many leave the country or travel within Israel. Perhaps this is why Open Gates experienced fewer visitors; some were unable to come due to the bus schedule affected by the holidays, as it was Shabbat (a day of rest) for everyone.

Open Gates welcomed 75 new immigrants from Turkestan, Belarus, Australia, Ukraine, and Hungary. CFI spent approximately 18,000 shekels to assist them. We are pleasantly surprised to see that people care for them, not just in words but also in actions. Many of these immigrants cannot afford to buy electronics, particularly those from Ukraine and Hungary, who are very poor after losing everything—homes, belongings, and money—due to war and anti-Semitism.



The new immigrants were deeply touched by our care and expressed their gratitude from the bottom of their hearts. A few even shared tears, hugged us, and blessed CFI. They received Tanachs with joy and smiles, and some began to read it immediately.



Many travelled from afar, which is why Open Gates offers them coffee and tea with light snacks and sweets. Some joined us for lunch, expressing their appreciation for our care and love.

All of this is made possible by your dear supporters through their prayers and financial contributions.

Shalom, shalom to you, beloved people of the Almighty.

God loves you very much, so do we.

Lyailya Telgarina Project Supervisor



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Under His Wings

Bringing Comfort and Healing to Terror Victims

I write to you today from Israel on a deeply poignant occasion — Yom HaZikaron, Remembrance Day — as we honor the memory of over 25,000 fallen soldiers and victims of terror. On this solemn day, we at CFI stand in solidarity with the people of Israel. We want them to know that we remember and grieve with them, and that they are not alone in their ongoing struggle to survive, heal, and thrive. We are also deeply grateful for your continued support, which enables us to be here and to stand alongside them.

This month, we had the privilege of returning to the north, to Majdal Shams—the ‘Tower of the Sun’—to visit the families of children who were injured or killed in the devastating Hezbollah rocket attack on July 27th, 2024. This visit felt different from previous ones. While the pain is still very present, there is a quiet shift—time is beginning to ease some of the grief, and the parents are slowly coming to terms with the unimaginable loss of their children.

A particularly moving moment came when we visited the family of Jonny, one of the young boys who died that day. Their home is just 45 minutes from Damascus, a stone’s throw from the Syrian border. We all stood together, hands stretched out, and prayed for peace in Syria. It was nothing short of a miracle that the Druze, who do not share our Christian faith, joined us in this powerful moment—praying for healing for a land so torn by violence. We were also deeply touched to learn that Jonny’s mother is expecting a baby boy. In the midst of such sorrow, the hope of new life was a quiet but profound blessing for which we thanked God.



Venera felt strongly about visiting Mount Hermon, and a Druze friend from the nearby village of Bukata drove her there. Together they prayed for peace. While on the mountain, she had an unexpected encounter with the father of Gevara, another victim of the attack. He was working there and welcomed her warmly. He invited us to visit him next time and asked us to continue praying for the coach who was injured in the blast.

On another day, we travelled to a village in the Galilee to visit Beit Hayotzer (‘House of the Creator’), a woodworking workshop supporting soldiers and men suffering from PTSD. The three-day program offers hands-on learning, traditional skills, and a peaceful environment for healing. On the way, we had a surprise encounter with Vered, a volunteer we had met in Sderot the previous week. She was delighted to see us again and invited us to visit her mobile clinic team in the future.

When we arrived at the workshop, one of the men immediately recognised me. “Paula... welcome!” he said. I recognised him too, but couldn’t quite place him. “We study on the same ulpan!” he added. Then I realised—it was David from my online Hebrew lessons. He had invited me to visit the workshop previously, and I had wanted to go, but hadn’t arranged it. I had no idea he was the person we were going to meet! It was amazing to see the Lord’s hand in connecting us and to witness the impact of his work firsthand. We now hope to refer others who could benefit from this wonderful program.



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On the train ride home, Joanna and I met Justin, a South African Israeli from Nahal Oz, who had narrowly missed attending the Nova Festival. Many of his friends and colleagues were there, and several remain kidnapped. He poured out his heart to us on the platform. We exchanged numbers and hope to visit him soon to see how we can support him.



On another day, Gert, Joanna and I travelled with Galya and the Hall children to Netivot to meet Shlomi Sofer and his organisation Gilgal Chozer, which supports families in need—regardless of background or belief. Despite losing 35 friends and many students from the school where he once taught, Shlomi continues to be a source of help and hope for his community. He showed us around his warehouse, gave sweets to the children, and took them for a ride in his truck. After sharing coffee and snacks together, Galya filmed a short video while the rest of us packed lemons for distribution. We spoke about the possibility of sending volunteers to help, which he warmly welcomed.



While in Netivot, we also visited Rachel Mann, whose daughter Amit was killed while serving as a paramedic on October 7th. Rachel welcomed us with coffee and cake and was especially touched by the children's drawings. She shared how she has been overwhelmed by the love shown to her, with many people giving her artwork and pictures of Amit. But the pain remains raw. Since losing both her husband and daughter—who still lived with her on weekends—the loneliness is heavy.

Please continue to pray for healing for all survivors of terror in Israel, especially for the Druze community, Rachel, and Justin. Also, please lift up those who are supporting survivors in such meaningful ways—David, Vered, and Shlomi—and the incredible work they are doing.



Paula O'Keefe Project Supervisor



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