

WALKING HOLY

A REGION 9 YOUTH HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE TO JERUSALEM, BETHLEHEM, GALILEE, AND THE DEAD SEA

THUS SAYS THE LORD: STAND AT THE CROSSROADS, AND LOOK, AND ASK FOR THE ANCIENT PATHS, WHERE THE GOOD WAY LIES: AND WALK IN IT, AND FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. JEREMIAH 6:16

December 20, 2010 to January 2, 2011

Estimated Cost: \$3500 per person will include all lodging, airfare, tickets to sites, tips and taxes, fuel surcharges, breakfast and dinners, and programming fees. Not included is money for lunches (\$10 to \$20 a day) and spending money.

Age: This trip is for youth age 16 and older at the time of the trip. A preference will be made for high school 11th and 12th graders. (Current 9th and 10th graders)

Housing and Transportation Information: Youth will be housed with other youth from across Region 9 in hotels, Lutheran hostels, and kibbutzes. We will travel by coach bus in Israel.

Registration Application and Confirmation: This is an application process. Please return your application by June 1, 2009. There are a limited number of participants from each synod. You will receive a confirmation letter by July 1, 2009.

Please send your registration forms to: Region 9 –ELCA
Attn: Tiffany Peters
4201 North Main Street
Columbia, SC 29203
803-461-3203

Once accepted into the program you can send your money all at once, use this payment schedule, or call Tiffany to set up another payment option.

August 2009 - \$750

November 2009 - \$750

February 2010 - \$750

May 1 2010 - \$750

September 1, 2010 - \$500 (Final Payment – this could be more or less depending upon actual cost – gas and economic conditions will factor into this)

At least one adult from each synod as well as Pastor Harvey Huntley and Professor Lamontte Luker will be chaperoning the trip.

Walking Holy Pilgrimage Planning Team

Region 9 Coordinator Harvey Huntley HHuntley@ltss.edu
Virginia Synod – Dave Delaney delaney@vasynod.org
North Carolina Synod – Tammy West Jones Tammy@lutheranyouth.org
South Carolina Synod – Stephanie Stoudlemayer stephanie@scsynod.com

Dr. Lamontte Luker – Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
Southeastern Synod – Rachel Alley ralley@elca-ses.org
Jaffet Carreras jjafet18@hotmail.com Caribbean Synod

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We will be reading the following books to prepare us for our trip.

Blood Brothers by Elias Chacour,

Oh Jerusalem by Larry Collins and Dominique la Pierre,

The Land and the Book by Charles Page and Carol Volz (Abingdon)

Please answer two of the questions and write one paragraph each and include with the registration form.

1. Why are you interested in going on the Walking Holy Pilgrimage?
2. What opportunities for spiritual and personal growth do you hope to find for yourself?
3. Describe a travel experience and how it has affected you.
4. Describe a time in which you encountered people from other cultures or a vastly different life experience, and any reflections you have on that experience.

The Rev. Dr. Lamontte Luker is professor of Hebrew Scriptures at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. He will be our guide on this pilgrimage. He is fluent in both Biblical and modern Hebrew. Dr. Luker is well versed in the sites and social dynamics of the Holy Land. He has led many study tours through the Jerusalem Center for Biblical Studies to Israel and Palestine and knows personally leaders in both Israeli and Palestinian circles.

Dr. Luker holds degrees from Concordia Senior College (B.A.), Cambridge University (M.A.), Christ Seminary-Seminex (M.Div.), and Vanderbilt University (Ph.D.). He has served as a parish pastor on Long Island, New York, as Lutheran Campus Pastor at Vanderbilt University, and as Assistant Professor of Religion and Hebrew at California Lutheran University.

Dr. Luker's primary interest is in the literary and theological analysis of Scripture, and he has contributed numerous articles to Mercer Dictionary of the Bible, Anchor Bible Dictionary, New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, as well as scholarly and church-related journals. His books include *Doom and Hope in Micah and Passion*, *Vitality*, and *Foment: The Dynamics of Second Temple Judaism*.

Dr. Luker also serves as Faculty Associate in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of South Carolina, Adjunct Professor of Old Testament at the Jerusalem Center for Biblical Studies, and is on the faculty of the Jerusalem Institute for Biblical Exploration. He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature, the American Schools of Oriental Research, the Biblical Archaeology Society, and the National Association of Professors of Hebrew.



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ELCA Region 9 High School Youth 14 day Study Tour
Dec 20-Jan 2, 2010-11
From Dr. Luker – Tentative Itinerary

December

Mon 20 Depart USA

Tues 21 Arrive Tel Aviv. Transfer to Jerusalem. Overnight Jerusalem.

Wed 22 Temple Mount with mosques, Western (“Wailing”) Wall, Temple Mount Excavations (Davidson Center), City of David, Hezekiah’s Tunnel, Siloam Pool. Overnight Jerusalem.

Thurs 23 First-century rolling stone tomb of Queen Helena of Adiabene, meet with head of the Lutheran World Federation at Augusta Victoria Lutheran Hospital, Bethpage, Pater Noster, Dominus Flevit, Garden of Gethsemane, Pool of Bethesda, Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Overnight Jerusalem.

Fri 24 Yad Vashem, Israel Museum, meet with Bob Lang and Israeli teenagers in Efrat, Christmas Eve Service at Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. Overnight Bethlehem.

Sat 25 Visit with Palestinian families and teenagers in Bethlehem, Church of the Nativity, Shepherds’ Field, Herodion. Overnight Bethlehem.

Sun 26 Wadi Kelt hike, Jericho, Qumran. Overnight Kibbutz Ein Gedi.

Mon 27 FREE DAY Kibbutz Ein Gedi (swim in Dead Sea and experience kibbutz life, meet with teenage members of the community). Overnight Kibbutz Ein Gedi.

Tues 28 Masada, Ein Gedi Hike. Overnight Tiberias.

Wed 29 Tsipori (Sephoris), Nazareth, Nazareth Village, Cana. Overnight Tiberias.

Thurs 30 Boat ride on Sea of Galilee, First-century fishing boat at Ginosar, Capernaum, Tabgha (Feeding of the 5,000), Primacy of Peter, Holy Communion on the Mount of Beatitudes, group swim at Tiberias Hot Springs. Overnight Tiberias.

Fri 31 Dan, Banias (Caesarea Philipi) with nature hike to waterfall, Druze villages and meet villagers, Kuneitra view of UN operations. Overnight Tiberias.

January Sat 1 Visit with Archbishop Elias Chacour, author of *Blood Brothers* which we shall read, Mount Carmel, Megiddo (Armageddon), Caesarea Maritime, closing dinner in Jaffa on the Mediterranean coast. Depart Israel for USA.

Sun 2 Arrive USA.

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Youth Participant Application

Please Print Clearly

Name _____ Male _____ Female _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade (Fall 2008) _____

Youth Email Address _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Youth Cell Phone _____ Youth Home Phone _____

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Email _____

Parent's Phone Numbers _____

Home Congregation _____ City _____

Pastor's Name _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

I give permission for my child _____ to participate fully in all activities related to the Region 9 "Walking Holy" Youth pilgrimage. I understand health and other permission forms related to the trip will be sent after accepted into the program.

Parents Signature _____ Date _____