

EZRA NEWS

R E S C U E • R E T U R N • R E S T O R E

And HE will lift up a standard for the nations, and will assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Isaiah 11:12

Heartfelt Thanks to You Our Partners

As President of Ezra International I want to thank all of you, our partners and supporters that have helped us to have one of our best years ever in our twenty year history in 2016. You made it possible for us to have the necessary funding to give us the opportunity to bless Israel by getting almost 5,000 more Jewish people home to Israel in fulfilling the prophetic words about the "final return" of the Jewish people.

We could not have been able to help these people without your unending support. Even now we have over 44,000 people that we are in the process of helping to prepare to go, thank you again. They are all depending on Ezra International and you.

We are looking forward to 2017 as the world seems to be heading for another year of new opportunities for Ezra International to expand our work. G-D is directing us to new areas of the world where Jewish people continue to suffer and stand in need of help in making their "Final Exodus" to Israel. The Lord is sending us into Latvia, Poland more areas of Russia, Brazil, Argentina, etc.

The time and season of Israel becoming a nation again in 1948 and the fact that G-D is bringing the Jewish people home to Israel from the four corners of the earth (Isa 11:12) and that as you are helping this happen through your love and support of Israel means HE has chosen you and us in fulfilling Bible prophecy as Isa. 49:22 declares. Thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I will lift up My hand to the nations and set up My standard to the peoples; (Gentiles) and they will bring your sons in their bosom, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders. NASU

You truly have carried these people home to Israel on your shoulders and for that, may the Lord bless you and keep you and make His face to shine upon you.



*"For I will restore them to the land
(Israel) I gave their forefathers."
Jeremiah 16:15b*

Our Partners in Ministry
Bridges for Peace • Ministry to Israel
Zion Ministries • Father's House



Mel Hoelzle,
Founder/President

“Lest We Forget...”



Barry Wagner
Vice President



Jewish Children in the Warsaw Ghetto

January 27th is always such a somber day as the world remembers the 6 million Jews, the 20 million Russians, the 10 million Christians and the 1,900 Catholic priests who were murdered, massacred, raped, burned, starved, gassed and humiliated at the hand of a mad man, Adolf Hitler.

The following is but one account of how just one person can do so much even in the face of death and evil.

God Bless The Lady Plummer

Her name was Irena Sendler who passed away in Warsaw, Poland at the age of 98 on May 12, 2008. During WWII, Irena, got permission to work in the Warsaw ghetto as a Plumbing/Sewer specialist. Irena had an ulterior motive. You see, Irena smuggled Jewish infants out of the ghetto in the bottom of the large tool box she carried.

She also carried a burlap sack in the back of her truck for larger kids. Irena kept a dog in the back of the truck that she trained to bark when the Nazi soldiers let her in and out of the ghetto. The soldiers of course, wanted nothing to do with the dog and the barking covered the children's and infant's noises.

During her time of doing this, she managed to smuggle out and save 2,500 Jewish children. Ultimately she was caught and the Nazi's broke both of her legs and arms and beat her severely.

Irena kept a record of the names in a glass jar of the kids she had smuggled out that she had buried under a tree in her back yard. After the war was over she tried to locate any parents that may have survived and tried to reunite the family, however, most of them had been gassed. Irena was able to place the children who lost their parents into foster family homes or adopted.



Irene Sendler in her later years

In 2007 Irena was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, however, she was not selected. Al Gore won for a slide show he produced on Global Warming. Later another politician, Barack Obama, won for his work as a community organizer for ACORN. How distorted are the values of this world!

Now more than ever, with Iran and so many other countries and peoples claiming the Holocaust never happened, it is imperative to make sure the world never forgets, because there are others who would like to do it all over again.

We at Ezra International honor and pay tribute to Irena Sendler who risked her own life to save so many. I know she has a very special place in Heaven for standing on her convictions and being such a blessing to the Apple of God's eye. She truly was an ordinary person doing extraordinary things. God Bless The Lady Plummer!

Their “Final Exodus”

How very thankful we are to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for an extremely great year for so many Jewish people returning to the land of their inheritance in their “Final Exodus.” With the war in Eastern Ukraine still raging, anti-Semitism at a very dangerous level, stark poverty and horrible living conditions in the many countries Ezra International is laboring in much of the Jewish populations are desiring to go home to their “Promised Land.”

I am most happy to share the 2016 Aliyah statistics with you enabling you to see what your faithful prayers and financial giving has made possible. YOU have impacted these precious Jewish lives for all eternity.

Due to security concerns in some of the countries we are working in we have been asked by the Jewish Agency not to publish the statistics from their countries. We wish to honor that request. Below are the statistics we can report freely.

Argentina	15	Armenia	21	Azerbaijan	94	Brazil	16
Georgia	93	Hungary	19	Kazakhstan	57	Moldova	103
Russia	1,268	Ukraine	2,946	Uzbekistan	131		

Thanks to you these 4,763 precious Jewish people are now living as free Jews in the land of the Jews according to God's eternal plan for their lives. May I personally thank you on their behalf.

We Stand With Israel

Two more churches standing with the apple of His eye, being used by the Holy One of Israel

Recently, Richard & Joan Wagner presented special awards to the pastor and members of their congregations for their faithful support to the ministry of Ezra International for many years. They have made it possible for 91 precious Jewish People to leave a land of poverty and little hope of a future and begin their new life in their "Promised Land."

We want to thank Pastor Byrnes & Mary Pitts, First IPH Church, Brewton, AL, and Pastor Tom & Sylvia Croft, Morningstar Family Church, Middleburg, FL. They have caught God's vision to help the Jewish people return to the land God promised, and be a part of fulfilling prophecy. It is amazing what small churches can do financially through their obedience to God's word. He has promised to "Bless those who Bless Israel"

Pastor's it's not too late to get involved and support our ministry. Would you consider blessing this ministry so many more families can return home? We have a few dates left for 2017, so please give us a call. 904 860-8113.



Pastor Byrnes & Mary Pitts with
Richard and Joan Wagner



Pastor Tom & Sylvia Croft with
Richard and Joan Wagner

**A special THANK YOU to all the pastors and churches for your support.
You truly have a special place in our heart**



"Do Not Hold Them Back"

Aliyah From Latin America 2017

We're excited about the work that God is doing with aliyah in Latin America. Ezra has teams and volunteers in Argentina and Brazil, and during 2016 we helped 15 and 16 olim in each country, respectively.

We believe the Lord has led us to start working in Latin America in His time, and we can sense His leading our work there. According to the Jewish Agencies Aliyah from both Brazil and Argentina has greatly increased in recent years. The return from Brazil increased dramatically by 35% in 2016, from 497 in 2015 to 672 in 2016, and the need for aliyah assistance is projected to increase in 2017. Our aliyah representative Eg-lom certainly might have his hands full!

Of course, Ezra did not help all these families in 2016, but we are grateful that, after a year of working together with the Jewish Agency in Sao Paulo, we are now a trusted aliyah partner in Brazil.

We also see local congregations responding to our ministry in Brazil. We currently have volunteers from congregations in Sao Paulo who drive Jewish families to the airport on the day they depart for Israel. And we have a good beginning for our prayer ministry in Brazil, with many Christians faithfully interceding for our work there and around the world.

Because Brazil's evangelical churches are often pro-Israel, our coordinator in Brazil, Edinho, has much work to do with congregational

leaders, to share the vision the Lord has given to Israel. Please pray for these meetings and contacts, as there literally are thousands of potential church partners for Ezra in Brazil.

In Argentina, God has opened doors for contact with pastors and church leaders. We have a strong prayer group in Buenos Aires, and we also have contact with pastors near the city of Rosario. We pray that these contacts continue to grow, and that God keep His hand over our work in the churches.

Within Argentina's Jewish community, the Lord has blessed our representative Marcelo with open doors to several Jewish and Zionist organizations. This really helps put us in contact with Jewish families not only in Buenos Aires, but in cities around the country.

We appreciate your prayers in 2016 and ask you to continue to intercede this year! As we begin our work this year, we appreciate prayer support for the Lord to bless us with wisdom and with good relationships in both the Jewish and Christian communities in Argentina and Brazil. May the God of Israel bring many of His children home to the Promised Land from Latin America in 2017!



Craig Shrum
Director of
Latin America



Ezra Representatives Ready to *Share the Aliyah Story*

With the new year of 2017 underway the many Ezra International representatives are filling their calendars with speaking engagements all across the United States. We are asking all pastors who love Israel and the Jewish people to contact one of the representatives listed below and open your pulpit to them to share with you and your congregation what the Holy One of Israel is doing through Ezra International in the regathering of the Jewish people to their homeland. This is all being done in fulfillment of bible prophecy.

God has made it very clear in Genesis 12:3 that He would bless those who bless the Jewish people and those who curse them will be cursed. What a wonderful way to be a special blessing to the Apple of His Eye by getting involved in this prophetic regathering from all the nations.

In the past 20 years Ezra International has been blessed to have assisted over 100,000 Jewish people in their return to Israel but it has only been possible because of pastors like you opening their pulpits to this end time ministry.

Please take a moment today, call one of our able representatives and find a date that would work well for both of you for them to share this most important prophetic ministry. If you do not see a representative in your state, just call Rev. Richard Wagner at 904-860-8113 and we will have a representative contact you.

Rev. Barry L. Wagner
Vice President
407-353-2145
barry@ezrainternational.org

Rev. Richard C. Wagner
Church Development Director
904-860-8113
richard@ezrainternational.org

Rev. Rick & Ruth Ramey
Ohio Representatives
937-307-2714
hope_israel@msn.com

Rev. Pam Royals
Georgia Representative
404-548-3794
proyals1953@gmail.com

Rev. Dana Lee Weller
North Texas Representative
806-782-6268
weller.danner@yahoo.com

List of Representatives

Rev. Roger Cunningham
Arkansas Representative
479-234-5377
roger.cunningham@heartlandcogop.org

Rabbi Gary Fernandez
Spanish Community Representative
321-578-1290
rabbifernandez@gmail.com

Rev. George & Ludmilla Gotman
New York Representatives
315-219-1599
georgeg2319@yahoo.com

Rev. Jose Miguel Juarez
Florida Representative
239-384-3210
777aoc@gmail.com

Rev. Danny & Marta Hartzog
Mississippi Representatives
352-255-8599
hartzogdanny@gmail.com

Rev. Kathy Hurd
Tennessee Representative
870-340-5002
kathy.caughron@yahoo.com

Rev. Kenneth (Kenny) Kemp
Arkansas Representative
870-214-0768
kennykemp@gmail.com

Rev. Glenn & Kim Mills
Georgia/Alabama Representatives
919-738-2707
glennmillsministries@gmail.com

Rev. Earl (Ken) & Valerie Pettibone Jr.
Florida Representatives
904-476-1664
ekpministries@comcast.net

Rev. John & Linda Taylor
Georgia Representatives
706-491-9167
johnctaylor@windstream.net

Rev. Jeffrey (jeff) Ward
W. Florida & S. Alabama Representative
850-573-6858
gieffward@gmail.com



Update on Ezra's Children's Program

Kiev, Ukraine

CHRISTMAS

Once again, the Ezra children's staff did an amazing job distributing gifts to the children and food packages to crisis families for Christmas. As well as to the crisis families we work with, they took gifts to a center for children out of Kiev and to a rehabilitation house for mothers with children, which we will give more information on below. Altogether they prepared and gave away 220 gifts and packages. There was also a beautiful Christmas concert provided for the children and parents.



And this year there was an additional big surprise for the children in the after school program (these children are from crisis families we are working with) – a visit from the US Marine Security Guards from the American Embassy in Kiev who came laden with gifts and enjoyed a party with the children.

NEW PROJECT – “LIFE AT 100%”

Lena, one of our social workers had a vision for how mothers with drug addiction problems might more effectively be helped and still be with their younger children. Six months ago Lena's church gave her a house it owns 100 kms from Kiev to start her project. We love the translation of the name she chose – “Life at 100%” - to give the mothers hope that they can move past their struggles. The home immediately filled up with mothers from crisis families we work with and now ten mothers and fourteen children live there. There is a live-in mentor as well.

Some of the mothers have older children who temporarily live in children's homes. A donor gave us funds to replace windows and help winterize the house and we have been providing funds for gas heating and electricity. Two to three times a month food and supplies are purchased and taken to the home. The project is an exciting success. Our staff has worked with several of the mothers for a prolonged period time and progress has been slow and faltering. But being in the environment of this new home, they are becoming free of their addictions and desiring to be good mothers to their children. The atmosphere there is “joyful with a large family” feel.



The new project runs on a very tight budget providing for just the very basic of their needs. If you would like to help these mothers and their children have a new beginning, or help with

any of our other children's projects, please make your gift payable to Ezra International and mark “Children's Work” on the memo line. May we thank you in advance for whatever you are able to do for these children and their mothers.



Ezra International
P.O. Box 120926
Clermont, FL 34712-0926
(352) 394-4673
www.ezrainternational.org



Please Support
Ezra International
With a Gift

Jeremiah 16:16 Fishing Trip



Travel Dates: September 13-22, 2017

This is your personal invitation to travel to the country of Ukraine with Rev. Barry Wagner, Vice President of Ezra International, to be personally involved in the regathering of the Jewish people of the former Soviet Union to the land of their inheritance, Israel.

"It is one thing to see Bible prophecy being fulfilled but it is another thing to be a part of it." This is your opportunity to be used by God to be a special blessing to the seed of Abraham. (Isaiah 49:22)

During this life changing experience you will literally become one of the fishers spoken of by God in Jeremiah 16:16. You will visit many of the poorest of the poor Jewish people that Ezra International is assisting in their aliyah (immigration) to Israel. You will be involved in delivering humanitarian aid; you will visit "Father's House," an orphanage co-sponsored by Ezra International for street children. You will travel by overnight train from Kiev to Odessa to visit Jewish immigrants as they prepare to leave to begin their new lives in Israel.

The approximate cost of this ten day ministry experience is only **\$1,600 from New York**. This price includes round trip air fare, hotels, train tickets and meals.

For additional information and an application form please contact Barry Wagner at:

Ezra International
P.O. Box 120926
Clermont, FL 34712-0926
Office Phone: (352) 394-4673
Cell Phone: (407) 353-2145
ezrausa@aol.com



2015 "Fishing Team Members"

The first twelve people to register will receive a gift copy of Barry's book, **And Still They Come, Israel's "Final Return."**

RESPONSE CARD

Please support Ezra International's work of bringing the Jewish people home to Israel with the largest gift possible.

If you would like to make a ONE-TIME GIFT or a monthly donation to Ezra International, please send your financial gifts to:

Ezra International,
P.O. Box 120926
Clermont, FL 34712-0926

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Please charge my credit card in the amount of:

One Time Donation \$ _____ OR Monthly Donation \$ _____

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ AmEx Expiration Date:

Credit Card Number:

Name on credit card (please print) _____ Phone number _____

Signature: _____

Email (please print clearly)

N17CAI