



# 2019 LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IN THE HOLY LAND

March 25-April 8, 2019 15 days

Host: The Reverend Dr. Mitri Raheb and Dar al Kalima University

Leaders: Mike Abel and John Lindner

**T**his program offers new and creative ways to understand and respond to the context of the Israel/Palestine conflict. It raises the possibility of different strategies for resisting the power of empire and supporting those who both struggle against it and suffer its daily injustices and violence. This is an in-depth program during which new insights, experiences and strategies will be explored.



## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### **MON 25 MAR** **Depart U.S.**

Depart JFK on the non-stop, overnight flight to Tel Aviv via Delta Airlines  
(Meals in-flight)

### **TUE 26 MAR** **Arrive Tel Aviv/Bethlehem**

- Upon arrival meet guide and driver, transfer to Bethlehem
  - Dinner at Guesthouse
- (Meals in-flight, D)

### **WED 27 MAR** **Bethlehem**

Our Story: The Palestinian Narrative: Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, President of Diyar Consortium & Dar-al-Kalima University College

- Meet our guide Osama Awad
  - Meeting with the Mayor of Bethlehem
  - Lunch: Afteem Restaurant
  - Walking tour of Bethlehem, the wall, Dheisheh Refugee Camp
  - Dinner at Guesthouse
- (B,L,D)

### **THU 28 MAR** **Bethlehem**

- Meeting with Dr. Jad Isaac, environmental expert & Executive Director of Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem
  - Transfer to Hebron and briefing on situation
  - Lunch meeting with former mayor of Hebron, Dr. Daoud Zatari
  - Tour of Old City Hebron and Ibrahimi Mosque
  - Dinner at Guesthouse
- (B,L,D)

### **FRI 29 MAR** **Bethlehem**

- Drive to Jericho and Jordan Valley
  - Briefing on water and environmental issues in the Jordan Valley
  - Lunch: Limon Restaurant in Jericho
  - Visit with Bedouin community leaders
  - Tour Taybeh Brewing/Taybeh Winery
  - Visit Historic Village of Taybeh including meeting with the Khoury family founders of Taybeh Beer and Wine
  - Dinner in Taybeh
- (B,L,D)

### **SAT 30 MAR** **Bethlehem**

- Meet with ICHAD (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions) for briefing on demolitions in the Bethlehem area
- Visiting families of home demolitions



We invite pastors, church leaders, educators, and other professionals committed to the struggle for a just peace in Israel/Palestine to participate in this leadership experience. The aim of this program is to gain a deeper understanding of the current realities in Israel/Palestine as well as to view the Holy Land through a new, biblical/theological lens. This opportunity is open for people already interested in the region, who are committed to making a difference and investing in hope.

The program will explore the question: Where do we go from here on the journey toward peace, human rights and building bridges of understanding? The

program will highlight the experience of courageous Palestinians attempting to build a future even in the face of occupation.

The Palestinian Christian community in the 2009 Kairos document sent out a cry to the Christian community abroad saying "Come and See." This invitation is even more urgent today, 51 years after the 1967 war. Come and see the facts on the ground, listen to diverse narratives, be inspired by ministries of hope, and consider future directions for advocacy and support. We hope you will join us for this ecumenical program of faith and learning.

—Mike Abel and John Lindner

- Lunch and walking tour of Beit Sahour
  - Free evening- dinner on your own
- (B,L)

### **SUN 31 MAR** **Bethlehem**

- Morning worship at Christmas Lutheran Church
  - Lunch at Guesthouse
  - Meet our second week guide, Lama Jamjoum
  - Afternoon with Zochorot (Israeli NGO) to visit 1948 Palestinian village of Lifta
  - Dinner at The Grotto Restaurant
- (B,L,D)

### **MON 01 APR** **Bethlehem**

- Tour of Jerusalem and conversation with settlement expert/human rights advocate Daniel Seidemann
  - Meet and lunch with Palestinian member of Knesset, Aida Touma Suleiman
  - Meet with B'Tselem - Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
  - Dinner on your own in East Jerusalem
- (B,L)

### **TUE 02 APR** **Jerusalem**

- Visit to Al-Aqsa Mosque
  - Meeting with Dr. Mustafa Abu-Sway, Professor of Philosophy and Islamic Studies-Al Quds University
  - Old City Tour with briefing on challenges facing the Old City
  - Lunch on your own in Old City
  - Tour of Jerusalem municipality through Palestinian eyes with Enas El-Muthaffar
  - Briefing on Palestinian healthcare issues at Augusta Victoria Hospital
  - Dinner at Guesthouse
- (B,D)

### **WED 03 APR** **Ramallah- Day 1**

- Transfer to Ramallah
- Visit Palestine National Museum
- Meeting with Rev. Dr. Jamal Khader - Kairos Palestine
- Lunch meeting with authors Jean Zaru and Raja Shehadeh

- Afternoon in Ramallah
  - Conversation and dinner with Sam Bahour and colleagues - business and economics
- (B,L,D)

### **THU 04 APR** **Ramallah, Day II**

- Transfer to Ramallah
  - Meet with Defense of Children International (DCI)
  - Meeting with Al-Haq/Palestinian NGO human rights organization
  - Lunch on your own in Ramallah
  - Meet with Palestinian political leader
  - Arafat Tomb & Museum
  - Dinner at Guesthouse
- (B,D)

### **FRI 05 APR** **Bethlehem/Departure**

- Day at Dar al Kalima University for Arts and Culture including meeting with students and faculty
  - Lunch prepared by students in Culinary Arts
  - Women of Vision Forum Program examining issues for Palestinian women
  - Dinner at Guesthouse with The Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb
- (B,D)

### **SAT 06 APR** **Bethlehem**

- Guided morning hike in Battir
  - Luncheon at the Battir Heritage Kitchen
  - Free Afternoon
  - Dinner at Guesthouse - Group Reflections
- (B,L,D)

### **SUN 07 APR** **Bethlehem**

- Free Day - options to be presented
  - Evening transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for flight check-in and departure
- (B)

### **MON 08 APR** **Return to U.S.**

- Arrive JFK and connect to homeward flights
- (Meals in-flight)

Code: **B**reakfast, **L**unch, **D**inner  
Itinerary subject to change.  
Speakers subject to availability.



## TOUR CONDITIONS

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** Your reservation and deposit of \$400 per person are requested immediately to fulfill the group deadline requirements. Note that space is limited and reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis. A second payment of \$1000 is due November 21, 2018. Final payment is due no later than January 21, 2019. The fee for late payment is \$50 per traveler. For credit card payment Group Travel Directors accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.

**REFUND POLICY:** All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for partial or unused land arrangements. Note: Airline tickets will be issued well in advance of departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to November 20, 2018 - \$100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable deposits; November 21, 2018 - March 10, 2019 - Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; March 11, 2019 or after - No refund.

**CHANGES TO GROUP FLIGHTS:** The group airfare contract for this tour may not allow travelers to make any date or itinerary changes. If you are considering other dates or cities, please submit your request in writing well in advance to secure the best rates and schedule, but no later than November 21, 2018. A minimum fee of \$100 per person will apply for changes to group flights in addition to a possible airfare increase.

**LATE BOOKINGS:** Passengers registering within thirty days of tour departure will be charged a \$50 per person fee. Tour payment in full is required before we can request and confirm space. This fee does not cover any additional airline or ground service charges.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- AIRFARE:** Round-trip economy class airfare from JFK via Delta Airlines or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier.
- ACCOMMODATION:** Thirteen nights accommodation at Abu Gubran Lutheran Guesthouse, double occupancy, with private facilities.
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily with seven lunches and ten dinners as outlined in the itinerary.
- GROUND TRANSPORT:** Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach.
- PROGRAMMING:** Extensive programming throughout; honoraria and entrance fees included.
- PORTERAGE:** Luggage handling of one piece per person.
- EXPERT GUIDES:** Experienced English-speaking tour guides for ten and one-half days per the itinerary.
- GRATUITIES:** Gratuities to drivers and guides (for your convenience, \$156 per person has been included).
- TAXES:** Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently \$688 per person).
- ALL THE INFO YOU NEED:** Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name badges, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

**PRE-EXISTING medical conditions and other circumstances are covered when travel protection is purchased within 14 days of registration. Contact Travel Insured for more info. 800-243-3174**

## COST SUMMARY

**\$4279**

From JFK

Tour Gratuities (\$156).....Included  
Airport /Departures Taxes (\$688).....Included  
Costs per person based on double occupancy in USD

### Optional Individual Supplement

Single Room.....\$399  
In addition to base tour cost. Limited availability.

**Costs:** The tour cost is per person based on current airfare from JFK (other cities available), double occupancy, tariffs and currency valuations as of May 2018, a minimum of 22 travelers, and subject to confirmation. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed price and/or itinerary, they are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Single room supplements may have limited availability and are on a request basis only. *Not all bookings have been made and all space/rates are subject to availability at time of booking.*

### Items Not Included

- Fuel surcharges and/or tax increases levied since the pricing of this tour.
- Beverages other than coffee/tea at breakfast.
- Any meal or sightseeing item not listed in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature.
- Optional travel protection: trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. Please refer to the Travel Protection section.
- Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.
- No entry visa is required for U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens may require an entry visa.

**This tour requires considerable walking. Please check with your tour leader if you have any questions.**



## RESERVATION APPLICATION • APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.GTD.ORG G#190305• OR CLIP AND MAIL

Bright Stars: Holy Land • March 25-April 8, 2019 • (G#190305) • Group Travel Directors • 2000 W 98th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55431

Name as it appears (or will appear) on passport:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

2. \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

Address (no P.O. boxes) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Eve.) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate \_\_\_\_\_  I will pay the supplement for a single room.

*Advise if we can assign you a roommate or single supplement. GTD can assist in finding roommates; however, this cannot be guaranteed and the supplement may apply.*

### FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (please check one)

- I/We will take the group flights from JFK.
- I/We will need assistance with flight arrangements from \_\_\_\_\_ airport to join the group.
- I/We will make all of my own flight arrangements.  
*Please contact GTD for land-only rates.*

### DEPOSIT/TRAVEL PROTECTION (please check one)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s) for me/us; we choose the following deposit option:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$648 per person **inclusive of travel protection.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$400 per person **without travel protection.**

I/We decline now, but understand it can be purchased later without the pre-existing waiver.

### Form of Payment

- Check
- Charge my deposit(s) to  
Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Name as it appears on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Group Travel Directors G#190305

I/We have read and understand the conditions of this brochure. Parent or guardian signature is required for travelers under age 18.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION

Travel protection is optional, but we encourage all travelers to purchase a plan. GTD offers an extensive and competitively priced plan from Travel Insured International. Travel protection can help provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. If you decline coverage at the time of reservation, you may purchase it later, but the Pre-existing Conditions Waiver is available only if the plan is purchased within 14 days of the initial trip deposit. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174. Review your Plan Document for Schedule of Benefits and Plan Details.

### GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION INCLUSIONS

Trip Cancellation.....	up to Tour Cost*
Trip Interruption.....	up to 150% of Tour Cost**
Travel Delay.....	\$750
Missed Connection.....	\$300
Baggage.....	\$1,000
Baggage Delay.....	\$200
Medical Expense.....	\$50,000
Evacuation/Repatriation.....	\$500,000
Accidental Death.....	\$10,000
Political Emergency Evacuation.....	\$100,000
ID Theft Resolution Services.....	included
Assistance Service.....	included

\* a maximum of \$4500 per person  
 \*\* a maximum of \$6750 per person

Cost of this optional GTD Travel Protection is \$248 per person. Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered. Travel protection is non-refundable fourteen days after you purchase a plan.

This document contains highlights of the plan. The Plan contains insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. Fairmont Specialty and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best Company 2015. The Plan also contains non insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization, OnCall International, and not by United States Fire Insurance Company or Travel Insured International. Review the Plan Document for complete terms, including benefits, conditions, limitations and exclusions that apply. The Plan Document will be provided to you upon purchase of the plan. Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions.

### EXCLUSIONS & LIMITATIONS

Insurance benefits are not payable for any loss due to, arising or resulting from: suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury of You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member or Business Partner booked to travel with You, while sane or insane; an act of declared or undeclared war; participating in maneuvers or training exercises of an armed service, except while participating in weekend or summer training for the reserve forces of the United States, including the National Guard; riding or driving in races, or speed or endurance competitions or events; mountaineering (engaging in the sport of scaling mountains generally requiring the use of picks, ropes, or other special equipment); participating as a member of a team in an organized sporting competition or participating as a professional in a stunt, athletic or sporting event or competition; participating in bodily contact sports, skydiving or parachuting, hang gliding, or bungee cord jumping; piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft; being Intoxicated as defined herein, or under the influence of any controlled substance unless as administered or prescribed by a Legally Qualified Physician; the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation; normal childbirth or pregnancy (except Complications of Pregnancy) or voluntarily induced abortion; dental treatment (except as coverage is otherwise specifically provided herein); amounts which exceed the Maximum Benefit Amount for each coverage as shown in the Schedule of Benefits; due to a Pre-Existing Condition, as defined in the Certificate. The Pre-Existing Condition Limitation does not apply to the Emergency Medical Evacuation or Return of Remains coverage; medical treatment during or arising from a Trip undertaken for the purpose or intent of securing medical treatment; due to loss or damage (including death or injury) and any associated cost or expense resulting directly from the discharge, explosion or use of any device, weapon or material employing or involving chemical, biological, radiological or similar agents, whether in time of peace or war, and regardless of who commits the act and regardless of any other sequence thereto.

### CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY

Group Travel Directors (GTD) provides customized travel planning throughout the world for group travelers who have a variety of reasons and goals for travel. The goals and/or opinions of these groups do not reflect or imply the position of GTD in any matter. Brochure contents may not be duplicated without permission from GTD. In offering these travel arrangements, Group Travel Directors, Inc. (GTD) acts solely as an agent for the sale of air transportation and other travel related services. GTD maintains no control over the personnel, equipment or operations of any entity furnishing services, products or accommodations. GTD assumes no responsibility or liability for, and shall not be expected, asked or required to pay for any injury, damage, expense, personal injury, property damage, inconvenience or any other loss experienced by reason of: (1) any intentional, wrongful, negligent or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any supplier, its agents or employees; (2) any defect, breakdown or other failure of any vehicle, equipment, service, product or other instrumentality which is owned, operated or otherwise used by a supplier; (3) any intentional, wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any other party not under the direct control of GTD; (4) financial problems causing nonperformance by any supplier; or (5) any other cause, condition or event whatsoever beyond the direct control of GTD. GTD cannot guarantee any rates, bookings or reservations of any supplier. Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the foregoing provisions. All prices quoted are subject to change if airlines or ground operators increase their prices, the U.S. dollar is devalued significantly against foreign currencies, the group falls below minimum numbers, or a fuel surcharge, government tax or user's fee is imposed. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. GTD reserves the right to withdraw from any tour any tour member whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the group as a whole. The above Conditions and Responsibility also covers the group leader(s) and their respective organizations.

### NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:

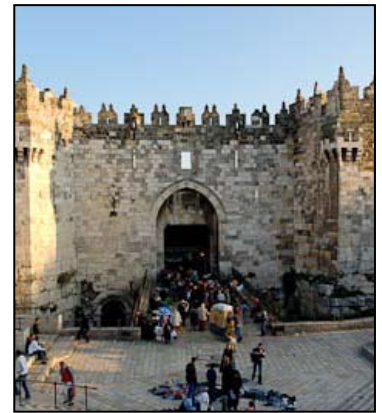
Please be assured that GTD continually monitors travel industry developments (strikes, etc.) as well as world events. If any such matters affect your tour, you will be notified. At the time this tour was developed the U.S. State Department Travel Advisory for this destination was Level 2 (Exercise Increased Caution); please refer to the following website for current information or call Group Travel Directors. <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

### For more information, contact:

John Lindner  
 Mike Abel  
 2019bethlehem@gmail.com

or

Group Travel Directors  
 2000 West 98th Street  
 Minneapolis, MN 55431-2593  
 tel: 952-881-7811 or 800-747-2255  
 fax: 952-881-6276  
 info@gtd.org  
 www.gtd.org





## About Our Host

### Mitri Raheb and Dar al Kalima University



Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb is President of Bright Stars of Bethlehem and founding President of Dar al-Kalima University of Arts and Culture in Bethlehem. He is the former Senior Pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem and the most widely published Palestinian theologian to date with seventeen books including, *The Cross in Contexts: Suffering and Redemption in Palestine* and *Faith in the Face of Empire: The Bible through Palestinian Eyes*. As a civic leader and social entrepreneur, Dr. Raheb has founded numerous organizations, serves on many regional and international boards and has received a number of international awards. He is a sought-after speaker and has been featured on international media outlets including CBS, CNN, ABC, BBC, PBS, *The Economist*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, *Newsweek*, and *60 Minutes*. Dr. Raheb holds a Doctorate in Theology from Philipps University of Marburg, Germany.

## About Our Leaders



**Mike Abel** is a Palestinian-American who has worked in healthcare for most of her professional life. She has traveled to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza many times on peace and medical missions. In 2009, she was part of a diplomatic pilgrimage

with the Council for the National Interest, visiting five Middle Eastern countries and Israel. In 2011, she spent three months on her own work-study program in Palestine/Israel. Currently, she is on the board for Delaware Churches for Middle East Peace. She is co-founder of Delawareans for Palestinian Human Rights and the recipient of the 2014 Peacemakers Among Us Award from Pacem in Terris. Through her advocacy work, she presents to a wide range of audiences, students, churches, and peace/ justice organizations on the current environment in Palestine and Israel. This is her third year with the Leadership Program.

**John Lindner** is retired as Associate Dean for External



Relations, Yale Divinity School. He spent over a quarter century providing leadership for international, ecumenical/ interfaith programs for the PCUSA, the National Council of Churches (NCCUSA) and the World

Council of Churches (WCC). He served as writer for the task force that produced the NCCUSA's Middle East Policy (1980). He first traveled to the Middle East in March 1974 and was an intern in Beirut with the Middle East Council of Churches in 1975. Over the years, he has traveled many times to the Middle East; served on the Leadership Council of Churches for Middle East Peace and was on the Board of A Different Future. Currently, he volunteers with Bright Stars of Bethlehem as co-coordinator of the annual Leadership Program and as editor of the blog: "Peace Doers... building a future in Palestine."

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*The program will be based in Bethlehem in comfortable accommodations in the Lutheran Guesthouse with many of the meals at the award winning Il'illiyeh Restaurant at the International Center of Bethlehem. The Leadership Program will include visits to various parts of the occupied West Bank of Palestine and to Jerusalem where the group will meet with outstanding religious, academic, business and political leaders for briefings and discussions. It is important to note that this program is organized in a travel seminar/program format, so opportunities for tourism will be limited. The price is based on a minimum of twenty-two travelers. In the event enrollment falls under the minimum, an increase of \$100 per traveler will apply (with seventeen to twenty-one travelers). Speakers listed in the brochure have been invited, although the program is subject to change.*