

TODAY'S HOPE!

"They will celebrate your abundant goodness..." Psalms 145:7



- ◆ Humanitarian Aid for Holocaust Survivors, Israel
- ◆ Adoption Program for Holocaust Survivors
- ◆ Education through media, speaking, teaching
- ◆ Beit Shalom Hospitality House, Akko, Israel
- ◆ Volunteer Program

AHI is a 501(c)3 faith-based organization, dedicated to blessing and honoring the Holocaust Survivors and elderly Jews from WWII. (Psalms 68:5&6)

Express Appreciation

October is the month to show appreciation for our pastors and spiritual leaders. In kind, I would like to express thanks and gratitude to those who have given me their time and wisdom.

Six years ago God instructed me to go visit the Holocaust Survivors in Israel. Since that time we have watched as God expanded this work. But along the way, I was able to glean the wisdom and insight of many spiritual leaders.

"Get wisdom, get understanding." Prov. 4:5

Repeatedly I found myself in need of (pg. 3)

Tzedakah

"Tzedakah is the Hebrew word for the acts we call "charity" in English: giving aid, assistance and money to the poor and needy. However, the nature of "tzedakah" is very different from the idea of charity. The word is derived from the Hebrew root Tzadei-Dalet-Qof meaning righteousness, justice or fairness. In Judaism, giving to the poor is not viewed as a generous act; it is simply an act of justice and righteousness. It is an obligation in Judaism, a duty that cannot be forsaken by even those who find themselves in need. In Judaism, Tzedakah is one of three acts that gain them forgiveness of sins." - www.jewfaq.org

Tzedakah is one of the 613 Mizvot (Commandments) listed from the Old Testament. Acts of kindness are expected and commanded among Jews. But for those that suffered so terribly during WWII, this belief actually caused heartache for many of them trapped in the grip of starvation with their fellow prisoners. Survival mode caused many to steal life giving rations from their own people, breaking that commandment. Some were even driven to the point of killing for a scrap of moldy bread or turning against their fellow Jews for better food. Today, those Survivors are struggling with their guilty memories of temporary madness, breaking a commandment they believe will cost them forgiveness of their sins. Today they say, *"I have no hope."*

In response, Abundant Hope International is reaching out to the Survivors in Israel. We are bringing them "abundant hope" through unconditional love and assistance. In fact, we are actually fulfilling the Jewish commandment since we are not expecting anything in return.

Recently an Orthodox Jewish charity in Israel was surprised to discover AHI, Gentiles, are "performing Tzedakah for our Holocaust Survivors! We are very pleased. How wonderful!"

Even as we reach out to these special people in need, other lives are touched as well. God networks in ways we cannot even imagine. (cont'd back page)

WHERE in the WORLD is Susan in 2009?!!

Oct 4 10AM & 6PM, House of Prayer, 5430 Davidsburg Rd., Dover, PA
Call Ruthie Foust at 717-259-8280 for more info
12 Florida
16 San Antonio, TX

Nov – Dec Israel

To arrange for Speaking times or Volunteer with us

Call **717-542-8810** or email info@abundanthopeinternational.org

NEWS IN ISRAEL AND THE USA

Calling All Prayer Intercessors!

If you are a prayer intercessor and are hearing the call to pray for Israel and her people, consider joining the team at Abundant Hope International! Email our Prayer Intercessor Coordinator, Barbara at abhill@libertyrides.com or write AHI (on back pg).

Beit Shalom Hospitality House

Many blessings take place through our Hospitality House. Currently our Hospitality House Director, Cookie, is in Israel. She is well known there for her cooking and hospitality to all. Here are some of the various happenings there:

- ◆ Cooking a Mexican Dinner for Arab Christians in the area (a new experience!).
- ◆ Guests and Volunteers coming and going, some visiting their own adopted Survivor!
- ◆ Bible study in Beit Shalom with a local congregation.
- ◆ Continuing work on the Prayer Garden with the help of Crystal.
- ◆ Traveling to another city to verify addresses, get updated pictures and help the Survivors make contact with their adopted family.
- ◆ Daily morning prayer for the guests, Survivors, AHI and whatever the Lord prompts.
- ◆ Holding a Ladies' Tea for local Holocaust Survivors and elderly. The men have announced they are coming too! So, it will be a Mixed Tea. :)
- ◆ Babysitting for a local pastor so he could take his wife on a date. They are excited!
- ◆ A Mexican Dinner for American Jews who made aliyah and miss the food!

A Big Thank You!

We want to express our gratitude to local businesses in the central PA area who helped sponsor our Celebrate Israel! Your participation made our event a success!

Giant Foods, Inc.

Five Guys Burgers and Fries

Trindle Bowling

Maple Donuts

Pizzatown, USA

Eat 'N Park

Weis Grocery

Wegman's Grocery

Bruster's Ice Cream

A Glimpse of the Holocaust

Through the eyes of actual Survivors of the Holocaust, the following books and media can help you understand the people we so desperately want to help:

Books:

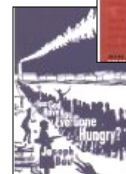
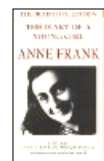
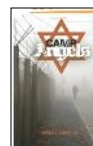
"The Nazi Officer's Wife" by Edith Hahn Beer

"Dear God, have you ever gone hungry?" by Joseph Bau

"Camp Angels" by James L. Curry

"In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer" by Irene Opdyke

"The Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank



Movies/DVDs:

"Defiance"

"The Hiding Place"

"Life is Beautiful!"

"The Devil's Arithmetic"

"Schindler's List"

"Boy in the Striped Pajamas"- (fiction)



As you search out books, DVDs, videos or the internet, please be aware of the graphic pictures and wording you may come across. The Holocaust is real; it happened to real people. The torture and horrific treatment of human beings at the hands of other humans is not to be denied. Teach your children of the Holocaust so it is not forgotten but we suggest you be discretionary of what you show them, age appropriate. Make sure the next generations remember the Holocaust so it is not repeated in their future.

Writing, Praying and Waiting...

Adopting a Holocaust Survivor is a very special undertaking. It has certain obligations and requires a special way of thinking. It is not a Pen Pal Program but an opportunity to bless Holocaust Survivors with your prayer and love. The process goes something like this:

- ◆ Fill out an application, send it in and wait for your assigned Survivor.
- ◆ Receive your Survivor packet, pray for them and send them a letter
- ◆ Pray for them every day
- ◆ Write to them once a month or more often if you can
- ◆ Financially sponsor your Holocaust Survivor to provide Food Coupons

You are blessing a Holocaust Survivor who feels they are alone and have no hope. All they have are their memories, and most are too horrible to live with. When they receive your letters, pictures and cards, they treasure them. Most keep them beside their favorite chair or under a pillow on the sofa where they sit. Imagine in your mind the scene as they pull them out to hold them close, look at them again and again, showing them to anyone who comes— which is very few people.

“But, I’ve written three letters and no one has replied. Aren’t they going to write back to me?”

No, most likely not. Hands curled due to arthritis from having them repeatedly broken by the guards in the concentration camp, constant pain from frostbite received in the Ukrainian winters while standing in snow without shoes or gloves, belief that you would not want to hear from them anyway because they feel worthless and most are afraid to really hope for family again prevents them from answering.

There are, slowly, growing numbers of people who are receiving notes from their Survivors. One thing seems to be the most common from those who are hearing back: faithful prayer and faithful letters. This is your chance to bless God’s People— PRAY for them and write!

Let me encourage those who have adopted Survivors to stay faithful in your prayers and in your writing. When we visit, the first question we are asked is how YOU are! :) God will reward your perseverance.

~ A FEW WORDS ~

“It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed. I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left. two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left.” Luke 17:34-36

When the Messiah comes, not all will be taken to be with Him. In the verses above, the activities described give a 24 hour period of time. When the Messiah comes, it will be night (sleeping), morning (grinding) and afternoon (at work), all at the same time, around the world. We must be ready at all times, even at night.

“I will praise the Lord, who counsels me, even at night my heart instructs me.” Ps. 16:7

“Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.” Ps. 24:3-4

“Therefore, keep watch... you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” Matt. 24:42

Are YOU ready? Are your hands clean and your heart pure? If not, whether it is day or night, it will be too late. Don’t delay. Now is the time to seek Yeshua!

Appreciation (pg 1 cont'd)

help to advance in God’s Vision. I was well aware I could not do this alone. Many times the Lord would send people my way just at the moment I needed some answers.

Through the growing pains of expansion and the needs of this work, these spiritual leaders have been there, available to give advice and support. Through them I have grown both personally and spiritually.

I cannot list each person but you know who you are. I want to say “Thank You!” for being faithful in your walk with the Lord and sharing your insight with me. -Susan Heagy

DID YOU KNOW...

...IN THE LAST YEAR OF WWII THE NAZI SS WERE SENDING MORE PRISONERS TO SLAVE LABOR CAMPS THAN WERE BEING MURDERED?

BETWEEN AUGUST 1944 AND JANUARY 1945, 65,000 PRISONERS WERE SENT WEST AS SLAVE LABORERS WHILE 67,000 WAITED FOR TRANSPORT IN AUSCHWITZ. THE RAILROAD WAS TIED UP FOR THE MILITARY AND FORCED DEATH MARCHES BEGAN CLAIMING MANY LIVES THAT WINTER.

-OSKAR SCHINDLER
BY DAVID M. CROWE

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Main Office:	AHI, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX 78245 info@abundanthopeinternational.org	717-557-5775	
Adoptions:	AHI, P.O. Box 3055, Shiremanstown, PA 17011 adopt@abundanthopeinternational.org	717-592-0859	
Volunteer:	ahi.dirisrael@gmail.com	717-542-8810 717-557-5775	(USA)
Israel: Beit Shalom Hospitality House	7 Yigal Yadin, Akko ISRAEL Mailing address: P.O. Box 8217, Akko, Israel	+972-04-981-0737	(ISRAEL)
Reservations:	beitshalom@abundanthopeinternational.org	717-542-8810	(USA)

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Be sure to visit our website: www.abundanthopeinternational.org

If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, contact us at info@abundanthopeinternational.org or write to the address above.

Tzedakah (continued from pg 1)

But what about the Gentiles? How do we view charity? Is it simply by choice or should we also view it as a commandment? Is our view different than the Jews? Let's see what Yeshua had to say about it:

"When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. Luke 14:12-14

We do it out of love, compassion and the commandment of Yeshua, who also is Jewish! There is no remuneration, no recognition, no payment in kind for what we do. Our reward is in heaven, after this earthly life is over. But even if we received no recognition even in our eternal life, the joy, tears and embraces of our Survivors is enough for us. What a blessing for us to see eyes light up and happy faces as we greet each Holocaust Survivor! Even though we give out Food Coupons, blankets, toiletries, birthday cards and identify their needs, it is the caring heart and the enfolding arms they appreciate. If we come to their door with nothing more than our heart of love, they welcome us. Come, join us as we practice Tzedakah for God's People!