

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!” (Philippians 2:3-8)

Our Ultimate Example

One of the early Church fathers had the following revelation: “All other sins find their vent in the accomplishment of evil deeds, whereas pride lies in wait for good deeds, to destroy them. It was pride that changed angels into demons; it is humility that makes men as angels.” In the same way that pride is at the root of all sin, it’s important to recognize that humility is at the root of all good deeds. When Jesus came as a sacrifice to take away the sins of the whole world, he became the ultimate example of humility for us to follow. The Creator of the universe chose to not only die for our sins against Him, but chose to die the most painful death that humanity has ever invented - crucifixion. The early believers in Jesus were intimately familiar with this form of torcher that the Romans used to terrify people into submission to their empire. Crucifixion was demonically designed to inflict the maximum amount of pain, suffering, and humiliation. But through His ultimate display of humility, Jesus turned the tables and “disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.” (Colossians 2:15)



One particular family that we were able to help was in desperate need after having to move out of a government sponsored hotel to make room for new refugees. The mother had been crippled psychologically and physically by PTSD after being held at gunpoint by Russian soldiers and fleeing from her home in Mariupol. Her teenage son was doing his best to look after her and his six year old brother. With the family on the verge of collapse, Bridges for Peace was able to furnish their tiny empty apartment in a desert town with all the appliances and furniture that they needed. When the overwhelmed mother was asked what gift she was most thankful for she answered, “the smiles I see on your faces. It makes me want to smile. And for the first time, I see my children smiling. Thank you for making my children smile.”



Outreach to Ukrainians

The past few months have been busy ones, the busiest since the founding of Bridges for Peace over 50 years ago. Donations from around the world have flowed in to help the Ukrainian Jews that have fled the war to rebuild their lives in the land of Israel. In particular, our Japanese donors have been deeply touched to give sacrificially. Even with a currency that is quickly devaluing, Bridges for Peace Japan has become our largest office financially for the first time. With these donations, we have been able to bless hundreds of Ukrainian families that have lost everything.



Bridges for Peace has partnered with a small grass roots Jewish organization to quickly meet the great need of Ukrainians coming to Israel. This partnership and friendship has grown deep with the Jewish volunteers over the past few months. The Christian love that they witness from our volunteers everyday is having a huge impact on them. For many of them this is the first time that they have experienced the generosity and love of Christians from around the world.

We Moved

We have also been busy on the home front. In July we finally moved into a new apartment. Over the past few months every spare moment has been spent organizing, repairing, packing, and unpacking. We are all so thankful for the bigger space! After years of waiting, the LORD has truly blessed us with a home that is just what we need!

Bergen Boys

Not so little Caleb has already found his voice and appetite. And over the past few weeks he has gone mobile, so we have found new motivation to finally finish moving in and unpacking. Caleb is absolutely adorable and he absolutely adores his older brothers who are more than eager to teach him everything. David has very gracefully transitioned from being the baby of the family to being one of the big boys with Ethan. The two of them are best buddies and inseparable. Letitia has officially begun their homeschooling and we are off to a good start! Stefan is doing his best to try and give Letitia the respite she needs...



PARTNER WITH US *in Prayer*

- Please pray that Stefan and the volunteers of Bridges for Peace would clearly shine the light of Christ's love to the Ukrainian families in need.
- Please pray that Stefan and the leadership of Bridges for Peace would have wisdom as they steward the resources of the ministry in this time of crisis.
- Please pray for the Bergen family as we settle into a new apartment and build relationships with our new neighbours.
- Please pray for the Bergen family as we begin homeschooling.



David Turns 3



Family Visits

Speaking of respite, we were visited by Uncle Thomas and Auntie Cara in June! It was so refreshing and such a blessing to be able to spend time with family again, and the boys truly had the time of their lives! Before their visit, Thomas and Cara were able to go on a Biblical tour of Turkey and Greece which they had been planning for years. They were able to see many of the ancient cities that are mentioned in the book of Acts and Revelation.



In November, we are looking forward to a visit from Letitia's brother Karl whom we have not seen in almost seven years. We can hardly wait to take him to all of our favourite places. It is such a privilege to be able to take family and friends to the Biblical sites all over Israel.

Thank You

It is truly a privilege to be able to serve the LORD in Israel. Thank you for your unwavering support of this calling to the Jewish people. Your faithful prayers and gifts are what allow us to continue serving. May the LORD richly bless you with every spiritual blessing in Christ!

With Love,
from Jerusalem



Stefan & Letitia, Ethan, David, Caleb

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