

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:1-5)

## The Word

It is not a coincidence that the Holy Spirit through John begins the gospel in the same way that Genesis begins. John 1:1 is a retelling of the creation story, and brings that story to completion and ultimate fulfillment through the creation of the Incarnation. “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). As you read through the gospel of John, it provides clear revelation for the entire Old Testament. Throughout the gospel of John, as in the opening words, there are dozens of references to the Old Testament. “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ” (John 1:17). As you read and meditate on the birth of Jesus Christ this season, may He give you grace and truth in abundance!

## Bridges for Peace

For over 50 years the ministry of Bridges for Peace has been working to fulfill Jesus’ mandate in Matthew 25 to feed, welcome, clothe, and visit the least of His brothers and sisters. There is a common stereotype that all Jewish people are rich, but I can assure you that the poverty in this country is deep and wide. Israel may now be a developed country economically, but many of the immigrants and elderly have simply been left behind. 25% of the population lives in poverty. This year has been particularly difficult for the poor as the basic cost of food has increased by 16%. Rent and fuel prices have also increase by almost the same amount. As we sacrificially help in their time of need, we are breaking down stereotypes that Jewish people have of Christians and opening hearts to the gospel.



As we reflect on the past year full of crisis and hardship, we thank the LORD for his provision. 2022 has had more donations flow into and out of the ministry than any other year. In less than two weeks our new leader, Peter Fast, will be arriving in Israel with his family. Please pray that the LORD would take the ministry of Bridges for Peace from strength to strength in the next 50 years!

## Travel Plans

Uncle Karl was able to visit us for the month of November! After seven years, it was so good for us to reconnect again in person and catch up on each others lives. Our boys had an absolute ball playing Legos and reading stories with him every day. We were also able to drive all around the country and visit some of our favourite places with him. It was such a blessing to share these special Biblical sites with him.



We had hoped and planned to visit New Zealand now that travel is less restrictive. However with the price of flights increasing compounded by the size of our family increasing, we have made the difficult decision to delay our trip again. Please pray that the LORD would guide us as we make plans to visit in the future.

## Shining faces

One evening last weekend, a severely disabled elderly man in an electric wheel chair approached us. Letitia went over to see if the man needed help. Yarrod was having trouble sending some messages on his device so Letitia offered to assist him. His communication was slow and very difficult to understand at times. But as She looked into his eyes trying to understand the problem her heart heard the words of Yeshua in Matthew 25 whisper “ whatever you did to the least of these my brethren, you do it unto me.” It wasn’t until near the end of quite a long process that Letitia realised this poor man had been robbed from in two separate incidences right outside the

bank totalling 10,000 Nis. He was sending footage and a police reports to someone who was trying to help him gain justice. As he thanked her, he said the reason why he came to us for help was that we had 'shining faces' like the German woman volunteering in his care school, so he knew he could trust us. At this Letitia said it was because we loved Yeshua. The man replied "I love the God of Israel and I love Yeshua."

### *Called to the Nations*

As foreigners in a foreign land we are connected to two worlds, the world of the local mix of Israelis and the International community. But when you take a step back, a calling to Israel is really a calling to the nations. There are so many people here in Israel originating from all over the world – the truest melting pot of languages, nations and ethnicities. The past few weeks this calling has come alive in a new way. Letitia and the boys have been helping establish a community garden – with French and Spanish speaking Jews. Our midwife asked us to befriend a young mother who is here short term as her husband is a professional basketball player. And our new neighbour upstairs from us is from the UK. So please pray for these new connections and friendships that we would truly shine the light and hope of Yeshua in both word and action.

### *Family Update*

Caleb is already on the verge of walking. Our curly haired chunky little ten month old is growing up fast as they all are! David, our sweet three year old, is thriving in the bigger space and loves to sing and read. Ethan reached the milestone of his fifth birthday in October, and is doing a great job with the responsibility of being the oldest brother. Just a few days ago Ethan fell off his scooter while he was going down a hill and broke his arm. Please pray that it heals quickly and completely.



## PARTNER WITH US *in Prayer*

- Please pray that Bridges for Peace would continue to grow from strength to strength.
- Please pray that the LORD would guide us as we make plans to visit New Zealand and Canada.
- Please pray that we would be a good and effective witness to our neighbours.
- Please pray that Ethan's arm heals quickly and completely.
- Please pray for Israel to recognize the coming of their Messiah in this season.

### *Auntie Cara & Shale*



### *Contact Details:*

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**If you would like to support us  
 please email [accounts@bfpcan.org](mailto:accounts@bfpcan.org)  
 for how you can give.**

### *Thank You!*

Seven years have now past since we received the call to return to Israel and serve. Thank you for staying with us on this journey. Thank you for praying with us and for us all these years, and faithfully supporting us financially as the LORD has lead you to give. We are truly humbled by the way that the LORD has blessed us through each of you! Our prayer is that each of you would be blessed beyond measure as we have been.

With Love,  
*from Jerusalem*



**Stefan & Letitia, Ethan, David, Caleb**