

Summary of 19-Day Middle East Trip

**Jordan, Israel/Palestine, Egypt
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Park Ridge, IL**

We sought a balanced itinerary: Old and New Testament sites, major archaeological sites, conversations with leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land, visits with Palestinians and Israelis who are working toward a permanent and just peace, time to purchase items made by local people, several periods of relaxation, i.e. boat trip on the Sea of Galilee, and worship and debriefing time each day.

Jordan – 3 days

Bethany-beyond-the-Jordan
Mount Nebo
Madeba ancient mosaics
Petra red-rock city
Jerash archaeological site

Israel/Palestine

Galilee – 3 days

Nazareth – Church of the Annunciation, Greek Orthodox Church, Mary's Well
Caesarea archaeological site
Mt. Carmel
Megiddo archaeological site
Sea of Galilee – Capernaum, Church of the Beatitudes, "Jesus boat," boat trip
Mt. Hermon and Golan Heights
Bet She'an archaeological site
Jericho

Bethlehem – 2 days

International Center of Bethlehem
Ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land
Meeting with the Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb
Old City of Bethlehem – Church of the Nativity and Manger Square
Visit to Efrat Israeli settlement
Visit to Deheisheh refugee camp
Shepherds' Field in Beit Sahour
Worship at Christmas Lutheran Church

Jerusalem – 7 days

B'Tselem Center

Mount of Olives and site of Mt. of Olives Housing Project

Augusta Victoria Hospital, meeting with the Rev. Mark Brown of LWF

Old City of Jerusalem – Western Wall, Temple Mount, Via Dolorosa, Stations of the Cross, Dominus Flevit Chapel, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mosque of Omar

Visit with Bishop Munib Younan

Ecumenical Accompaniment Program

Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial

Rabbis for Human Rights

Sabeel

Israeli Committee Against House Demolition

Separation Wall

Women in Black

Worship at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Masada and the Dead Sea

Egypt – 3 days

Cairo

Memphis

Giza and the great pyramids

Sphinx

Egyptian Museum

Abu Serga and the Hanging Churches

The Citadel and Mohammed Ali Mosque

St. Andrew's Refugee Ministry

Ecumenical Seminary