

Newsletter - January 2016

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

This Year in Pictures

Pictures are always better than words for they clearly show the abundant blessings that Yeshua gave us this year. We want to reflect on all the great things that God has done in us and through us. From our hearts to yours, thank you for standing with us. We are honored to be used for His purposes.

Praise Reports:

God has blessed us in so many ways this year. Every month when we send our newsletter or prayer requests, you have been faithful to pray. Please share with us in our praise reports:

- 7 new babies.
- 11 Water Immersions.
- A growing and thriving youth group (ages 13-18).
- 7 national youth camps attended.
- 2 single mother encouragement training workshops.
- Visitors from all over the world joining us in worship and prayers.
- 6 young soldiers inducted into service and safe, serving the Lord.
- No terror attacks in Kfar Saba proper.
- * Growing ministry at our "healing through creativity" center.
- All the money raised to purchase (not renovate) the Bomb Shelter/youth room.

We are waiting for the final papers from the municipality to sign the purchase agreement.

- 30 single mothers and others in need were helped in various ways.
- Thanks to you, our congregation is being supported so that we can help others in need.



Hamaayan Congregation Building

Update on Our Bomb Shelter/ Youth Center

This year, through you, we focused on raising support for our bomb shelter/youth center. Through you, we have raised the necessary funds to purchase this. While we were patiently waiting for the "red tape" to be cleared by the municipality, we discovered that God protected us once again. During this process, our lawyer discovered a loophole in the contract. If we had signed it any sooner than now, it would have cost us a great deal. But the timing is perfect and we are so grateful for your prayers on our behalf. Please continue to pray for the Lord's wisdom and direction for the right date to sign.



Our Bomb Shelter/Youth Center in the basement floor

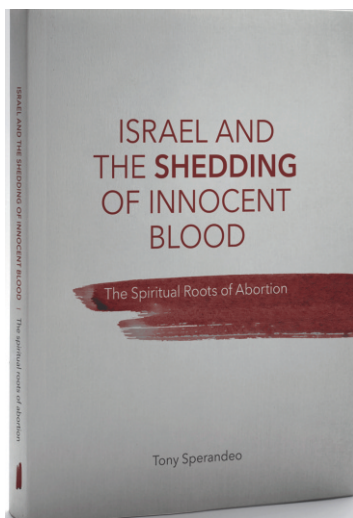
2015 in Pictures



Whether it be dancing before Yeshua during our weekly meetings, or celebrating the Feasts of the Lord, we look forward to giving Him thanks always.



Training and discipleship are a weekly event through our home groups and seminars



The two latest productions of our library are "Shalom China" and "Israel and the Shedding of Innocent Blood." Both available for order through our website.



Shalom China is a worship music CD both in Hebrew and Chinese.

This book, written by Tony about abortion, reveals God's heart for the unborn, and the consequences of sin affecting our nations.



The Circle of Life is celebrated in every stage...whether its the birth and dedication of a child, one studying the word of God, or entering the army, we ask God's guidance on all.



French Speaking Conference



Praying for our Pregnant Mothers
at our Indian/Lankans
Congregation



Chinese Visitors

"Then all the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord"
Malachi 3:12



Prayer is not only vital, it is our source of strength before the Lord. Whether it be our weekly meetings or times of dedication to prayer, we always seek to rely on the strength of the Lord

Taglit Hamaayan

So many of you have asked us how you can serve! Well, we believe we can answer your need. We are planning a two-week adventure here in Israel for those of you wanting to come over and see Israel, serve in our congregation, and learn about our nation through God's eyes. You will be learning in the morning from a number of our teachers various aspects of Israel and her people, and then either serve in the call that God has for you, or visit the various historical sites of this land. Let us know if you are interested.

Kfar Saba Our City, His Heart

We believe that God has given us the mandate to be the watchmen over our city and area over looking Samaria. The dream He gave us is to establish a "Ministry Center here, where the needs of the people can be met according to Isaiah 61 (our mandate/mission). Having the bomb shelter/youth center is just part of this vision. This year, He has put on our hearts to purchase the entire building, thus being free from outside influences of other tenants. And it will enable us to meet in a safer place.

Imagine with us:

A building that could be renovated in excellence that will draw the people.

A bomb shelter than can protect not only us but also those around us in times of crises.

A healing center that is based on creativity that would heal hearts and change lives.

A prayer area that over looks the entire Samaritan countryside.

A guesthouse that could accommodate visitors, volunteers, and new immigrants as they learn about Israel and our ministry.

This is our hope and dream for 2016. We believe with

Prayer needs

- For the salvation of the new comers and many more "lost sheep of the House of Israel".
- For our leadership development, discipling our next generation of leaders.
- For our leadership; wisdom and strength for them and their families, for direction to lead our congregation to do Yeshua's perfect will.
- For our members to develop a deeper intimacy with Yeshua, and fulfill the perfect call of God on their lives.
- The protection of our members from terror activities as well as any impending war that should come in 2016.
- Finances for the single mothers and needy families.
- Finances for our Youth Ministry for their camps and outings.
- Finances for the ground floor and first floor of our building (\$900,000)

Thank you for all your prayers and support over this past year. God has given us many blessings in the past and we are looking forward to an amazing future as we serve Him and our people.

Sally Shiff,

For Hamaayan Congregation.

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God's help and provision, we can see this as a reality by December.

God has done amazing things this past year. And we are excited for the future.

Newsletter - March 2016

Spring is finally upon us and we are excited about this season of new beginnings and about what God is doing in our midst.

New Life

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound." (Isaiah 61:1)

Every week, we are seeing new faces join our weekly service and home groups. Non-believers who have heard about us via our website or by our members are coming to hear the good news of Yeshua, our Messiah. Their hunger to know more brings them to our bible studies and home groups.

Please pray for their salvation. Our prayer is that God would reveal Himself to them, that their questions would be answered and they would grow strong in faith as they follow Him. Each one of them comes with deep hurts and spiritual needs. **Pray that God would heal them and set them free.**

Pray for those who once walked with God and have now walked away. Our heart's desire is for those sheep to return to be embraced by Abba's love. We are deeply encouraged by seeing some of them once again in our Shabbat services. **Pray that they would respond to His loving call for them to come home, receive the healing He wants to give them and fulfill the call that He has placed on their lives.**

Purim – The Feast of Esther

We are soon going to celebrate the feast of Purim, reading the book of Esther and rejoicing in God's salvation of Israel from her enemies. This is the story of Queen Esther who was raised up by God to save Israel from total destruction. It reminds us again of the challenge that we too were born for such a time as this, as ambassadors of His kingdom on earth.



**Praying for Healing
During our Meeting**

Building a Bomb Shelter

We are waiting impatiently for the final sign off of the municipality so that the bomb shelter/youth center can officially be ours. Only then can we start and complete the remodeling. We are already setting our prayers on purchasing the bottom & first floor of our building. In this way, we can be completely set free from the monthly rent that we have to pay to the other tenant because our current owned facilities are too small for us. With the entire building as ours, we can sufficiently meet the needs of our growing congregation. God calls us to be ready in season and out of season. Our weekly meetings are rapidly growing, and each generation increases in population. What was sufficient 15 years ago is no longer the case. **Please join us in prayer that God would supply our need for \$900,000 USD according to His riches in Glory.** We know that what He has promised, He is faithful to deliver. **Please pray as well for our leadership to have the wisdom and direction for this project.**

Israel 's News

Maybe you have read in the news about Israel's current situation with the on-going random stabbings of our citizens. Sadly, we hear daily about terrorist activity throughout Israel carried out by mere children (ages 11-17) incited by their government to "kill the enemy". According to The Times of Israel , Muslim governments have promised \$7000 per terror act to the person carrying out terrorist actions, as well as \$30,000 for their family if their house is demolished in response to their child's actions. This money comes from the amounts that were recovered from the sanctions lifted in the agreement with Iran.

Pray for God's protection over our homes, lives, and families. Pray also for protection against the spiritual attacks of the enemy that would try to bring fear and calamity on our leaders and members.

Youth and Next Generation

Some of these new believers are from the next generation (25 years and younger). We know that is a direct result of your standing in faith and prayer with us for our next generation. We have also seen a growing hunger in our youth ages 13-18. The fight for them does not cease as they are constantly bombarded with lies from peer pressure and the desire to "fit in". **Pray for them to be a light in their generation. God Himself must enable them to withstand temptations, and to be an example to their classmates and friends of a godly life in our dark world.**

Our Distribution Center

Even though we don't own the basement yet, as the contract hasn't been signed as of now, we were allowed to create our distribution center for the needy.

We can stock and distribute food, clothing & different items that are donated to us and bless needy families from our area.

As they are blessed practically, they are encouraged spiritually & build up in their faith. **Pray for them & pray for those who have yet to know the Lord.**



**Studying the Word of God
in One of Our Home Groups**



**Tony and Rafi Blessing
One of Our Youth**

We have seen many miracles happen in our congregation and community and are excited about what God has in store for us. We are grateful for your friendship, love and support, for your prayers for Israel and her people.

Blessings,
Hamaayan Team

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We send warm greetings to you from sunny Kfar Saba. We are happy to share with you the events of this past spring, updates relevant to today, and what God has in store for our future.

Passover

Passover is a time of remembering God's faithfulness to our ancestors as well as the reality that He is the same yesterday, today and forever. God commands us to celebrate this festival perpetually in Deuteronomy 16:1. At this time, Jews scattered all over the world gather with friends and family to read about and recall His miracles of Salvation. The first Passover was a time when God transcended natural laws to show the world His glory and love. As with every festival, we are commanded to observe, Yeshua is woven into the story as a fulfillment of God's redemption. Passover is the time when Yeshua ate His last supper with His disciples. He then died on the cross for our sins and redemption, and 3 days later, resurrected, setting us free from the penalty of sin forever!

Holocaust Day

Because nearly every Jewish citizen has been affected by the atrocities of the Holocaust, Israel has set aside a day to remember this attempted genocide of our people. Precisely at 11:00 am on this solemn day, a siren sounds for 2 minutes. Wherever we are driving, shopping or living life, we stop and stand in silence to remember and honor those who perished. The survivors who endured this tragic ordeal are now 70, 80, 90 years old. Their children and grandchildren were affected by these events. As a result, many have turned from God, and live lives full of despair and bitterness towards the God of Love.



Celebrating
Passover
evening
Seder
in our
congregation

Memorial Day

A week later, we honor fallen soldiers and the victims of terror attacks on National Memorial Day. On both days a siren sounds as a signal for us to stand in silence honoring those whose lives were cut short tragically. As believers, we stand in the gap for those who mourn because we know and love a God who offers deep healing. We pray for those directly affected by these tragedies as well as for generations to come. With hope and pray that we can reach this lost and dying generation. **Join us in praying for our people.**

Independence Day

"You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with " (Ps. 30-11).

As Memorial Day closes, a minute later Independence Day begins (our days and holidays are from evening to evening). We enter directly into the joyful celebrations marking 68 years since Israel was established as a nation after nearly 2000 years. Against all natural odds, the Jewish people returned to God's Promised Land. On the eve of Israel Independence Day 2016, Israel's population stood at a record 8,522,000.

The Jewish population makes up 6,377,000 (74.8%) 1,771,000 (20.8%) are Arabs; and, those identified as "others" (non-Arab Christians, Baha'i, etc) make up 4.4% of the population (374,000 people). When the state was established, there were only 806,000 residents.

Our congregation building joining the rest of the nation celebrating our Independence Day with our national flag.

Israel Update

Israel is an amazing yet mysterious land. The very word "Israel" evokes emotions of love, hate but rarely ambivalence throughout the world. News agencies are quick to report (albeit inaccurately) her daily events. To some, she is the source of much evil in the world, while to others; she is the source of God's salvation. Yeshua was born here, lived, died and was resurrected here as foretold in the scriptures.

But, what does God say? Why is she here? Moreover, what part does she play today?

Fresh off the press, is Tony's book answering these questions. "The Mystery of Israel and the Church" is connected to the mystery of the last days, and a perfect read for today. Tony subtitles it "Israel 101". This is the book for all of you beginners! You can order the book through our website:

www.kehilat-hamaayan.org.il

Tony and Orna had the opportunity to spend a few weeks in the US, speaking in some churches and also enjoying a much-needed vacation.

Here is link to one of Tony's messages to Northwoods church in Peoria, IL:

<https://vimeo.com/170115284>

Shavuot

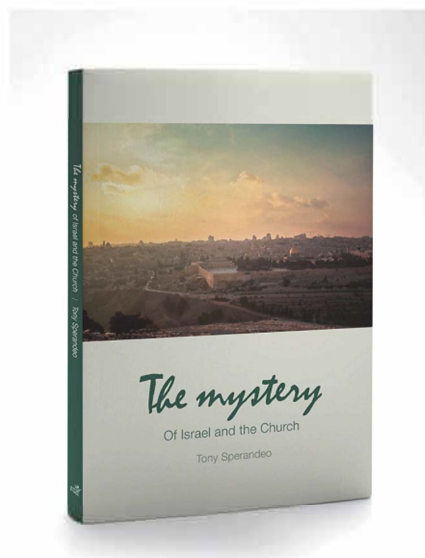
Shavuot is the last of our spring holidays. Fifty days after Passover, we celebrate the harvest of spring. The wheat is fully grown and harvested, as God has provided another year of His blessing.

On this Feast we read the book of Ruth. Shavuot is also a fulfillment of Yeshua's timeline. It was the exact time our Lord told the Disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the fullness of the Holy Spirit to come. This outpouring of the Holy Spirit was the blessing that enabled the growth of the first body of Believers. We anticipate the future harvest of souls to come to Israel. In fact, we are beginning to see the trickle that will soon lead to a flood as promised.

We are grateful for your joining with us in prayer for our nation, congregation and members and thank you for your support and friendship.

The Hamaayan Team

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Please join us in prayer:

- Wisdom and direction for our Prime Minister and government at this time when most countries are turning against Israel.
- A break-through in our purchase of the basement and ground floor of our building. We are still waiting for the owner to bring the necessary papers.
- For a new youth leader/s to help Rafi, as Yoel & Liel, our youth leaders are moving to another area.
- For the enlarging of our leadership. For wisdom and direction for Tony & Rafi.
- Discipleship for our new believers. We are starting to see a harvest trickling in at our Shabbat services.
- For our outreach to the nonbelievers.
- Finances for our single mothers and needy families for various daily needs.
- Finances for our children to attend the summer youth camps. That they will all experience a deeper relationship with The Lord.



Forgiving Forward Seminar where we learned about Yeshua's forgiveness towards us, and ours towards others

What is Happening in Israel Today?

God has blessed us and protected us from the conflict that surrounds us in the Middle East. While we are well aware of the build-up of tensions in Syria, Lebanon, and Gaza, we are comforted by God's promises of protection of our beloved country and people, both Jews and Arabs. While the nations around us are at the boiling point of war, there is a sustaining calm here. It may be due to the number of people coming to our borders and praying for God's protection as we have noticed this has increased. God is hearing our prayers, which need to be directed towards both the physical borders of protection as well as the spiritual borders of our lives and family units.

We are seeing a number of marriages being tested, especially those of leaders who have stood for years against opposition. We are seeing an increased acceptance of immoral alternative lifestyles by the people of Israel and our government. We are seeing our children walking away from the faith or deceived about the character of God and His love for us. While the physical borders of our nation are "quiet" for the time, the spiritual borders are breaking down. This is one of the reasons why we are coming together as a congregation to pray. God trains our hands for war, and our fingers for battle (Psalm 144:1), and gives us the ability to intercede for our nation and family. We await His answers to our prayers. **Please join us in praying for our leaders and members who have stood for so many years. Pray for their marriages, family, and friends. "Having done all to stand, stand" (Eph. 6). Let's stand with them.**

The Coming Feasts of the Lord

This year, our fall Holy Days of Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot begin in October. These Biblical Holy Days represent the preparation for the coming harvest. Jews all over the world use this time to reflect upon their walk with God and man. We use this time for personal reflection as well as praying for the Jewish people world-wide. Starting right after Rosh Hashana (The Feast of Trumpets) October 4th

and culminating on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) October 12th, we will be fasting and praying as a congregation for the salvation of our people as well as the sanctity of life and the family unit. We will be focusing on marriages, the family and the youth. We are asking God for a break-through so that we can have strong, healthy marriages and families. When God provides the harvest of souls, we need to be that refuge and family for them. **If you want to join us in prayer, simply respond to us with your home country location. It would be wonderful if there were a symphony of prayers on behalf of Israel 24 hours a day!**

New visitors

Every week, we are seeing new visitors who are hearing about us and about the Salvation message. We are also seeing our younger believers hungry for Yeshua and His word. This next generation always challenges us to grow deeper in Him. **Please continue to pray for God's harvest in our congregation and for a deeper hunger for God's Word.**

Summer Camps

Every year, our children have an opportunity to join the rest of the youth at our national camps. Here, they have the opportunity to make life-changing decisions as well as strengthening and growing in their faith. Through your financial assistance, our children were able to attend these camps. Here are some quotes from our camp attendees:

"I learned that everything I have is by grace. Jesus paid the price and He released me from death to life indeed!"

"Our faith is not based upon fear but love that casts it out!"

"I can't do anything by myself, but everything with God. He gave me the strength and faith that I can keep going on, no matter how difficult it was."

Meanwhile, during our weekly service, we gave a break to the teachers of our children's "Shabbat school", and had a special summer program with our staff, including Pastor Tony, teaching the

Summer Camps Continued...

children about the fruits of the spirit. Using the parable of the seeds, they learned in a fun way how to “grow” into each of the mature fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Please continue to pray for all of our children as they return to school, that they would be a light to their friends and school-mates and stand against the secular peer pressure that surrounds them.



Tony Teaching the Children about Faith and the Mustard Seed



Danny Teaching the Children about the Development of Seeds

Tony's Visit to the Knesset

Tony and the directors of Bead-Haim (Pro-Life) were blessed and encouraged by the invitation of the ministry of health to the Knesset (Israeli Parliament.) There they received an award in recognition of and appreciation for their ministry to the women of Israel and their unborn children.



Celebrating the Feasts in Dancing

Taglit Hamaayan

It is finally here! Our school of Biblical Zionism will focus on how Israel once again became a nation after 2000 years. This is just as it was foretold in Isaiah 66:8! Our first 10-day class begins in January 2017. **If you and your group would like to participate, sign up for a class by contacting us for the details.**

Update on the Bomb Shelter & Youth Center

Unfortunately, the situation is still status quo regarding our purchase of the basement. Please continue to pray for a breakthrough in the bureaucracy. **Pray for the provision of all the documents needed so that we can finally sign the contract and begin renovations. We need a miracle.**

***Thank you for your ever-faithful love and prayers on our behalf!
Hamaayan Team***

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Climate Changing in Israel

With the fall feasts of the Lord behind us (Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot), a new year lies ahead for Israel. We are excited to share our festival highlights with you, as well as what lays ahead of us in the future. As many of you enter into your holiday season, we pray that you too will experience the blessing of family, friendship and fellowship with our Lord.

As the climate is changing from summer to winter, we notice changes in the spirit realm. As the days are shorter, and the nights grow longer, so too we notice that darkness is increasing throughout the world. This past summer, there were two "concert events" that took place here in Israel. These events represented world religions. The goal was to unite the world into a false "peace" through the works of man. One was through music and "energy", and the other using a metaphor of the marriage vows between man and wife. All religions, they declared, are becoming united as one couple. These events happened in the very city that God calls His own, Jerusalem. In Tel Aviv, earlier in the summer, one of the largest alternative lifestyle (LGBT) parades took place. Both the Prime Minister and Mayor of Tel Aviv heartily endorsed this parade. Soon after this parade, the streets of Jerusalem were filled with the same LGBT "celebrators." Darkness is covering our land.

It is no wonder that the world's politics are in disarray. The United States recently experienced the most chaotic presidential election in recorded history. England voted to leave the European Union and terrorist activities are increasing throughout the world. Yes, the world is growing darker, but His light is growing. While hope dissipates based upon the news headlines, more people are turning to God for His hope.

We are noticing an increase of "seekers" who are open to the gospel in our midst. There is an openness that can only be explained by the power and love of God.

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Taglit Hamaayan

It's finally here! Our first official Taglit Hamaayan (Discovery of God's promises to the nation of Israel) is currently underway. Members of a team from the United States are learning about God's covenant to Israel and her people as written in Isaiah: "*Shall a land be born in one day?*" - Isaiah 66:8.

If you are interested in knowing more about this 2-week class about Biblical Zionism, or would like to attend our next program (January 6-16th, 2017)

Please contact Sally Shiff at sallyhamaayaan@gmail.com



**"Hamaayan Congregation
is wishing you a blessed New Year"**

We made this banner and hung it overlooking the park of Kfar Saba as a way reach out to our fellow neighbors.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

The fall appointed feasts of the Lord began with Rosh Hashanah, also known as the Feast of Trumpets. During this time, in synagogues throughout the world, the shofar is blown hundred times to “awaken” man’s soul to seek God and evaluate his relationship with God and his fellow man. Then begins a 10-day period (The Days of Awe) and culminates with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Our congregation came together during these ten days to fast and pray for Israel and its neighbors and for God to intervene on our behalf as well as the behalf of our loved ones for His protection and salvation. We ended our fast on Yom Kippur when we spent 24 hours fasting and praying for the salvation and restoration of our family and friends back to the Father. We prayed for God to forgive us as a nation through repentance and faith in Yeshua. We were deeply encouraged by our next generation (ages 13-18). They led our worship and spent the night in prayer. God is answering our prayers for them, as they are becoming a vibrant, cohesive group full of passion for the Lord. For those of you who joined us, thank you. We pray that you were as blessed as we were during this time.

Prayer Needs

- The situation in Syria, and the development of the battle of Mosul in Iraq. We live in a very important & strategic time concerning the future of the Middle East and the fulfillment of Isaiah chapter 19 and Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39.
- The salvation of our new seekers and our friends and family members who need to know the love of Yeshua.
- Wisdom and guidance for our leadership regarding our on-going basement procurement.
- Traveling mercy and protection for Tony in India next month.
- Protection and safety for our soldiers. That their faith will be strengthened and not diminished during their military service.
- For us to enter the call of God on our lives individually and corporately and to move in the prophetic calling that God has for our Congregation.



Our children learning their Shabbat lesson in the Sukkah

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

On the last day of the Feast of the Ingathering, when all the nations are commanded to come worship the Lord together as one, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” (John 7:37-38.) His comment references the tradition that this day is also a celebration of the water and wine poured over the sacrifices on the altar. This is one of the most joyous days of the year for the Jewish people. We all came together to celebrate His blessings and goodness. With over twenty nations represented, new families, and many guests, we remembered that Yeshua is our living water that gives us life abundantly.



Honoring and thanking God for giving us His Word



Praying for one of our youth as she enters into military service

With your prayers and support, we can be the watchmen and shepherds of the lost sheep of Israel. Thank you for walking with us in His grace.

Hamaayan Team