

March 1, 2020

Dear Potential Holy Land Pilgrims,

I am delighted to welcome you to a profound and life-altering experience. This trip will be my seventh trip to the Holy Land. I love the people and the place, as troubling and perplexing as they can seem from afar. **Please read everything here very closely.** If you have any questions, please call me at 216-502-7986 or e-mail me at gkeithowen@sbcglobal.net.

Registration opens on April 1st for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from April 28 – May 13, 2021. We will take advantage of a rare confluence of events. Orthodox Easter falls on May 2nd in 2021 (our Easter is April 4). Observance of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan will reach its peak from May 5 – May 12. This happens only a handful of times in any given century. The spiritual power of this confluence cannot be overstated!

The in-country cost of the trip will be \$3600 per person, double occupancy. There are a limited number of single rooms available for an additional cost of \$750.00. This includes everything: our professional guide, transportation, meals, lodging, admissions, and gratuities. It does not cover expenses on free days, drinks or snacks, or other personal purchases.

A word about airfare, which is not included in the price above. Currently, round trip economy airfare for this time of year from Newark, New Jersey is about \$1100.00. This has been a stable fare for years. Newark will probably be our port of embarkation and return. However, we will "shop" for the best possible combination of price and convenience. I have engaged Herma Pavlovsky, of Landfall Travel in Rocky River, Ohio, to handle these arrangements. She will make group arrangements for all who desire to travel directly to and from Tel Aviv. Your initial deposit will secure the group fare for you. She will assist you in getting from and to your home airport. She will also offer comprehensive travel insurance coverage for the trip, which I HIGHLY COMMEND. Travel insurance is not included in the trip price. Once purchased, airfare is not refundable, but it is transferrable.

Some of us may wish to travel elsewhere before and/or after our time in Israel. Some will begin travel from airports other than Cleveland. Some may wish to travel business class or use frequent flyer miles. Such arrangements can be made individually with Herma, or you may make them entirely on your own. However, **YOU MUST BE AT TEL AVIV AIRPORT AND CLEAR OF SECURITY AND CUSTOMS BY 10:00 A.M ON APRIL 29TH.** The trip formally concludes after lunch on May 12. Group departure will be later that day to arrive home on May 13.

To reserve your space on this pilgrimage, please complete the attached application form completely. Return it, and a deposit of \$500 per person. Make checks to "The Rev. Keith Owen" and put "Holy Land Pilgrimage" on the memo line. **If I should cancel this trip for any reason, the deposit will be refunded entirely. However, for the financial protection of Mr. Qumri and myself, if you drop out of the trip for any reason, after June 30, 2020, the initial deposit IS NOT refundable unless I am able to replace you with another person.** A second non-refundable installment of \$1100.00 per person will be due on or before December 31st, 2020. The final payment of \$2000.00 (\$2750 single occupancy) per person will be due on March 1st, 2021. Airfare payment by credit card will be required upon demand by our travel agent sometime within 3 months of departure.

We are limited to 35 participants, and spaces will be apportioned on a first-come first-served basis. I will begin advertising the pilgrimage on a wider scale beginning in May 2020. Your place on the pilgrimage is only guaranteed when I receive your deposit.

To whet your appetite, I encourage you to visit the excellent website of our guide, Canon Iyad Qumri. You can find him at www.iyadqumripilgrimages.com.

Sometime early in 2021, I will arrange to have private or group meetings with every registered pilgrim to provide further pre-trip orientation.

I so look forward to this journey together. I can assure you of two things. First, assure yourself and loved ones that **YOU WILL BE SAFE!**, even if the media are reporting troubles. The most dangerous part of this trip will be the journey from your house to your local airport! I'm serious!! Second, it is often said that "the land is the fifth gospel." You will have a life-altering encounter with the world that produced our Holy Scriptures. You will never forget the sights, sounds, and smells you experience. And you will never read or hear the Bible the same way again.

Salaam aleikom
Shalom elekem
Peace be upon you

Keith Owen

**2021 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
With
The Rev. Keith Owen and Iyad Qumri Pilgrimages**

FULL NAME: _____ NICKNAME _____
Exactly as it appears on your passport

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____

MOBILE PHONE NUMBER: _____

PASSPORT INFORMATION: *Please complete, or send a photo-copy of passport first page.*
IMPORTANT: *If your passport expires earlier than November 15, 2021, you will be turned away at the airline gate!*

PASSPORT NUMBER: _____

COUNTRY: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS (*Please supply two, NOT ON THE TRIP WITH YOU*)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

RELATIONSHIP: _____

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

RELATIONSHIP: _____

MY ANTICIPATED TRAVEL PLANS: (*Please check one*)

- _____ I will travel with the group directly to/from Israel from Cleveland, Ohio.
_____ My travel will originate from _____, and I will connect with the group
at the international port of embarkation.
_____ I wish to arrange additional international travel before and/or after the pilgrimage
_____ I will make my own travel arrangements, and will be in Ben Gurion Airport, Tel
Aviv (TLV), no later than 10:00 a.m. on April 29.

PLEASE LIST ANY CURRENT HEALTH ISSUES OR RESTRICTIONS. PLEASE LIST ALL MEDICATIONS AND DOSAGES:

PLEASE LIST ANY DIETARY CONCERNS OR RESTRICTIONS:

WAIVER OF LIABILITY:

I understand that international travel involves a small degree of inherent risk. I understand that travel in Israel and the Occupied Territories involves a very small risk of exposure to political conflict or violence. I understand that travel in Israel and the Occupied Territories can be physically demanding, involving considerable walking on uneven terrain, temperature extremes, and variability in local hygienic practices. I understand that the trip leaders will endeavor to mitigate all these risks but cannot eliminate them entirely.

I certify that I am in good physical health for such travel, that I have disclosed my known medical conditions and medications to the trip leaders, and that I have discussed with my physician any accommodations or restrictions such conditions may require.

I hold harmless, and release from all liability, the Rev. G. Keith Owen, II, the trip leader, and Iyad Qumri Pilgrimages,LTD., for any loss or injuries that I may sustain under the usual and customary circumstances of travel in Israel and the Occupied Territories. I also accept full responsibility for any expenses resulting from accidental injury or illness.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

DATE: _____