



NEWSLETTER

Machaseh Association

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Jesus - the Bread of Life



***“For we are His
workmanship,
created in Messiah
Yeshua unto good
works, which Elohim
prepared beforehand
that we should walk
in them.”***

Ephesians 2:10



Dear Friends and Supporters

With this letter we would like to highlight the involvement from volunteers in our Charité work. Without them a lot of the work could not be done. We are very grateful for all the people from all over the world since our start who gave their time, money and heart to serve marginalised and vulnerable groups in Jerusalem and Israel. Each one of them was a real blessing to us as a team, our clients and were able to work with us according to their skills.

Following we would like to introduce Tina B. from Switzerland to you. She came here in spite of the Corona crisis and stayed one month to work with us. We have asked her to write a report about her experiences.

Volunteer Report December 20th ,2020 to January 20th, 2021:

Back in Switzerland where I've been living again since 2011 I would not have imagined the works Elohim was preparing for me to walk in so many years later. My name is Tina B. and I hadve made Aliyah to Ashkelon in 1999 and lived there for many years as a single mother with my two children.

After their army services my adult children both left Israel to move back to Switzerland and so did I. When I retired as a school teacher in January 2020 I was preparing to move back to Ashkelon, but with the Corona crisis everything changed.



In April 2020 I joined Aktion Verzicht, a Swiss ministry that also supports the work of Machaseh in Jerusalem. We were expecting Lena Levin, the head of Machaseh, to come to Switzerland in October to tell us about her team and the valuable work in Jerusalem. Again a Corona lockdown put a stop to it and Lena sent a video message and former volunteers presented the work of Machaseh. This started the ball rolling and it became clear to me that I should come to Jerusalem and walk in "...the good works, which Elohim prepared beforehand..."

After the two-week self-isolation time in an empty house in Ashkelon I moved into a cozy room in an apartment provided by a Swiss woman. This was before the third lockdown in Israel. After an initial meeting with Lena and her team I was happy to meet a group of Holocaust survivors for a time of celebration. My own Jewish roots are Russian and my grandmother's sister was a famous children's author (Tamara Grigoryevna Gabbe) in the 1930s to 1960s. I felt so at home as we sang and listened to stories of hardship and survival in a language I love dearly. (Lena helped me understand as my own Russian is very elementary). One highlight was a meeting Dr. Berman who presented me with a book full of eyewitness reports of the children of the Holocaust.

Then I met a wonderful and unusual family consisting of a 93-year old Holocaust survivor, his 80-year-old wife and their two young orphaned grandchildren age 13 and 11. These children had lost both their parents in the last 6 years and have been living with their old grandparents supported by the Machaseh team and financial assistance partially through Aktion Verzicht. My work was to give the children English lessons and spend time with their grandparents. We also had fun celebrating the New Year though I couldn't stay until midnight.

Our Lord knew that a disabled Messianic single mother would finally receive a government apartment and need extra help packing her household into boxes and that the move would fall into the one month that I would be there. In His mercy He "...prepared beforehand..." that the new apartment would be on the same street where I live - a mere ten-minute walk away. I've also been giving some English lessons to her 13-year-old son who in turn has helped with the boxes. T. and I love to cook and eat together and I have enjoyed delicious Ethiopian dishes.

And last but not least it has been the rewarding work at the distribution center where boxes full of clothing from Switzerland and a kibbutz near Gaza arrived just recently. They needed sorting and folding and organizing onto shelves. And in the local soup kitchen there is a team of volunteers preparing 80 to 130 warm catered meals for the needy that come twice a week. I also loved meeting a special Origami-artist who has immigrated to Israel alone and is an invalid. Since then he is helping at Machaseh and is a blessing through his special gift.

This last month has been so encouraging to work together, to be encouraged by the testimonies of the other volunteers and team members, and to know that all of us are "...His workmanship..."

Tina B.

Thank you, Tina, you have been a real blessing to us and ,our people' and thank you to all of you who have volunteered with us until now. If you are interested to work as a volunteer with us for a period of time, please get in touch.

We thank you all for your prayer and support which enables us to help those in need.

May the Lord bless all of you in return!

With kind regards & many blessings,

Lena Levin and the Machaseh Team from Jerusalem