



Shalom,

In recent years, the driving force behind the return of the Jews (from the tribe of Manasseh) from India to Israel has been Israeli resident Michael Freund. Several years ago he read Isaiah 43 verse 5, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west." Freund says, "This verse is about a new phase in the expectation of the Messiah's coming. These are the words of the Lord God, true words for our time, in the here and now."

The aliyah, the return to the Promised Land, has continued all throughout the past 120 years. The Second World War could not stop it; neither could communism, local wars, regional wars, or the Gulf War and neither can Russia's war with Ukraine. Sometimes when the olim (new immigrants) arrived at Ben Gurion Airport they received a gasmask, bulletproof vest or face mask in addition to their new passport, depending on the current threats or circumstances. They were also welcomed by the words of the Lord God, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

How wonderful it is that every Jew who steps off the plane or crosses the gangplank into Israel is a sign of the Messiah's coming. As Christians who provide practical support to the aliyah through prayer, let us read, trust and act on the words of the prophet Isaiah together with the Jewish people. "Do not be afraid! I [the Lord] will do it!"

Shalom,

C4I International Prayer Team

April 2022

Fri 1 Apr	<p>"Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident." (Psalm 27:3) Because of the growing chaos in the world, including the situation in Ukraine, fear is growing that Iran will take advantage of the chaos and attack Israel. Pray for Israel's protection from each and every threat.</p>
Sat 2 Apr Sabbath	<p>"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12) As this prayer calendar is being written, war is raging in Ukraine. Pray for the protection of the Jewish community and wisdom and protection for Koen Carlier and his team. Pray that they may experience the light of Christ despite the darkness around them.</p>
Sun 3 Apr	<p>Pray that Jews who want to leave Ukraine and move to Israel will have the opportunity to do so. Give thanks for the help that Christians for Israel is able to provide on this front together with other organizations.</p>
Mon 4 Apr	<p>Pray for the smooth integration of Jewish refugees from Ukraine as they settle in Israel. They have had to leave everything behind, arrive with nothing and are traumatized. Let us pray that they will experience peace and healing and that they will be able to integrate quickly.</p>

Tue 5 Apr	Let us give thanks to our Heavenly Father that His hold on the situation never slips - that HE, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is our rock and a strong tower of defense throughout the ages. (Psalm 18:3)
Wed 6 Apr	Up until now a relatively large amount of snow and rain has fallen in Israel this year. The water level of the Sea of Galilee is slowly but steadily increasing again. Give thanks for this.
Thu 7 Apr	A recent report from Amnesty International accuses Israel of apartheid. The report includes many factual errors. Pray that these errors will come to light and pray for Israel's protection in the legal arena.
Fri 8 Apr	Unrest continues in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in Jerusalem, the neighborhood where tensions between Jews and Arabs escalated last year, leading to the Gaza War. Pray that calm will return to this neighborhood.
Sat 9 Apr Sabbath	Just as in many other countries, the cost of living in Israel is predicted to rise significantly. Businesses have announced that they will be increasing prices. Pray for all the less fortunate in Israel. Pray that they will be able to stay afloat and pray for a blessing on the work of Jewish and Christian organizations that offer support.
Sun 10 Apr	"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7) Pray that the Israeli government will keep this in mind.
Mon 11 Apr Yom Ha'Aliyah	"If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." (2 Timothy 2:13) Today Israel celebrates the return of the Jewish people to Israel as the Bible predicted. Give thanks for this return, which proves that God is faithful and is giving His people a future full of hope.
Tue 12 Apr	The Israeli organization Save A Child's Heart works to ensure that children around the world who need heart surgery but are unable to access it in their home countries can receive the treatment they need in Israel. Among them are many children from Gaza. Give thanks for the work this incredible organization is doing and pray that they will be able to help many more children.
Wed 13 Apr	Pray for unity within Israel, both among Jews themselves and between Jews and Arabs. Pray for mutual respect and that everyone will look out for each other's interests.
Thu 14 Apr	Approximately one third of the Holocaust survivors in Israel is living in in poverty. They are dependent on aid organizations for food. Pray that these people's situations will improve and pray for a blessing over the work of the organizations that provide assistance.
Fri 15 Apr Passover Seder Good Friday	<i>During Passover we will base our prayers on verses about the exodus.</i> "Your lamb must be a one-year-old male without any defects." (Exodus 12:5a) The piece of a lamb's bone that is found on each person's plate at the Jewish Passover meal is a reminder of this commandment. For Messianic Jews, this small bone also symbolizes Jesus' sacrifice. Give thanks for the salvation that God brought for Israel and for all of mankind.
Sat 16 Apr Sabbath Passover	"The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt." (Exodus 12:13) When God punished Egypt, He spared Israel. God is a God who looks after the oppressed and punishes the oppressor. Give thanks that He is a just God.
Sun 17 Apr Passover Easter	"During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, 'Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested.'" (Exodus 12:31) God is a God of miracles and the greatest miracle of all is Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Give thanks for this great miracle today!
Mon 18 Apr Passover	"God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" (Exodus 3:14) God is the Present One, a God who is always there for us and a God who overcame death. Give thanks for His victory and that because of Jesus' resurrection we will be with God forever too.
Tue 19 Apr Passover	"The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." (Exodus 14:14) These are the words Moses spoke to the people of Israel before they went through the Red Sea. It is a wonderful promise. Pray that God will fight for Israel again today and that Jews will trust in God through all of the dangers they face.
Wed 20 Apr Passover	"And the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left." (Exodus 14:22) God makes a way in difficult and hopeless situations. He did this frequently in Israel's history, as we see in the stories of Esther and Daniel or more recently during the 1967 and 1973 wars. Pray that God will make a way for Israel every time the country is attacked.

Thu 21 Apr Passover	“During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion.” (Exodus 14:24) Pray that God will throw Israel’s present-day enemies into confusion.
Fri 22 Apr Passover	“And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in Him and in Moses His servant.” (Exodus 14:31) Pray that Israelis today will also put their trust in the Lord when He makes a way. There are still many secular Jews in Israel. Pray that they will believe in Him.
Sat 23 Apr Sabbath Passover	“You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of Your inheritance – the place, LORD, You made for Your dwelling, the sanctuary, Lord, Your hands established.” (Exodus 15:17) Give thanks that God has planted Israel in the Promised Land again.
Sun 24 Apr	Tourism to Israel is slowly picking up again. Pray that many more people from all over the world will visit Israel and will see that the land of Israel is God’s land and that the people of Israel are God’s people.
Mon 25 Apr	“Starting this summer, a new water system will pump desalinated water from the Mediterranean to households in and around Jerusalem. Ensuring a sufficient supply of clean water has always been a challenge in Israel, so this new system is an important acquisition for the country. Give thanks for the new water system.
Tue 26 Apr	In February Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennet became the first Israeli head of state every to visit the gulf state of Bahrain. While there he spoke with Bahrain’s Head of State about the threat from Iran and who the two countries can work together against this threat. Pray that both countries will make the right decisions regarding this.
Wed 27 Apr	The government of Bangladesh has recently decided that the phrase “except Israel” must be removed from Bangladeshi passports. This means that people from Bangladesh can also travel to Israel without any trouble now. Give thanks for the government’s decision and pray that the relationship between Israel and Bangladesh will improve even further.
Thu 28 Apr Yom HaShoah	On this day the Shoah, the Holocaust, is remembered, primarily in Israel but in some other countries as well. Pray for comfort for all Holocaust survivors as well as for those whose loved ones did not survive the Holocaust.
Fri 29 Apr	The United Nations has set up a special research committee to investigate the human rights violations Israel is said to have committed against the Palestinians during last year’s war. No investigation is being made into human rights violations on the Palestinian side. This is extremely prejudiced. Pray that the committee will be dissolved.
Sat 30 Apr Sabbath	Early this year the book “The Betrayal of Anne Frank” was published in the Netherlands, in which a Jewish notary is said to be the one who betrayed Anne Frank, a conclusion that experts consider extremely dubious. Meanwhile many people have read in various media that a Jew betrayed a Jew. This is very concerning to the Jewish community because it presents a negative image of Jews. Give thanks that the publisher has decided not to print any extra copies of the book and pray that the damage will be limited.

May 2022

Sun 1 May	Iran has developed a new missile and named it Khaybar. Khaybar is the name of an oasis in Israel that was conquered by Muslims in the 7 th century. Iran claims to have several different missiles that can reach Israel. Pray that Israel will take the right steps to defend itself against the danger from Iran.
Mon 2 May	More and more often Israeli busses are bombarded with stones or incendiary devices while driving through or past Arab towns. Bus drivers on these routes are starting to fear for their lives. Pray that the violence directed at Israeli busses will stop and pray for protection for the bus drivers and passengers.
Tue 3 May	Honduras has a new president. In the past this president has made several antisemitic statements. The relationship between Israel and Honduras was always a strong one and Honduras is one of the countries that moved their embassies to Jerusalem. Pray that the relationship will stay strong under the new president.

Wed 4 May Yom Ha'Zikaron	Israel's Memorial Day - On this day all Israelis who died due to war and terror are commemorated. It is a day of mourning and sorrow. Pray for strength and comfort for all those who mourn the loss of a loved one on this day.
Thu 5 May Yom Ha'Atzmaut	Israel's Independence Day - After yesterday's sadness, this is a joyful day in Israel as the country celebrates the nation's independence in 1948. Give thanks for the miracle of the founding of the State of Israel.
Fri 6 May	A verse from the Psalms, as you pray for Israel today: "Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores His people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!" (Psalm 14:7).
Sat 7 May Sabbath	Despite persecution, the church in Iran is growing. Give thanks for this and pray for protection for Iranian Christians. Pray that the growing church will be a blessing to the country and to Israel.
Sun 8 May	When it comes to the nation's defense, Israel is increasingly using techniques based on artificial intelligence. Pray for wisdom for Israel, to apply these new techniques strategically.
Mon 9 May	Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas is all of 86 years old and has a history of heart problems. Behind the scenes Abbas is working on securing a successor. He recently placed two possible successors in high government positions. Pray that Abbas' successor will be or become someone who seeks to reach an understanding with Israel.
Tue 10 May	As soon as the weather warms up in Israel and everything starts growing, the danger also grows that Hamas will send up fire balloons from Gaza again. These balloons with incendiary devices attached cause great damage and danger to the residents of the southern towns. Pray for Israel's protection.
Wed 11 May	Last year multiple Syrian anti-aircraft missiles ended up above Israel. Thankfully no one was injured but it is dangerous. Pray that this will not happen again.
Thu 12 May	Israel has contingency plans in case war unexpectedly breaks out with Hezbollah while Hamas is also attacking from Gaza. Soldiers have recently been training specifically for this scenario. Pray that no war will break out but that if it does the soldiers will be well prepared.
Fri 13 May	Give thanks for courageous Gazans who have posted "They hijacked Gaza" on social media, pointing to Hamas as the reason for their poverty and suffering. Pray for protection for these people and that more Gazans will follow their example.
Sat 14 May Sabbath	Gaza now has a second large machine for grinding up old metal and preparing it for export. This is expected to create more jobs in the Gaza Strip. More prosperity for Gaza generally means more calm and less hate towards Israel. Pray that this will be the case and that more Palestinians will be able to find jobs.
Sun 15 May	The Jews' return to Israel shows that God's Word is trustworthy (see Isaiah 43 and Jeremiah 30 and 31). God keeps His promises! Pray that more and more people will see this.
Mon 16 May	"Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (Hebrews 13:16) Many Jews around the world want to return to Israel but do not have the financial means. Pray that the money donated through collections in churches and other means will be enough to fund the move for those who want to make aliyah.
Tue 17 May	Israeli experts have warned for decades that Israel could experience an earthquake within the foreseeable future. To reduce the risk of casualties if an earthquake does happen, Israel has launched a new earthquake warning system. Pray that there will not be any earthquakes, but that if there is one, the system will work well.
Wed 18 May	Over the coming days we will pray from the Eighteen Benedictions, a Jewish prayer. With Israel we pray, "Sound the great horn for our freedom; lift up a banner to gather our exiles and bring us together from the four corners of the earth. Blessed are You, Lord, who gathers the exiles of Your people Israel."
Thu 19 May	We pray with Israel, "And return in compassion to Jerusalem, Your city, and dwell there as You have spoken; and build it up in our days as an everlasting building and establish there the throne of David. Blessed are You, Lord, the builder of Jerusalem."
Fri 20 May	We pray with Israel, "Let the branch of David Your servant flourish quickly and let his horn be exalted in Your salvation, for we await Your rescue all the day. Blessed are You, Lord, who makes the horn of salvation to flourish."
Sat 21 May Sabbath	Antisemites turn against the Jews because of the past, antizionists because of the possibilities of the future (Frits Kuiper). Pray for the Jewish people's protection from antisemitism and antizionism.

Sun 22 May	Sing to the Lord a new song: Psalm 98:1. Psalm 135:3: with total abandon. Psalm 96:1: the whole earth. Psalm 144:9: for your God. Psalm 149:1: in the assembly of the faithful. Singing psalms is a form of prayer: Psalm 72:10. Sing a psalm as a prayer to God today.
Mon 23 May	Incredibly ugly things about are often published about Israel in the media. Claiming that ‘criticism of the state of Israel is not antisemitism’ people feel that they can say whatever they want. Pray that the people who read these articles will keep thinking critically and not get swept up by the negative opinions that they read.
Tue 24 May	Recently there have been a growing number of incidents where Israelis, often teens or young adults, have attacked Palestinians with stones. The Israeli government condemns these attacks but the youths usually don’t seem to care. Pray that these youths will come to their senses and that there will be no more incidents like this.
Wed 25 May	Jewish graves are frequently defaced with antisemitic graffiti and Jews are mocked in countless other ways. Many Jews cannot even walk down the street wearing a kippah without receiving verbal abuse. Pray for wisdom and strength for Jews to deal with this trouble and pray for their protection.
Thu 26 May Ascension Day	“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) Jesus came to save His own people in the first place and they were the first to hear the Gospel. Give thanks for the Messianic Jews in Israel and pray that they will be a blessing to those around them.
Fri 27 May	This prayer calendar is translated into many different languages. Recently Swahili was added to the list. How wonderful that as Christians around the world we can come together in prayer for Israel. Give thanks for this!
Sat 28 May Sabbath	An extended edition of the book “Why Israel” has recently been published in Spanish. Give thanks for this new edition and pray that the book will make inroads in the Spanish-speaking world.
Sun 29 May Yom Yerushalayim	Today Israel celebrates the unification of Jerusalem, when Israel regained control of East-Jerusalem in 1967 after 20 years of Jordanian occupation. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem today.
Mon 30 May	“Sing the praises of the LORD, you His faithful people; praise His holy name. For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favor lasts a lifetime.” (Psalm 30:4-5a) The Psalms came to us through the people of Israel, just as the rest of the Old Testament. Let us give thanks for this and pray that we as Christians never forget it.
Tue 31 May	“Make a lampstand of pure gold. Hammer out its base and shaft, and make its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms of one piece with them.” (Exodus 25:31) In 1 Samuel 3:3 the lampstand is called “the lamp of God”. Let us give thanks for the light that shines from God’s presence, over Israel and over us.