

GIVE THANKS!

We have received this thank you letter from SANSANA for our contribution toward their security needs. But you, our donors and supporters, are the ones who really make it all happen. The thanks belong to you!



More than anything else, the security cameras protect the children of Sansana.



Thanks to your donation, Sansana has installed security cameras that have proved a game-changer in their security protection.



Sansana is a cohesive community and families enjoy spending quality time together. Their unity and solidarity are their strength!



Dear friends from CFOIC Heartland,

We would like to express our gratitude to all of you from the bottom of our hearts for the high-quality security camera system that we installed in Sansana, thanks to your support. Our community is located right next to the security barrier, which was set up in response to the Second Intifada; yet ensuring safety for all our residents has been an ongoing challenge.

Thanks to your help, we were able to connect half of the community to a smart, advanced camera system that gives us the capability to respond most effectively to security incidents in real-time. Because of you, our residents feel much more safe and secure.

Your amazing efforts to ensure that our residents live in safety are not taken for granted. We are so grateful to each and every one of you, our wonderful donors, for your commitment to protect our community.

We look forward with excitement and anticipation towards many more years of continued partnership with all of you in strengthening and rebuilding the Biblical Heartland of Judea and Samaria.

With most heartfelt blessings,

Duby Magenheim
Administrator of Sansana

For more information or to send a donation, please contact:

cfoic HEARTLAND
CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAELI COMMUNITIES

CFOIC - INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 752
Karnei Shomron 4485500 Israel
Tel: 972-9-792-0958
Fax: 972-9-788-0108
Email: shmuel@cfoic.com

CFOIC - USA NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS

7661 McLaughlin Rd, #255
Falcon, CO USA
Tel: 800-647-3344
Fax: 719-683-2041
Email: kim@cfoic.com

CFOIC - GERMANY

Christliche Freunde Israelischer Siedlungen
Tubizer Str. 20
D- 70825 Korntal-Muenchingen Germany
Tel: 0711-8386393
Fax: 0711-8386339
Email: cfis.deutschland@web.de
Attn: Wilfried Bullinger

CFOIC - HOLLAND

Oosternielandsterweg 10
Oosternieland 9985 SC, Nederland
Tel: (0) 595-413339
Fax: (0) 33-2460412
Email: swanpoot@telfort.nl
Attn: Rev. Henk Poot

www.cfoic.com

If you would like additional copies of Nahala to share with your friends, family, Bible study group, or congregation, please contact: **Kim Troup** at 1-800-647-3344 (when phoning from the US) or by email, kim@cfoic.com. A donation of \$10 per 25 copies is appreciated.

So JOSHUA TOOK THE WHOLE LAND, ACCORDING TO ALL THAT THE LORD SAID UNTO MOSES; AND JOSHUA GAVE IT FOR AN INHERITANCE UNTO ISRAEL.

Joshua 11:23

I N H E R I T A N C E NAHALA

A Publication of CFOIC Heartland

FALL 2023



From the Israel Director



SHMUEL JUNGER

Dear Friends,

As the new director of CFOIC, I am overcome with excitement as I write my first letter to you in this edition of Nahala. I feel truly privileged to be leading such an important organization, and especially when I consider the wonderful partners that we have been working with over the years, such as the two individuals featured in this newsletter.

Menachem Zur's story is one of perseverance in the face of tragedy and hardship. After losing his mother and brother in a terrorist attack, Menachem could have chosen to begin adulthood with more comfort and fewer risks. Instead, Menachem insisted on raising his family in Samaria and became a leader in the settlement movement. My Dutch friend, Pastor Henk Poot, has always sought opportunities to contribute to the Land and People of Israel.

It is leaders such as these who have inspired me to devote myself wholeheartedly towards empowering the communities in the Biblical Heartland. As we embark on this new chapter at CFOIC, I feel comforted knowing that you, our dear friends, will continue standing shoulder to shoulder with us in our unwavering commitment towards fostering an ever brighter future of hope and growth for the communities in Judea, Samaria and the Jordan Valley. May our hearts be forever bound and united together with Israel and the Biblical Heartland.

Shalom from Samaria,

Shmuel

CFOIC Heartland IN ACTION

"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands for us..." (Psalms 90:17)



PIONEERS YEARNING TO RECONNECT TO THEIR FAITH

Thousands of Jews have escaped the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine by moving to the Land of Israel. Unfortunately, far too many of these new pioneers, still contending with the consequences of communism under the former Soviet Union, are struggling to reconnect to the Biblical values of their ancestors. There is a huge need for quality educational activities for these new immigrants, enabling them to reconnect to their Jewish roots and to connect in a deeply spiritual and practical way to the Land of Israel. CFOIC Heartland is partnering with the Yesha Council, the umbrella organization for the Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria, to provide seminars and weekend visits to enable these families to feel part of Israel, and hopefully to settle in the Biblical Heartland. Won't you help these brave pioneers reconnect to their Biblical faith?

Photo: The people of Revava hosted new immigrants for Shabbat at the new immigrant neighborhood established by CFOIC Heartland.

COMMUNITY OF THE MONTH Update

Every month we send you information about our most pressing needs. And every month you answer the call and help. Thanks to you we have raised:

\$19,900 for the library in Alon
\$14,275 for the children of Bet Hagai
\$11,900 for surveillance cameras in Shimah
\$17,250 for Heart of Benjamin holiday camps
May God bless you richly for all you have done.



MEET THE PEOPLE who are making a difference

STAND UP FOR ISRAEL



"And I will bless those who bless you..."
Gen. 12:3

HENK POOT *Leading a Spiritual Transformation*

Some of the greatest leaders feel motivated to change the world at a very young age. Reverend Henk Poot stands out as someone whose commitment to the Bible from early childhood paved the path for him to assume a leadership role in revitalizing the Biblical Heartland.

Born in 1955 in Western Holland, Henk lived a God-centered life, attending church consistently and studying the Bible since childhood with a strong appreciation for its many inspirational stories. Understandably, Henk was able to perceive events of profound significance, and relating to Israel, through a Biblical lens.

Henk was just eleven years old when Israel miraculously liberated the Biblical Heartland in 1967 and felt as if the Bible's stories were playing out in real-time. "For me, it was an amazing re-enactment of all those stories in the Old Testament," Henk reflected. As the Bible was his central guide for life, Henk launched his adulthood with a six-year master's program in theology. Taking God's word seriously, Henk was determined to study

Hebrew, the Bible's original language, and with his understanding of Scriptures, Henk never separated Judea and Samaria from the Promised Land. On his very first visit to Israel in 1979, while still a master's student, Henk made certain to visit the ancient Biblical city of Shechem. "As a Christian coming for the first time, I felt that I came home," reminisced Henk.

Thereafter, Henk took his love of the Bible and the Land of Israel and shared it as a youth pastor with many others, moving from village to village. Eventually, Henk became a chaplain for the Dutch Navy where he organized tours to Israel for Navy personnel.

Henk seized the opportunity to make an impact in the Biblical Heartland when his friend Jeannet Van Duuren introduced him to CFOIC Heartland director, Sondra Oster Baras. The Second Intifada was brewing at the time, and with Sondra's help and guidance, Henk brought Christians on solidarity trips to

"Working with Sondra and CFOIC Heartland has been an absolute blessing because it is so important to us that our donations to the communities in the Biblical Heartland are always taken care of. Sondra and CFOIC Heartland could not be more reliable in making sure that happens."



Henk and his wife Harriet join Sondra Oster Baras for a visit with senior citizens in Kedumim, a community they have long supported in so many ways.



Henk Poot loves to bring groups to visit with the people of Tekoa. Pictured here in front of the Tekoa playground donated by CFOIC Heartland.

"Christians have a duty to be good witnesses to others around them. Our goal is to witness to the Church about the truth of the Land and People of Israel."

the Biblical Heartland are always taken care of. Sondra and CFOIC Heartland could not be more reliable in making sure that happens," said Poot.

But Henk has a more global mission geared towards transforming the entire Christian world's perspective on the Biblical Heartland and People of Israel. "Christians have a duty to be good witnesses to others around them," explained Rev. Poot. "Our goal is to witness to the Church about the truth of the Land and People of Israel." Henk has done more than his share of witnessing by publishing a book that explains the Biblical and historic significance of countless Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria, an initiative supported by CFOIC Heartland. Henk also led other pastors to create strong bonds with CFOIC. Although Henk has retired, he devotes three days a week consulting to C4I Holland, which ensures that his mission will be carried on to the next generation. |

communities all over Judea and Samaria.

Henk remembers that he succeeded in forging a sense of trust from residents in the Biblical Heartland. Yet, Henk was also fully cognizant from the start that many in the region viewed Christian support for Israel with strong suspicion. Thus, during one of his visits to the community of Kochav Yaakov, Henk was emotionally moved when he saw a mother explain to her children, "these Christians do not hate us. They are our friends."

Seeking to further contribute to the Biblical Heartland, Henk became CFOIC's representative to Holland and a board member of Christians for Israel Holland (C4I Holland). Subsequently, Henk introduced C4I Holland to CFOIC Heartland. After becoming familiar with his independent initiative and authorship of a book delving into Jewish concepts, C4I Holland appointed Rev. Poot its head pastor. For many years now, C4I has worked in tandem with CFOIC Heartland.

"Working with Sondra and CFOIC Heartland has been an absolute blessing because it is so important to us that our donations to the communities in

PIONEERS IN OUR DAY

Nahala is proud to introduce some of the brave pioneers who make their home in the communities of Judea and Samaria, and trust you will find these very special people an inspiration.



Menachem Zur *Pioneering Through Perseverance*

A modern-day pioneer, Menachem Zur grew up in Beit El, located right near the site where Jacob saw a ladder reaching the Heavens with angels ascending and descending its rungs. The vision was an apparent reminder for the Hebrew Patriarch that Divine Providence would help him persevere as he left the Promised Land. Menachem can relate as someone with a Divinely-inspired recipe for perseverance through any challenge.

A decade after Israel's miraculous victory in the Six Day War of 1967, Menachem's parents moved from Jerusalem to Beit El with a clear mission to spiritually strengthen the Biblical Heartland. Fully cognizant of the need to inculcate Biblical principles in the next generation, Menachem's father helped establish a yeshiva (Bible Academy) in Beit El and did the same in other small communities in the region. "I grew up in a reality in which our household was constantly involved in significant undertakings," reflected Menachem.

This reality prepared Menachem and his family to persevere through tragedy. On the seventh night of Hannukah in 1996, Menachem's parents and seven siblings were driving home to light Hanukah candles. As they neared Beit El, terrorists fired on their vehicle, sending shrapnel into their bodies.

Menachem, who was at his yeshiva in Shadmot Mechola, a small community located in the northern Jordan Valley, first heard cursory details of the attack from his teary-eyed cousin and the Rabbi of his yeshiva. "At the time, I thought it was just a routine incident in which nearby Arabs were throwing stones at my family's car," Menachem said. But Menachem soon found

out this was no routine stone-throwing attack. As he went back to the study hall to retrieve his phylacteries, he unexpectedly saw the entire yeshiva reciting Psalms, a tradition of prayer in response to tragedy. Menachem's cousin and one of his rabbis accompanied him by taxi to his family who had been dispatched to Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital. "It was the longest ride I ever had," Menachem related. And indeed, it was. On the way to the hospital, he learned of his mother's death, over the radio. Meanwhile, the rabbi was guiding him through the various rituals that would accompany him through the following days of mourning.

Menachem remembers, after reaching the hospital, his father's remarks, which still ring powerfully in his ears, as he sat at the bedside of Menachem's seriously wounded younger sister: "The terrorists may have killed a few of our bodies, but they will never kill our souls. We will continue living on, spreading as much happiness and blessing as possible."

Menachem seized upon his father's advice

"We are living at a time when prophecy is being fulfilled in front of our eyes. Anyone who cannot see that is essentially denying the existence of Divine Providence."



Menachem, his wife and daughter all volunteer to serve their country as paramedics.



Menachem's mother Eta was murdered in a terrorist attack in 1996. Pictured here is Menachem, as a baby, with his mother.

"They may have killed a few of our bodies, but they will never kill our souls. We will continue living on, spreading as much happiness and blessing as possible."

and lived life to the fullest. Menachem enlisted in the IDF and during his service, married his wife from Kiryat Arba, a community located near the ancient city of Hebron. Following his IDF career, Menachem joined Beit El's security team, eventually becoming the civilian security coordinator.

Menachem also became a pioneer in his own right. Like his father, Menachem strengthened Biblical education in Judea and Samaria by working for the Shadmot Mechola Hesder Yeshiva, where young men combine Bible study with IDF service. In September of 2019, he served as Shadmot Mechola's civilian security coordinator, and by December of 2022, he became its administrator. "A few decades ago, the last generation had their specific tasks to fulfill," Menachem added. "We now have ours."

Menachem could not feel more privileged to be living life surrounded by miracles. "We are living at a time when prophecy is being fulfilled in front of our eyes. Anyone who cannot see that is essentially denying the existence of Divine Providence." Menachem expresses enormous appreciation for Christian support of the communities in Judea and Samaria. "We cannot take for granted the fact that there are Christians around the world who see what is good about us, because unfortunately, most of the world simply does not understand us." And addressing himself directly to our Christian friends: "You will always be welcome in Shadmot Mechola!" |