



wisconsin conference
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Join Bishop Linda Lee on a Pilgrimage to Israel and Palestine

The Land of Jesus: Then & Now
January 2-12, 2012



Bishop Linda Lee and Reverend Forrest Wells will lead *The Land of Jesus: Then & Now*, a Wisconsin Conference trip to Israel and Palestine, January 2 - 12, 2012. This pilgrimage will acquaint participants with the geographical and cultural settings of the Bible in Israel and Palestine (the West Bank). It will explore points of contact between Christianity, Islam and Judaism, build appreciation for the traditions and heritage of the three Abrahamic faiths, and introduce participants to the nature of Christianity in the Holy Land today. There will be daily field trips to archaeological sites and shrines, forums on historical and contemporary themes, and visits to churches and mission sites. Person-to-person learning experiences with indigenous Christians, Muslims and Jews will supplement the field trips. Cost is \$3,296. A three-day elective, entitled *The Wonders of Jordan & Petra*, is also available for \$898. Those who participate in this elective trip will return on January 15th. New this year, a \$400 scholarship is available for any clergy who has not previously traveled with The Society of Biblical Studies. For more information, visit www.sbsedu.org or contact Forrest Wells at 608-752-0548 or frwells@wisconsinumc.org.



Bishop Linda Lee

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide an overview of the geographical, social, historical, archaeological and cultural settings of the Bible
- To gain an overview of modern biblical scholarship, including the rudiments of archaeology, and its importance for clergy and lay people
- To promote personal and group spirituality
- To become acquainted with the key issues in biblical studies and the study of Christian origins

- To become familiar with the nature of Christianity in the Holy Land and the role of the church today
- To gain understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, its impact on neighboring countries, possibilities for peacemaking

TEXTS:

Each person enrolled will automatically receive *The Word of God and the World of the Bible* in advance of the program. Ordinands and those receiving Continuing Education credit should read at least one of the books from the reading list. All participants will find reading one of the following books to be beneficial.

- 1) Ateek, Naim. *Justice and Only Justice*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1989.
- 2) Borg, Marcus J. *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. New York, NY: HarperSanFrancisco, 1994.
- 3) Chacour, Elias. *Blood Brothers*. Tarrytown, NY: Chosen Books, 1984.
- 4) Johnson, Luke Timothy. *The Real Jesus*. New York, NY: HarperSanFrancisco, 1996.
- 5) Kimball, Charles. *Striving Together*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1991.
- 6) Miano, Peter J. *The Word of God and the World of the Bible: An Introduction to the Cultural Backgrounds of the New Testament*. London: Melisende, 2001.
- 7) Oz, Amos. *Israel, Palestine and Peace*, New York, NY: Vintage, 1994.
- 8) Rousseau, John J. and Arav, Rami. *Jesus and His World*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1995.

ITINERARY:

Day 1 MON	Depart USA
Day 2 TUE	Arrive Tel Aviv, overnight in Bethlehem
Day 3 WED	<p>Theme: Introductions and Orientation</p> <p>Field Trip: Bethlehem, Old City walking tour, Church of the Nativity (Lk 2; Mt 2), Herodion, Shepherd's Fields, Tent of Nations, Solomon's Pools (time permitting)</p> <p>PM forum: TBA</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 4 THUR	<p>Theme: The Coastal Plain and Lower Galilee</p> <p>Field Trip: Caesarea Maritima (Acts 10; 23:23–26:31), Kibbutz Mishmar ha Emek (meeting with Lydia Aisenberg), Megiddo (Rev. 16:16), The House of Hope</p> <p>Overnight in Galilee</p>
Day 5 FRI	<p>Theme: Jesus' Ministry in Lower Galilee</p> <p>Field Trip: Sepphoris, Nazareth, Basilica of the Annunciation, Sisters of Nazareth Convent (subject to confirmation), St. Gabriel's Church (Matt 2: 23, Luke 1: 26-38, 4: 16-30, 1 Kings 21, John 4: 46-54)</p> <p>Overnight in Galilee</p>

Day 6 SAT	<p>Theme: Jesus' Ministry and Resurrection Around the Sea of Galilee</p> <p>Field Trip: Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, Wadi Hammam, Capernaum, Tabgha, (John 21), Mt. of the Beatitudes (Luke 13: 10-21, Matt 5-7, 11: 20-24, Mark 4- 6, John 21), Jordan Valley, Jericho (Joshua 5-7, Judges 1: 27- 36)</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 7 SUN	<p>Theme: Judea and Samaria</p> <p>Field Trip: Worship in Taybeh, 1st Century House, Nablus, Mt. Gerizim, Jacob's Well, Sebastiyia/Samaria, OR Al Jib (Gibeon), subject to local conditions</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 8 MON	<p>Theme: Jerusalem and Its Environs at the Time of Jesus</p> <p>Field Trip: Israel Museum, 2nd Temple Model, Shrine of the Book, Mt. of Olives (Luke 19: 23-47; Matt. 25), Orientation to Jerusalem, Rockefeller Museum</p> <p>PM forum: TBA</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 9 TUES	<p>Theme: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection</p> <p>Field Trip: Old city walking tour, Western Wall, Temple Mount/Harem esh Sharif (if possible), Lithostratos, Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Mt. 27-28; John 20), Garden of Gethsemane</p> <p>PM forum: TBA</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 10 WED	<p>Theme: The Judean Wilderness</p> <p>Field Trip: Masada, Qumran, The Dead Sea, Ein Gedi (1 Samuel)</p> <p>Overnight in Bethlehem</p>
Day 11 THURS	Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport, departure and return to USA

ELECTIVE: *The Wonders of Petra* (3 days, \$898 based on 10 travelers)

Day 10 WED	<p>Theme: The Judean Wilderness</p> <p>Field Trip: Masada, Qumran, The Dead Sea, Ein Gedi (1 Samuel), transfer to Allenby Bridge</p> <p>Overnight in Wadi Musa (Petra)</p>
Day 11 THURS	<p>Theme: The Rose Red City</p> <p>Field Trip: Full day tour of Petra with optional hikes to Ad Deir (The Monastery) or the High Place of Sacrifice</p> <p>Overnight in Wadi Musa</p>
Day 12 FRI	<p>Theme: The King's Highway</p> <p>Field Trip: Al Beidha (Neolithic settlement) and Siq al Barid (Little Petra), Shoback Castle overview, Kerak Castle overview, Wadi Mujib</p> <p>Overnight in Amman</p>
Day 13 SAT	<p>Theme: Christian Origins in Jordan</p> <p>Field Trip: Jerash (Mark 7:31), Madaba, Mt. Nebo (Deut. 34)</p> <p>Overnight in Amman</p>
Day 14 SUN	Transfer to Queen Alia Airport, departure and return to USA

- Worship will be arranged on Sundays with indigenous Christians.
- Stipulated meetings with indigenous people and mission sites are subject to change. Appropriate substitutions may be made to accommodate local circumstances.
- Daily itinerary is subject to local conditions. The order of days may be modified.
- Morning and evening forums on various topics will be arranged throughout the program.

