

## Teaching our Children

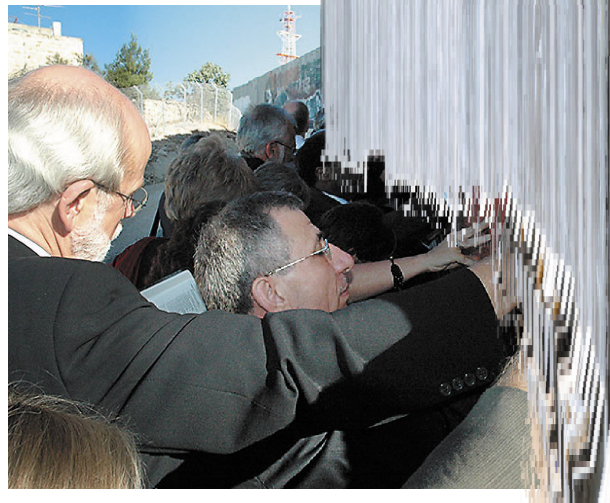
The mission and goals of the Schools and Educational Programs of the ELCJHL reflect the spirit of peacemaking and bridge building that respects both tradition and innovation. Promoting academic excellence through holistic learning, our schools have always educated Christians and Muslims of both sexes. Of the present enrollment of about 2100, 45% are girls; 40% are Muslim. Our students come from families with a wide variety of backgrounds. Some have rich histories in their villages going back hundreds and thousands of years; others are political refugees from all over Palestine-Israel, who live in refugee camps located in the Bethlehem and Ramallah areas. More than half of our students receive financial aid to cover their tuition fees.



## Ministry in the Shadow of the Wall

### Creating Hope

Our strength and our hope is our God, our churches and our schools, which seek to create concrete signs of hope in the midst of despair. Through its ministries and programs, people are supported and encouraged to grow in faith and life: women's empowerment; youth development including international exchanges; music, arts and crafts programs; international conferences for education, culture and peacebuilding; services for the elderly and needy; learning and dialogue opportunities; building economic and spiritual community and jobs.



### Witnessing for Justice

*The occupation is a sin against God and humanity. It dehumanizes first the occupier and then the occupied. Help us liberate both Israelis and Palestinians from the bondage of occupation, fear and violence.*

Bishop Munib Younan

## Peace-Building

ELCJHL schools and programs build mutual respect between Christian and Muslim students through dialogue and teaching tolerance. Abraham's Herberge (guesthouse) in Beit Jala invites all of the children of Abraham - especially youth - to dialogue and build mutual understanding. Through programs like Redeemer's Christian-Jewish family dialogue and the Christian-Jewish Jonah Dialogue Group, Jewish-Christian understanding is built and developed.



### Keeping Local Christians in the Holy Land

*If nothing is done to change the trend, the Christian churches here will be museums in 10 or 20 years. Please help us keep local Christians in the Holy Land Pray for us, stand with us, come and see us.* Bishop Munib Younan



Our faith communities are our saving grace. Despite checkpoints and closures, people go to great lengths to gather together for worship, fellowship, learning and serving. Our faith and our church gives us the hope and the strength we need to face the unknown future.

One of the most tragic consequences of the almost 30-year Israeli occupation has been the flight of Palestinian Christians from the Holy Land. Ongoing land confiscation, home demolitions, movement restrictions and now the Separation Wall have shattered the social, economic and political fabric of Palestinian life, driving the Christian population down from about 15% in 1948 to under 2% now.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Come and See

Contact the ELCJHL ([administration@elcjh.org](mailto:administration@elcjh.org)) to come and visit our ministries. Stay at one of our Lutheran guesthouses in Jerusalem, Beit Jala or Bethlehem. We will be happy to facilitate your visit and make references to other appropriate contacts. Although many believe travel here to be unsafe, this is often exaggerated. Please contact us for the latest information.

### Websites of the ELCJHL

[www.elcjh.org](http://www.elcjh.org)  
[www.annadwa.org](http://www.annadwa.org)

[www.abrahams-herberge.org](http://www.abrahams-herberge.org) Abraham's Herberge (Guesthouse) in Beit Jala  
[www.guesthouse-jerusalem.com](http://www.guesthouse-jerusalem.com) Lutheran Hostel in the Old City of Jerusalem

### Advocacy and Information

[www.cmep.org](http://www.cmep.org)  
[www.icahd.org](http://www.icahd.org)  
[www.btselem.org](http://www.btselem.org)  
[www.endtheoccupation.org](http://www.endtheoccupation.org)  
[www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org)

ELCJHL  
International Center in Bethlehem  
Abu Ghubran Guesthouse  
Abraham's Herberge (Guesthouse) in Beit Jala  
Lutheran Hostel in the Old City of Jerusalem

### Videos

"Walling In, Walling Out"  
Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land"  
"The Iron Wall: Settlements"  
"Jerusalem: the East Side Story"  
"Occupation 101"

[www.annadwa.org](http://www.annadwa.org)  
[www.mef.org](http://www.mef.org)  
[www.ironwall.com](http://www.ironwall.com)  
[www.eastsidestory.ps](http://www.eastsidestory.ps)  
[www.occupation101.com](http://www.occupation101.com)

### Books

Witnessing for Peace, Bishop Dr. Munib Younan  
I am a Palestinian Christian, Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb  
Bethlehem Besieged, Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb

[augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org)  
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### Partner with Us

Support our churches and ministries. Sponsor a child's school tuition. Organize a trip for your congregation to visit the Holy Land and the ELCJHL. Come and volunteer your skills with the schools or ministries here. Advocate for a just peace in your community. Contact us to find out how you or your congregation can partner with us.

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## The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land



## Keeping the Faith in the Holy Land

*"Here in our Lutheran school, from the wounds of Palestine, a new generation has risen, to work, to live, to love, and to be loved...."*

*But let us not give up hope. Justice will prevail, and freedom will come. All we have to do is to stand together, to keep the candle of hope burning, and to work and struggle for our freedom."*

Salaam Bannoura

Graduation, 2005

Evangelical Lutheran School in Beit Sahour