



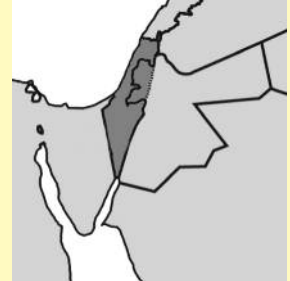
RCA Missionary Update

from the Visés

Palestinian Christians have reached a point of crisis, caught between Islamic and Israeli militancy. Many have left the area. Marlin and Sally Vis are engaged in a compassionate ministry to Palestinian refugees. They work with the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees to help Palestinian Christians however they can. Marlin developed his pastoral gifts of teaching and preaching from his years as pastor and campus minister, and Sally has lots of experience with hospitality and administration. In addition to working with refugees, the Visés will host visitors from the United States and Canada who come to assist in their ministry.

Palestine/Israel facts:

- Population: 6,352,120
- Size: 20,770 square kilometers (slightly smaller than New Jersey)
- Major religions: 76.5 percent Jewish; 15.9 percent Muslim; 2.1 percent Arab Christian/Christian; 1.6 percent Druze; 3.9 percent unspecified



MINISTRY

Hospitality and Reconciliation

PARTNER

Middle East Council of Churches

LOCATION

East Jerusalem, Palestine/Israel

CONTACT

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Dear Friends:

October 2010

Sally and I have made the difficult decision to leave the mission field. It was excruciatingly hard to make this move, but we feel that it is in the best interest of the mission in the region.

Thank you for your support. You are so dear to us. It is impossible to convey the love we have for you. The bonds we have in Christ will endure. This we know as much as we know anything. We will stay connected to you, and you with us.

I have accepted a position with the RCA Development Team. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve local congregations, and encourage in-the-trenches pastors. I join a dedicated group of others who want nothing but to help congregations mobilize resources to advance the Realm of God.

I'll also be part of the teaching team of South Harbor Church, a new church plant in the Grand Rapids area. I'll be a volunteer and preach once a month. This way I stay grounded in a local church.

Sally will wait on God for a place to use her considerable gifts. She is not in a hurry as there is still much to do with our Study Tours. Sally and I are on one such tour even as



you read this letter. We have three more planned for 2011, and are excited about continuing to serve in this way. Check out our web page for details www.lightfortheworld.org.

Our hope and prayer is that the RCA will soon be able to place someone in the region. Much of that hope comes to you in the form of a request. Please continue your support for this ministry, because this ministry is not about Sally and me. It is about

the love we all share for our Lord Jesus, and also for our brothers and sisters in the Palestinian Christian Community. This collection of believers is reaching out to their neighbors in the name of Jesus, and is continuing to lead the way toward reconciliation and peace. They make a difference!

We loved being missionaries. We are grieving the leaving, but we believe it is what is best for the ministry in that region, as well as for the overall mission of the RCA.

Again, we love you and thank you for all the support you have given to us over these past five years. It was, and we hope will continue to be, a great ride!

Marlin P. Vis (on Sally's behalf as well)
Regional Coordinator for Development