

Helpful Information

An ancient rabbi said, "The best way to learn is with your feet." Be prepared for up to seven miles of vigorous to strenuous hiking, climbing, and walking each day of the trip. **Physical training** before the trip will make it more meaningful, educational, and fun.

Your passport must be valid for six months after the date of your return to the United States. A visa will be obtained at passport control when you fly into the Tel Aviv airport.

Accommodations include Palestinian Christian hotels and hostels with traditional Middle Eastern food, which includes many fruits and vegetables.

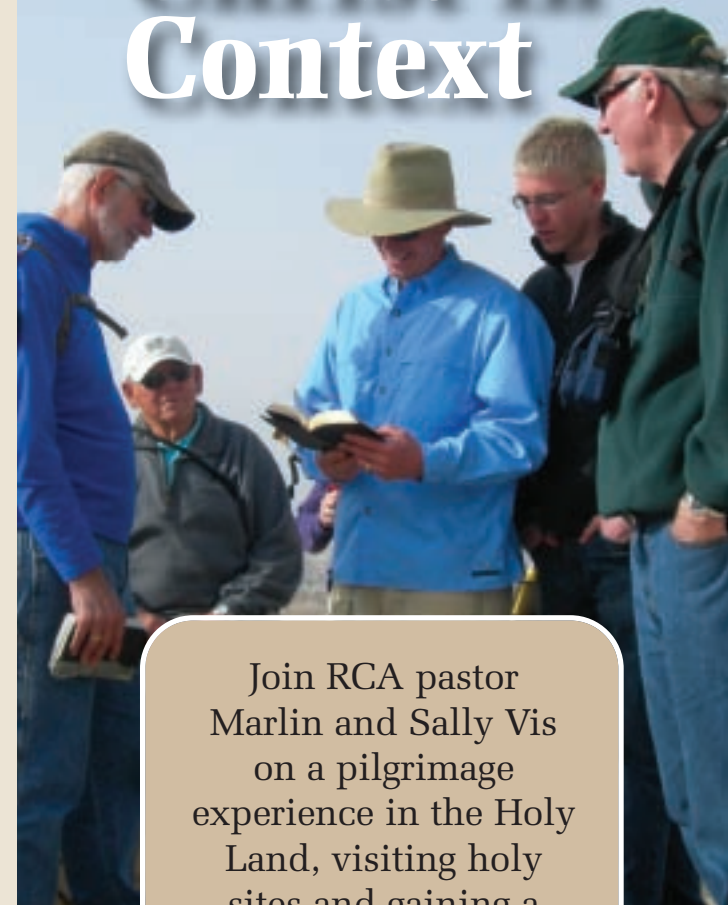
The pilgrimage lasts 12 nights (13 days), with two additional days of travel to and from Israel/Palestine.

The cost for each participant is between \$1,400 and \$1,600 U.S. dollars, or between \$100 and \$120 dollars per day. This covers lodging, breakfast and dinner, transportation in Israel/Palestine, and all fees for historical sites and museums. The cost does not include airfare, lunch, drinks, or a tip for the bus driver.

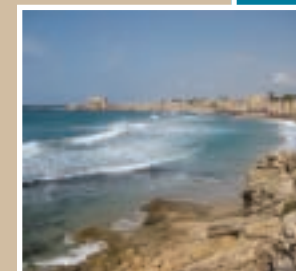
For dates or more information on upcoming pilgrimages, contact Sally Vis at (616) 610-2425 or marlinandsallyvis@gmail.com.



Christ in Context



Join RCA pastor Marlin and Sally Vis on a pilgrimage experience in the Holy Land, visiting holy sites and gaining a better understanding of the current political situation in Israel/Palestine



REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

FOLLOWING CHRIST IN MISSION

RCA●ORG

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Enrich your understanding of the Bible by experiencing biblical and historical sites for yourself:

- Caesarea Maritime, a magnificent port built by King Herod, home of the first Gentile convert, and the location of Paul's trial, beginning his final missionary journey to Rome.
- The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.
- The Mount of Beatitudes, the Church of the Multiplication, the Church of the Primacy of St. Peter, Capernaum, and a hike up Rabbi Mountain near the Lake of Galilee.
- The Mount of Olives churches along with a walk through the Kidron Valley.
- The house of the high priest Caiaphas, site of Jesus' Thursday night trial, and where Peter denied the Lord.
- The Church of the Resurrection, which was built on the site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection.
- Gamla, a first century synagogue, soaring eagles, and a great story of tragedy and courage.
- And much, much more.



Enhance your understanding of the current political situation in Israel/Palestine.

We will visit:

- A Jewish settlement in the West Bank.
- A refugee camp in Bethlehem.
- The Temple Mount (Jewish) and Al Haram esh Sharef ("the noble sanctuary," Muslim): the site where the Jewish temples once stood and now home to the Dome of the Rock.
- Yad Vashem, a Holocaust memorial.

On many evenings, we will hear from people representing various factions in the area: Palestinian Christians, Israeli Palestinian Christians, Orthodox Jews, Palestinian Muslims, and representatives from Musalaha ("reconciliation" in Arabic) and Bereaved Families (Jews and Palestinians who have lost loved ones in the conflict). These visits, which will be scheduled according to the availability of the speakers, will help you grasp Christ in context. You'll be confronted with tension and contrast, and you'll be the better for it.



You will also experience Nazareth, Jericho, Jerusalem, and the Pool of Siloam. We'll visit Banias, the site of Caesarea Philippi. You will have the opportunity to soak in the Dead Sea and to walk a portion of the Emmaus Road, where Jesus appeared to two disciples after his resurrection.

At the Israel Museum, we will see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest surviving biblical documents, which date from 150 B.C. to 70 A.D.



Together we will walk the Via Dolorosa, "the way of sorrows," as we retrace Jesus' steps as he carried the cross to his death.

Marlin and Sally Vis

Upcoming Pilgrimages

March 13-25, 2010

July 3-15, 2010

November 6-18, 2010

To sign up for a pilgrimage, submit a registration form (see reverse) and contact Sally Vis at (616) 610-2425 or marlinandsallyvis@gmail.com.

After you have registered for a pilgrimage and have received confirmation from Marlin and Sally Vis, you will need to **book your plane tickets**. Contact Kayla Rosenboom at The Travel Advantage by calling (800) 553-6643 or emailing kayla@tvladv.com.

Registration Deadlines

March 13-25 Pilgrimage

December 6, 2009

July 3-15 Pilgrimage

April 2, 2010

November 6-18 Pilgrimage

August 4, 2010

Program Cost: \$1,500

(Does not include airline ticket, drinks, lunches, and driver tip.)

Registration Form _____

Reserve a spot on:

March 13-25, 2010 Pilgrimage July 3-15, 2010 Pilgrimage November 6-18, 2010 Pilgrimage

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Home Church _____

Signature _____

A \$500 deposit is due with registration.

The remainder is due by the registration deadline.

Make your check payable to “Reformed Church in America.”

On the memo line, indicate “Israel/Palestine Pilgrimages.”

Mail this registration form and your check to:

Marlin and Sally Vis
8960 Mica Drive
Zeeland, MI 49464