2017

ANNUAL REPORT

We've had an incredible year of growth and pioneering new initiatives. Thank you for your support, your generosity, and your continual partnership with us.

FIRM FELLOWSHIP OF ISRAEL RELATED MINISTRIES

Letter from Wayne Hilsden

Over this past year it has been exciting to see how we have collaborated together to see believers around the world engage with God's heart for Israel. Thank you for being such an integral part of this vision!

This year, we have seen our relationships deepen as hundreds of pastors and leaders, congregations and ministries have actively engaged with what God is doing in Israel through the work of Member Ministries on the ground. Many have been equipped with a deeper understanding of how God is at work in these days and have been inspired to connect with Member ministries through faithful prayers and strategic support. I want to thank so many of you who have told us that, through FIRM, new relationships and partnerships have been forged and are already bearing good fruit.

We have also witnessed greater unity and cooperation among local Member ministries and, with the help of friends and partners around the world, FIRM has been equipped to better serve and promote the vision of these ministries in Israel.

Our prayer is to see each Member ministry thrive as they serve on the frontlines of God's plans and purposes in Israel today.

We are honored to have you stand alongside us in this growing fellowship of Israel-related ministries and to cheer you on as you pursue God's vision. Thank you for being a part of FIRM!

WAYNE HILSDEN,
PRESIDENT OF FIRM

BASED OUT OF JERUSALEM, ISRAEL,

FIRM exists to ***ENGAGE*** Christians to love and support Israel; to ***CONNECT*** them with effective ministries in the Land; and to ***SERVE*** the local Body of Messiah in a spirit of unity.

ENGAGE CHRISTIANS TO LOVE AND SUPPORT ISRAEL:

- Facilitate international events that teach Christians about what God is doing in Israel today.
- Develop relationships with key pastors and leaders who can influence many to love and support Israel.
- Design strategic media-based campaigns that highlight Member ministries and inform Believers about relevant Israel-related topics.

CONNECT THEM TO MINISTRIES IN ISRAEL:

- Plan local events that provide a platform for Believers to connect with Israel-focused ministries.
- Facilitate personal connections between pastors, leaders and Member ministries based on shared vision and values.
- Collaborate with FIRM Member leaders and teams to create better means of representing and highlighting their ministries, both locally and internationally.

SERVE THE LOCAL BODY:

- Organize local events that promote fellowship, unity and greater collaboration between Member ministries in the Body of Messiah.
- Champion and support strategic projects and pioneering ministry endeavors initiated by Members.
- Provide practical tools and allocate finances and other resources to better equip Members to carry out their ministry.

Our Progress

ENGAGING *Christians to love and support Israel*

HANDSHAKES

Hosted regional leader events in Paris, Singapore, London, Ottawa, and cities across the USA reaching **433+ influential pastors and leaders** for the sake of engaging with Israel-related ministries.

LIVE PRAYER STREAM

Internationally broadcasted prayer time highlighting specific FIRM Members and prayer needs each month, reaching hundreds of intercessors to pray for and engage with Israel-related ministries.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Strategic speaking engagements at dozens of conferences, churches and key college campuses (Asbury Seminary, Liberty University, ORU). Teaching a combined total of **over 15,000 students**, and thousands more online, about Israel and offering practical ways for them to get involved.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Over **210,932 engagements** with **4,396,910 reached** on social media through weekly Member Highlight blogs and social media campaigns.

Our Progress

CONNECTING *Christians to effective ministries in the Land*

JERUSALEM ENCOUNTER

International conference with **over 1,250 people** in attendance, including more than **80 influential pastors** and leaders, representing at least **38 churches and ministries worldwide** that want to engage more with God's heart for Israel.

CONNECT MEETINGS

Arranged over **138 connect meetings** between Member representatives and visiting pastors or leaders at the Jerusalem Encounter. Facilitated numerous personal connections between Members and pastors, leaders and groups wanting to connect and engage with Israel-related ministries.

JERUSALEM PRAISE EXPERIENCE

Hosted **15 visiting tour groups** for Jerusalem Praise Experiences, personally connecting over **636 people** to FIRM Member ministries.

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

2 CORINTHIANS 9:10-15

Our Progress

SERVING *ministries in Israel to advance God's Kingdom*

HIGHLIGHTING

Spreading the word about the vision and cause of FIRM Members through strategic online campaigns, featuring Members in blogs and producing Member videos to use at events and online.

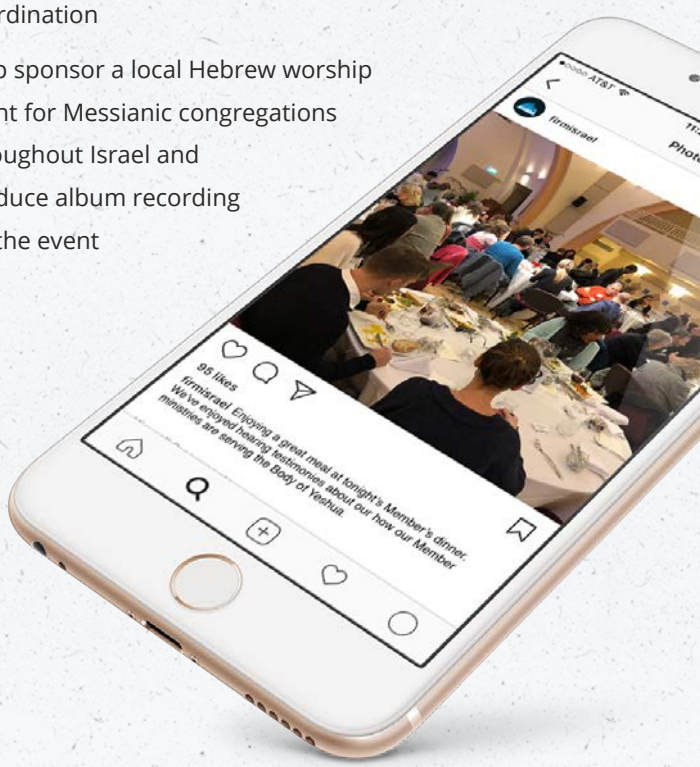
CO-OPERATING

Finding ways to promote unity and cooperation among FIRM Member ministries including two annual Member dinners with time to fellowship and hear testimonies from other ministries.

EQUIPPING

Collaborating to see Member projects and initiatives succeed and practical needs met, such as:

- Producing high quality 2-minute promotional videos for Members to highlight the vision and cause of their ministry
- Providing consultation services for website development, marketing and branding
- Providing resources for branding consultation
- Human resources for conference/event assistance
- Assisting with regional conference planning/ coordination
- Help sponsor a local Hebrew worship event for Messianic congregations throughout Israel and produce album recording for the event



Blessing Member Ministries

FIRM is honored to partner with 60+ local ministries and organizations throughout Israel. From local congregations, to humanitarian aid & social justice advocacy, targeted family ministry, discipleship & outreach programs, to resource & training ministries – FIRM Members serve on the front lines of Kingdom-ministry in Israel today.

FIRM FOUNDATION

We encourage potential partners to give directly to Member ministries. Sometimes, partners choose to give through us using the FIRM Foundation. 100% of these funds are allocated to support Member ministries through monetary gifts and gifts in-kind. Partners can designate funds to a specific ministry and 100% of the donation will be given to the Member ministry.

IN 2017, A TOTAL OF **$934,734** WAS RAISED AND DISTRIBUTED TO FIRM MEMBER MINISTRIES THROUGH THE FIRM FOUNDATION AND OTHER FIRM ACTIVITIES, DIRECT CONNECTIONS AND EVENTS.

SEE OUR MEMBER VALUES ›

VIEW LIST OF MEMBERS ›

Testimonies

HELPING FAMILIES CHOOSE LIFE IN ISRAEL

Be'ad Chaim (Pro-Life) helps mothers and families choose life, rescuing one baby at a time through counseling services, providing emotional and financial support for new mothers and families and advocating for life in Israel.

Be'ad Chaim was able to support many more families and babies through Project Moses thanks to the assistance of faithful partners. They have been able to offer vital counseling services for pregnant women and supply practical needs such as diapers, formula, clothing, strollers and much needed emotional and financial support for families.

"Several pastors and churches decided to sponsor babies through Be'ad Chaim through connections made at the Jerusalem Encounter. The FIRM staff recently brought several visiting pastors and their teams to see the Be'ad Chaim office and find out more about our ministry - they too decided to sponsor babies. It's like a ripple effect where we're meeting new people who then introduce us to more people who hear about the work of Be'ad Chaim. I'm really grateful for how FIRM shares our ministry with others so that the base of people who are familiar with our work and ministry is getting broader."

Sandy Shoshani,
NATIONAL DIRECTOR
BE'AD CHAIM (PRO-LIFE)

DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION

Hope for Israel invests in the next generation through effective mentoring and discipleship programs, ministers to the needs of IDF soldiers, provides humanitarian aid and emergency relief for needy families in Israel.

Hope for Israel was able to provide food baskets for hundreds of families during Pesach (Passover) and Rosh HaShanah through project Operation Hesed (grace). They were also able to provide valuable support and mentoring for soldiers and youth and increase outreach efforts to Arab and Jewish communities.

"It is such a blessing to know that there are those who live in Israel and care about the different organizations that are doing the work of bringing the Messiah back home to Israel. We're thankful for FIRM, for the love and support and the way they stand with us."

Moran Rosenblit,
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
HOPE FOR ISRAEL

Testimonies

PROVIDING DENTAL CARE AND AID TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN ISRAEL

HaTikva Project is a humanitarian aid ministry specializing in dental care, practical resources for needy families, and adoption & foster care support.

The generous support of partners in 2017 helped HaTikva Project open a new dental clinic in Haifa, providing quality dental care at affordable rates to thousands of families and children, and complimentary care to Holocaust survivors. HaTikva Aid was able to provide food and clothing, tuition and living expenses and financial counseling for hundreds of families in need. This year, HaTikva Families will launch in Jerusalem, providing resources and support for families wanting to adopt and foster children in Israel.

"We know and trust the leaders of FIRM and love that they are a Kingdom-minded fellowship. We appreciate how they want to help everyone succeed and accomplish the goals that God has set before them uniquely for their ministry. FIRM does an amazing job endorsing the work of HaTikva Project and making significant connections on our behalf that help support the many facets of work we do in Israel. It is a blessing to be a part of an organization that helps others know that we're doing legitimate work. It really validates the impact of our service."

Evan Levine,
DIRECTOR
HATIKVA PROJECT

TRAINING A NEW GENERATION OF MUSICIANS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

Yuval Arts is a worship and creative arts training school that teaches musical excellence, and mentors and disciples the next generation of worshipers to serve the Body of Messiah in Israel.

Faithful sponsors around the world have helped Yuval train new students in worship and artistic skills, host several powerful worship nights for various demographics from congregations around Israel, and pioneer a nation-wide worship conference and album recording featuring local Messianic artists.

"It's a blessing to partner with people who have a passion for God's people. We see the lives and dedication of the team at FIRM, and it motivates us to strive for greater excellence, lasting connections and more of God's heart for us all. We've had the privilege of getting to know different individuals and organizations through our membership in FIRM. These connections have led to greater cooperation, financial support and friendships around the world and have allowed Yuval to initiate and engage in more worship events, which is the core of our vision!"

Irit Iffert & Jael Kalisher,
DIRECTORS
YUVAL ARTS

Testimonies

SERVING WIDOWS AND ORPHANS IN ISRAEL

Streams in the desert helps meet the needs of widows, orphans and high-risk families in Israel through humanitarian aid and discipleship programs.

Streams in the Desert was able to mentor hundreds of youth through summer camp initiatives this past year. They were able to provide Bibles to many young adults desiring more discipleship and offer humanitarian aid for many families in need.

"We are very grateful and blessed to be a part of FIRM. The partnerships forged through FIRM have allowed us to feel the love and the support of the Body of Messiah worldwide. To know that we are not standing alone puts our work into perspective of the Kingdom and not just the local ministry. We are so grateful for the financial assistance and logistical assistance that has helped us grow in our ministry endeavors this past year."

Marianna Gol,
DIRECTOR
STREAMS IN THE DESERT

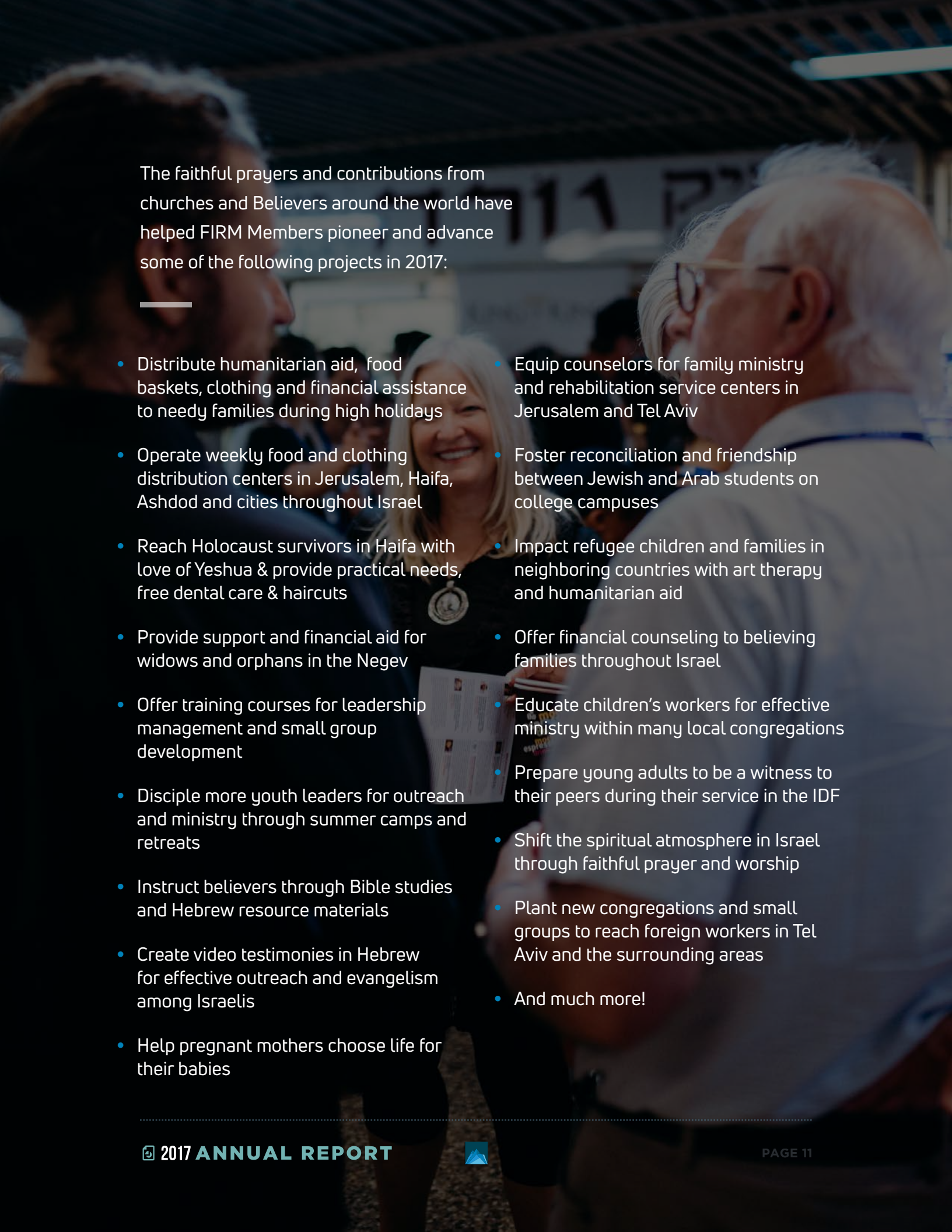
BUILDING A STRONG LOCAL CONGREGATION IN JERUSALEM

Shemen Sasson is a culturally diverse local congregation in Jerusalem that is dedicated to Bible-based discipleship, relational evangelism, effective community outreach and raising up the next generation of leaders and worshipers in Israel.

"Shemen Sasson Congregation is steadily growing! By the grace of God, we have seen several new families join our kehilah this year and many believers are being strengthened in their faith. People in the congregation are quick to volunteer in various areas of ministry and are faithfully giving tithes and offerings. Our church building is open 7 days a week, from morning to evening for all kinds of programs, especially for evangelistic ministry. Every week, more than 100 non-believers pass through our facility and many of them want to learn about our faith. We have a group of seekers currently studying the scriptures with us each week. We're really excited about several people in our congregation who recently accepted the Lord after receiving Biblical teaching and discipleship. Praise the Lord!"

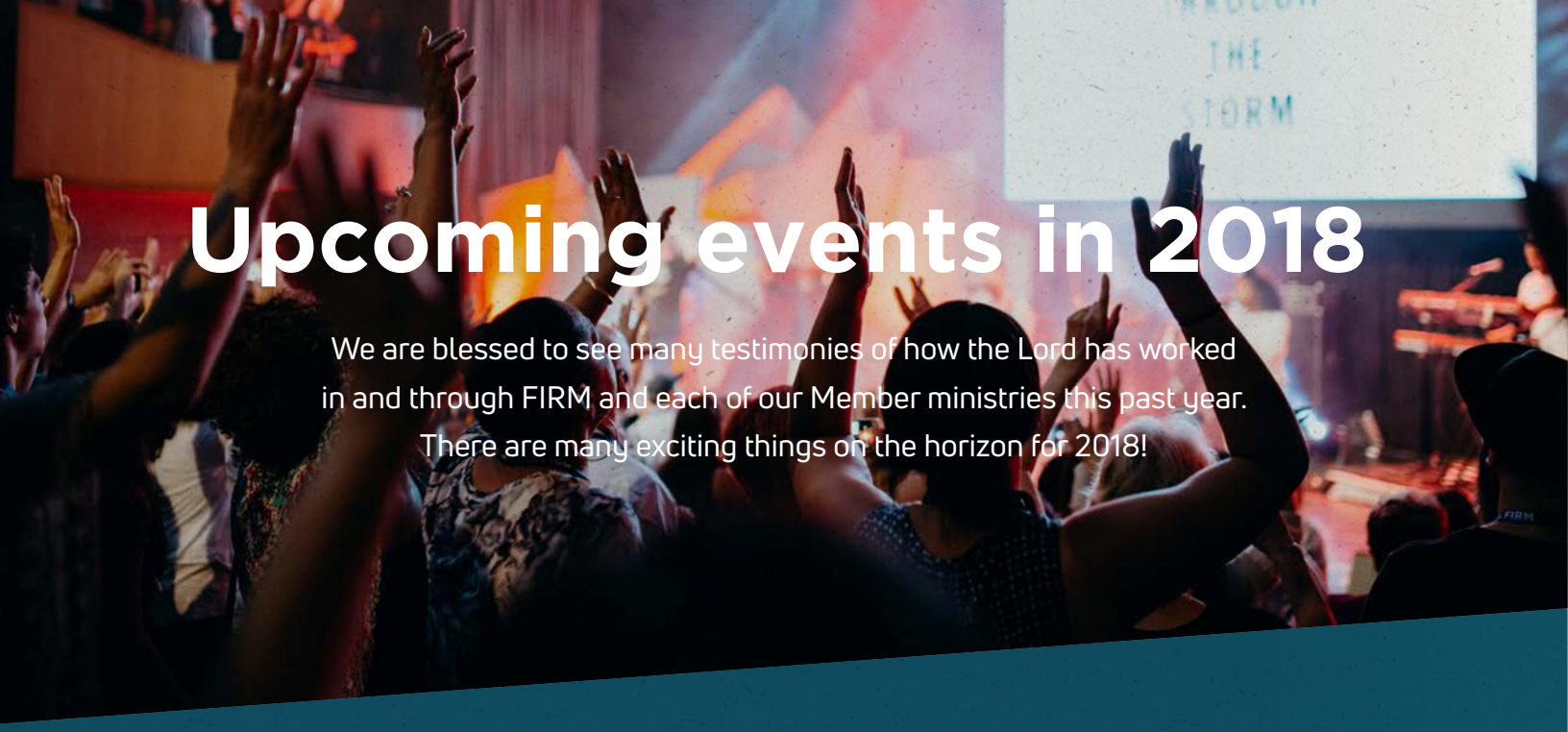
"Our prayer is that the Lord would continue strengthen us and provide sufficient resources for ministry, empowering the people at Shemen Sasson to proclaim the Good News in Israel. We're so grateful for the faithful prayers and support from those who stand with us! The FIRM team does so much to support, promote and encourage us and our ministry. We are blessed to be included amongst their family of members."

Jonathan Almeida,
ELDER, SHEMEN SASSON



The faithful prayers and contributions from churches and Believers around the world have helped FIRM Members pioneer and advance some of the following projects in 2017:

- Distribute humanitarian aid, food baskets, clothing and financial assistance to needy families during high holidays
- Operate weekly food and clothing distribution centers in Jerusalem, Haifa, Ashdod and cities throughout Israel
- Reach Holocaust survivors in Haifa with love of Yeshua & provide practical needs, free dental care & haircuts
- Provide support and financial aid for widows and orphans in the Negev
- Offer training courses for leadership management and small group development
- Disciple more youth leaders for outreach and ministry through summer camps and retreats
- Instruct believers through Bible studies and Hebrew resource materials
- Create video testimonies in Hebrew for effective outreach and evangelism among Israelis
- Help pregnant mothers choose life for their babies
- Equip counselors for family ministry and rehabilitation service centers in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv
- Foster reconciliation and friendship between Jewish and Arab students on college campuses
- Impact refugee children and families in neighboring countries with art therapy and humanitarian aid
- Offer financial counseling to believing families throughout Israel
- Educate children's workers for effective ministry within many local congregations
- Prepare young adults to be a witness to their peers during their service in the IDF
- Shift the spiritual atmosphere in Israel through faithful prayer and worship
- Plant new congregations and small groups to reach foreign workers in Tel Aviv and the surrounding areas
- And much more!



Upcoming events in 2018

We are blessed to see many testimonies of how the Lord has worked in and through FIRM and each of our Member ministries this past year. There are many exciting things on the horizon for 2018!

AMUTAH FORUM

MAY 2, 2018

This special 1-day Hebrew event is designed to equip local Israeli ministry leaders and their teams with practical training, expertise, networking opportunities with other ministries, and tools and resources related to operating a successful amutah (non-profit organization) in Israel. This forum is a local training initiative spearheaded in collaboration with several FIRM Member ministries and co-sponsored by FIRM.

JERUSALEM ENCOUNTER

JUNE 12-14, 2018

A gathering of believers from around the world who come together in Jerusalem to worship God and encounter the land and the people of Israel. This will be a special time for guest pastors and leaders to meet representatives from our many Member ministries and to share vision together. Consider joining us in Israel for this strategic time to discover God's heart for Israel and the nations, connect with Israeli believers and guests from around the world, and to engage with what God is doing in Israel today.

JERUSALEM PRAISE EXPERIENCE

BOOKED UPON REQUEST

Join us for an unforgettable night of worship in the heart of Jerusalem! Experience songs from the Bible sung in Hebrew and English, accompanied by testimonies from local believers of what God is doing in Israel today. We would love to work with you to incorporate a 75-minute Praise Experience into your tour schedule. Whether your group is 30 people or up to 600 people, you are welcome to join us on your next trip to Jerusalem!

Partner with us

Thank you for your continued prayer and faithful support for the work of FIRM and our Member ministries. We're so grateful for your continued partnership and we look forward to what's ahead.

Give Online:

firm.org.il/give

Give By Wire Transfer:

Name: Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries
Bank: Bank of America
Account Number: 325053015507
Routing Number: 026009593
Address: 2141 Mill Road, Novato CA 94947, USA

Give by Check:

Make checks payable to **Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries** and mail to:

Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries,
PO Box 2132,
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741,
USA

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