

# THE DESERT ROAD

## DESERT HOPE INTERNATIONAL

What is this ministry?

- Visitation to the Holocaust Survivors in Israel
- Adopting of Holocaust Survivors; making a difference in their lives.
- Establishing a Hospitality House in Israel to minister to the economically crushed and where God connects those seeking Him with those who can guide them.
- Speaking and teaching in churches or congregations in America whenever in the States.

Come join us in loving  
God's People!

## SHE'S A SURVIVOR

She sat sobbing,  
holding my hand.  
**"He was gone! The Germans had taken my brother along with the other children. We found out later all their blood was drained, used for the German soldiers at the front. All those little lives lost!"**

Her story is unlike any I have heard so far. For over two  
(continued on pg 3)

## WHERE AM I?

Just for a moment, I had a strong sense of confusion – where am I? With traveling to many different places my mind can play tricks on me. Sometimes I will come across a place that looks so familiar, so close to a location in another state or country, for a few seconds I will not be quite sure where I am.

As I speak in various places I am frequently asked where I am from. It always makes me smile as, with my constant travel, I seem to no longer have a place of origin.

Apply that to the Holocaust Survivors. Most of our survivors are originally from the Ukraine, which used to be part of Russia. This meant they had both languages, Russian rulers and holidays, as well as occasions indigent to their own land. During the war they were forcefully marched, trucked and taken by rail in boxcars across borders to countries they had never been in before. After several years of moving from concentration camp to ghetto to labor camp, those who survived the horrors returned to the Ukraine or Russia; some settling in other places. Eventually, the Ukraine gained its liberation and most of the Survivors returned home to rebuild their lives. But in recent years, anti-Semitism has insidiously begun infiltrating the culture - again. With fear and destitution returning to haunt them, they took the hand offered and moved to Israel.

As Holocaust Survivors, arriving in Israel, they face more changes; in a Jewish culture but again in another country. They are free to celebrate the holidays of their heritage as well as those they brought with them.

If you ask them for their background, they begin with where they were born. They give you the genealogy of their family, going back as far as they can remember. It is no longer written down, but handed from mother to daughter and father to son by memory. All was lost in the war.

So, who are they? Are they Ukrainian? Or Russian? Or German? Or Israeli? The answer is actually some or all of these. As their children and grandchildren have married into peoples of the world, they are a melting pot of cultures, sometimes no longer sure of where they belong.

For me my disorientation is only for a moment. The Lord has blessed me with feeling at home wherever I am at the moment. But for the Holocaust Survivors it is a lifetime of wondering who they are and where do they belong?

I have included some websites for those who may be interested in learning more about our precious Survivors. If the Lord is speaking to you about adopting a Survivor I would encourage you to do some research and find out about their culture. I know they are anxious to hear about yours. ☺

*"A FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS, A DEFENDER OF WIDOWS IS GOD IN HIS HOLY DWELLING. HE SETS THE LONELY IN FAMILIES. HE BRINGS FORTH THE PRISONERS WITH SINGING..." PSALM 68:5 & 6*

## SCHEDULE

April 30, Sunday – 9:30 am  
Alamo Heights UMC, Sun-  
day School, 825 E.Basse  
Rd., San Antonio Call 210-  
826-3215 for directions.

May 1, Monday – 7:30 am  
Morning Chapel, Corner-  
stone Christian School,  
4802 Vance Jackson, San  
Antonio

June 6, Tuesday – 7 pm  
Brenda Blanchard's Bible  
Study, Schertz Call 210-  
945-4163 for info

June 25, Sunday – 9:30 am  
Morning with The Word  
Class, Highland Park UMC,  
Dallas, TX Info and  
d i r e c t i o n s  
[www.thewordclass.com/](http://www.thewordclass.com/)

July (Date TBA) Lake  
Bradford Church,  
Tallahassee, FL

Aug 26, Saturday – York  
Women Aglow, York,  
Pennsylvania call June  
Fuhrman 717-846-5754 for  
more information

### Dates I am available:

Texas -

May 1<sup>st</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup>

Florida - July 17th to 26<sup>th</sup>

Pennsylvania – July 31<sup>st</sup> to  
September 11<sup>th</sup>.

To schedule your group,  
e m a i l m e a t  
[susanh@deserthopeinter-  
national.org](mailto:susanh@deserthopeinter-<br/>national.org) or call 717-  
542-8810. If you can join  
us, please do! If not, I ask  
for your prayers for these  
meetings. ☺

### Upcoming Jewish and Russian Holidays

Holocaust Remembrance Day - April 25th

J - Israel Memorial Day - May 2nd

J - Israel Independence Day - May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Victory Day (liberation for the Holocaust Survivors & End of war 1945) - May 9th

J - Shavuot (celebrating the Torah given to Moses at Mt. Sinai – and our Pentecost) -  
June 2 – 3

R - Siege of Leningrad Day (Celebrate end of 900 day blockade) - September 8<sup>th</sup>

For the Jewish Holidays and culture [www.aish.com/holidays/](http://www.aish.com/holidays/)

For the Russian Holidays and culture [www.russian-crafts.com](http://www.russian-crafts.com)

For the Russian language [www.learningrussian.com](http://www.learningrussian.com)

For the Ukraine [www.Ukrainian-women.com/Ukraine/index.shtml](http://www.Ukrainian-women.com/Ukraine/index.shtml)

For the Ukrainian holidays [www.kiev.info/about/holidays/htm](http://www.kiev.info/about/holidays/htm)

### News in Israel and the USA

#### Trip to Dallas

What an awesome time God planned for my trip to Dallas! I met some incredible prayer warriors, sweet ladies at Manasseh (an after prison care group), and thoroughly enjoyed the people and service of Eitz Chaim (Be blessed and go visit them!). I attended a Passover seder that gave more history than I ever heard before and received new friends everywhere I went! As usual, I have more transportation stories to tell (God's perfect timing), but I don't have the space! Guess I'll just have to write a book. ☺

#### Holocaust Remembrance Day

Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, I had the privilege to attend a Memorial Service for the Holocaust Survivors at Randolph Air Force Base here in San Antonio, TX. It was a moving and beautiful time with 11 candles lit for the 6 million Jews who died, the approximately 5 million non-Jews who also lost their lives, the handicapped people who did not meet the 'perfect race' criteria and the 1.5 million children who were murdered during that time. A video clip of the labor and concentration camps was shown and Kaddish (for Jewish funerals) was read.

Afterward I had the opportunity to speak to Sonya, a Holocaust Survivor. She spoke of seven days in a box car, spending five years in a labor camp and the relief they all experienced when Allied forces dropped leaflets demanding immediate surrender. The joy on her face was contagious and I was honored to be able to share a hug with her.

#### KeepPraying - It Works!

To those who have been praying for my health, I want to thank you. God hears when we petition Him and I am greatly improved! ☺

We also have a real praise concerning our visitation in Israel. Please read 'God's Hand' to see His latest work in the lives of the Survivors!

We are putting together our Prayer Intercessory Team for different aspects of this ministry and you can be a part of it! Please pray about this and see if the Lord is laying this ministry on your heart. If you want to be part of our team, just email: [pray@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:pray@deserthopeinternational.org)

## GOD'S HAND!

When I left in January I was concerned about the visitation to the Survivors in Arad continuing. I met with our coordinator there, a Russian Believer, S., and prayed for more laborers to help him. God knew I was leaving and He had already begun making arrangements.

Just before I left, A. an American Jew, a Believer who made aliyah to Israel, requested if he could 'adopt' a Survivor just to be able to visit. He ended up taking five Survivors in one building to be his own project. It 'just so happened' that he speaks some Russian. 😊

Also, right before leaving, an Israeli couple (Believers) asked if they could visit the Survivors while I was gone. They both are blessed with a compassionate spirit. 😊

Within one month of my leaving, a Believer I never met came to Arad and asked if she could visit the Survivors in town. She began doing so, taking them little gifts of tea and tiny scrolls of Russian Old Testament scripture.

Soon, A. began visiting all the other Survivors with S. on a regular basis and they are continuing to do so. God is taking care of His own!

When there is something God wants accomplished, He will provide the people and resources to make it happen. Write down your dreams, your visions, your needs; trust in Him.

*"Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."* Habakkuk 2:3b

## ~ DELEGATE ~

*"...The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone... You must be the people's representative... select capable men... men who fear God, trustworthy... make your load lighter, because they will share it with you."* Exodus 18:18-22

*"Choose seven men... who are known to be full of the spirit and wisdom... turn... responsibility over to them..."* Acts 6:3

*"Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed."* Proverbs 15:22

Delegate – hand over, pass on, give, entrust, empower

As a parent, we like to delegate to our kids when it comes to housework or chores. As a boss, it is good to delegate to employees as more work is accomplished. As a Believer, it is important to prepare more saints to carry on His work of showing God's love to others. We do that through delegating part of His work, empowering them to do the Lord's work.

While here in Texas I have been asking the Lord to help me know what steps to take as this ministry grows. The three verses above are what He gave me three days in a row. As a result we, the board of DHI, are praying for laborers to be part of our ministry. We are very aware we need to seek the Lord's counsel and wisdom for each step we make. As you who have children know, babies grow fast. Desert Hope will not be a baby ministry for long and we are preparing, according to God's instruction, for our growing years.

If you feel the Lord is asking you to be part of our team, pray about it and ask Him. He can tell you all about His plan for your life.

## Survivor (Page 1)

years I have been visiting Survivors and recording their stories. Some cry, clinging to my hands; some sit stoically, reciting their story like it belongs to someone else. Others cry softly as they relate the facts of their loved ones being killed right before their eyes. Each Survivor is living with those memories day and night, like a bad dream, a video loop repeating in their head.

Today, there are over 200,000 Survivors living in Israel.. Most of them are in poverty and alone. After all their suffering, they should not have to end their lives this way.

Help us to reach these survivors, let them know their God loves them very much and bless them with help such as groceries and medicine costs.

Our desire is to reach out and embrace them with our arms, our love and our compassion. Won't you join us?

## CONTACT INFORMATION

All contributions and communications can be sent to the address below:

**Desert Hope International**, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX 78245.

Credit/bank card donation option with Pay Pal on our website [www.deserthopeinternational.org](http://www.deserthopeinternational.org)

*Desert Hope International* is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, faith-based ministry, dedicated to blessing and honoring the Holocaust Survivors and elderly Jews from WWII. (Psalms 68:5&6)

If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, contact us at [info@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:info@deserthopeinternational.org) or write to the address above.

**Desert Hope International**  
**P.O. Box 760183**  
**San Antonio, TX 78245**

**Your prayers are changing lives.**

**Your gifts enable more lives to be changed.**

*Desert Hope International* relies solely on the gifts of those who have a heart to continue and expand this work; thus we greatly appreciate your help, prayers and support.