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## GOOD NEWS FROM AFRICA

By Benjamin Berger

Our African journey by a team of four: Elizabeth Kamau, Brian Cox, Eyal Friedman and myself, was blessed far above my expectations.

Elizabeth was able to prepare meetings with bishops in the three countries that we visited. We flew from Nairobi, Kenya, to Accra, Ghana, where we met for two days with the Anglican archbishop and bishops sharing the TJCII vision, giving our testimonies and having a time of repentance. Later we shared the vision with the intercessors. The openness and understanding were remarkable. There was immediately the sense that God had opened a great door for us in Africa. When we returned we were able to meet with the Anglican archbishop in Nairobi. He too was most positive and said that he would share with the other bishops. What encouraged us greatly was that all these men are real believers.



**Intercessors in Accra, Ghana**

From Nairobi we flew to Entebbe, Uganda, and the next day we took a 6-hour journey by car, crossing the Nile to the compound of the Anglican archbishop and his wife, way out in the country at a place called Nebbi. The archbishop was on retreat but he received us for one and a half days. He is a wonderful man, with a great heart, filled with the Holy Spirit. He visits Israel regularly and ordained the Anglican priest at Christ Church where our messianic congregation has been meeting for nearly 24 years. He loves the Jewish people and the land of Israel. I was blessed to celebrate my 70th birthday at his home in Nebbi; I felt the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord.

In Nairobi we also met with the intercessors that Elizabeth leads and with the General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya. We heard of a prophecy received about 11 years ago that there would be a great gathering on a mountain in Kenya where all the denominations would meet together and that Jews would come to this gathering and great reconciliation would take place. The man who received the vision said that he had seen my face in the vision more than once.

As a team we worked very well together. Brian knows Africa well and also the Anglican Church. Elizabeth is loved and honored in Africa and Eyal, as a young Israeli Messianic Jew, contributed very much. Having been to Africa several times, this visit gave me hope and faith concerning the enormous potential that there is in Africa at this time.

I believe that it is a Kairos time for TJCII and the African continent and that we need to invest in Africa. May the Lord give us His direction as to how we are to proceed.

TJCII

# TJCII Steps into Ohio

By Arlene Stucki — TJCII North America

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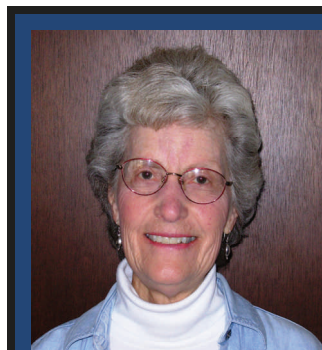
Since early in 2010, some members of TJCII North America with family roots in the state of Ohio have prayed for an opportunity to bring the vision of TJCII to that area. As we prayed throughout the year, this spark of enthusiasm did not wane; so, with the blessing of the North American Committee (NAC) we explored the opportunities available for an education event to take place there. In December, 2010, leaders from two congregations in the Columbus area, Beth Messiah Congregation and Northwest Chapel, met to explore a partnership effort for spreading the vision of TJCII. As we listened to one another, we realized that while there is respect within the church for the Messianic Jewish Community, the groups are not engaged in a living relationship that brings blessing to one another. Believing that the LORD intends much more for His people than a distant peace and tolerance, we decided to take prayerful steps toward one another to learn His heart's desire for the unity of His people. This is the mystery of the Gospel – the “One New Man” the vision of TJCII.

In January, 2011, the Spiritual Leader at Beth Messiah spoke at Northwest Chapel, explaining the return of the Messianic Jewish Community in this generation. Several members expressed the desire to know more. So on March 6th, approximately 90 members of both congregations heard several hours of “tag team teaching” by two members of the NAC, one Jewish and one Gentile. In the afternoon they spoke of the fundamental concepts of the single focus vision of TJCII: The Irrevocable Covenant, The Return of the “Elder Brother,” The “Embracing of the Younger Brother,” culminating with the TJCII “Vision of Hope.”

Three TJCII intercessory groups across the country prayed through these sessions that the LORD would raise up a group in Ohio to pray for His direction in moving forward. This prayer was graciously answered as 10 people responded to that call. It is hoped to establish an intercessory group that will pray into the next phase. The LORD has impressed upon us the importance of prayer, honor, and order in the manner in which we conduct ourselves.

With deeply grateful hearts we present this small step forward in an area of the United States that until now has not heard of the vision of “Toward Jerusalem Council II”. May His Name be sanctified in our midst.

TJCII



Arlene Stucki is a member of the TJCII North America Committee. A Bible teacher, she has been immersed in the Jewish community for nearly 40 years, and is deeply committed to the vision of TJCII. She and her husband John, live in Estes Park, CO, and lead the TJCII intercessory team there.

# TJCII in Switzerland

By Robert Währer

TJCII in Switzerland began with a “trial group,” following the Vienna Consultation in 2004. Each one of the leaders there was inwardly touched by the vision which they were ready to support. During a retreat I was given the task of leading the way.

**Difficult Beginnings**—At first I met a widespread skepticism. The period of charismatic outbreaks was long past. In the ecumenical sphere there was hardly any response. So I had to face the fact that the TJCII vision would not quickly inspire an enthusiasm, and that what was needed were humility, conversion, a willingness to listen and to learn, and a biblical outlook on the future, now largely lost. This phase however had its good side: my conviction was strengthened that TJCII is a God-given movement with a healthy biblical foundation.

**Preparing the Ground**—In the midst of these difficulties I made an encouraging discovery: the Lord was already preparing the ground. Through the teaching of Benjamin and Reuven Berger and other Messianic preachers over 20 years an understanding for God’s purposes for our time had been growing. These regular Messianic visitors to our country were the only people teaching about the work of God among the Jewish people to which they themselves were living witnesses. Their rich teachings, widely diffused through cassettes and books, were reaching a growing number of believers. But there was no Messianic group or congregation with which we could enter into partnership. However a few Messianic Jews scattered through the land are open to our vision and we are building relationships with them.

Slowly but steadily an understanding for TJCII was growing, but also a real solidarity. Efforts in various regions began to produce fruit. By now some younger people became committed. A team was ready to take on responsibility. A key date was November 9, 2010, when we formed a publicly-recognized legal association for TJCII in Switzerland.



**The present leadership team (from left to right): Emmanuel Parvaresh, Robert Währer, Katharina Wälchli, Markus Neurohr, Heinz Bähler.**

(Not in the picture: Christoph Meister.)

For the spread of TJCII it was important: **(1)** to make TJCII known in the different regions of the country; **(2)** to bring believers to know the Jewish roots of their faith, inviting them to worship celebrations around the Jewish feasts and showing their biblical foundation (this gave rise to many “Aha” experiences) while the use of Messianic songs and music touched people deeply; **(3)** we have begun to hold half-day teaching sessions, with the first on the significance of Jerusalem; presentations of both historic and theological aspects have borne fruit; **(4)** from the beginning our majority Reformed and Evangelical friends had reservations concerning our Roman Catholic partners and the term “Council”; so a visit from Dr. Peter Hocken this January was very helpful; **(5)** from the start we knew that intercession is a priority, but just a few months ago it could be established.

We are grateful that with a larger team everything can grow. The longer the team serves the vision of TJCII, the more we are convinced that the Lord will lead us with him on the way to Jerusalem.

**TJCII**

## Meet our TJCI Coordinator in Argentina: Agustin Marsal

Dear Friends,

For many years I have been attracted to the Jewish tradition and to the Old Testament. I have preached many times on Old Testament passages and I have invited Messianic Jews to celebrate Pesach and to teach us about it at our parish in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

When my good friend Rev. Brian Cox invited me to take part in a TJCI conference in my city I was surprised that this conference was about Messianic Jews (Brian knew nothing of my interest in this subject). I enjoyed this conference and learnt initially about the TJC II vision. Later on, I received an invitation to the international TJCI gathering in Jerusalem in 2006. What struck me most was the crucial role of the Jewish people at this time in history and the TJC II vision: the fulfillment of the Apostle Paul's message in Romans 11.

Last year (2010), Rev. Brian Cox called me again to invite me to participate as an observer in the TJCI Executive meeting. I was enthused with the prospect of returning to Jerusalem once more. I considered it a privilege to be with men of God for a whole week at a monastery where King David had once left the Ark of the Covenant for some time!



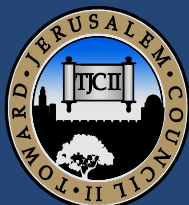
Agustin Marsal, an Anglican priest from Buenos Aires, covers the Southern Cone of Latin America for TJCI.

I was proposed as TJCI coordinator for Argentina. I already have a lot of work back home, supervising churches as well as attending my own parish, but I prayed and could hear the Lord saying "Take it on..." Upon my return to Argentina, after consulting with my Bishop (I am Anglican), he agreed and I started to work on expanding on this ample vision of which very few people in my country know anything about.

I am starting to build up a team and have made very good contacts with the Roman Catholic Church, which is the major denomination in my country, and I have also made personal contact with Evangelical Pastors. If I look at the work to be done, humanly speaking, it would be almost impossible. But I have learned with God that He sometimes asks us to perform "the impossible" so we know it has to be done with Him!

Please pray for me and the work in Argentina. Blessings in Yeshua's name. **TJCI**

### TOWARD JERUSALEM COUNCIL II



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### The Aims of TJCI Include:

- Make known the restoration of the Jewish segments of the Body of Messiah
- Foster repentance for the historic suppression of the corporate Messianic Jewish witness of Yeshua (Jesus), the Messiah
- Further the calling and election of Israel and the Messianic Jewish Community through intercessory prayer, teachings and diplomacy
- Foster reconciliation and unity between Christians and Messianic Jews