

Dear Friends,

Shalom

In the next few days, I will send you info on how I am praying over the current situation in Israel and the Middle East. But please bear with me as I send you a personal note about the most beautiful changes that are happening in “my” ministry in Israel. It starts with a couple very ordinary metaphors...



The Recent Past

Sometimes, the most radical changes begin with a footstep. Sometimes they feel as gentle as somebody brushing lightly beside you as you walk. About a year ago, friends of mine, in the north of Israel, asked to buy my ministry house. They brushed gently beside me with open-ended interest, but without finances to move forward. Their query floated into the atmosphere. I was curious. I had been asking God how my Israeli ministry house could function optimally while He and I were building another one in South Carolina. Meanwhile, many people had asked to buy it, people who wanted to use it as a family home, people who wanted to caretake it so their children could eventually own it, and people who wanted to start their own ministries there. Everybody had a good purpose. But the Lord told me, “Not yet. I’m not done with what I want you to do with this house.” So I told almost everybody except this one couple no. I was drawn to them and drawn to what they wanted to do here. God was nudging me, but for what?

Meanwhile, my house in South Carolina was completed and we began having regular meetings there. God’s House, as people affectionately called it, consumed more and more of my time. Scratching my head, I said, “Lord, look at all you’re doing here in South Carolina, but my ministry house in Israel is not being used as your worship center. What do you want to do about it?” No answer that I could hear...



Then, earlier this week, this couple brushed against me again. I took a step forward. I asked them to become directors for my not-for-profit base in Israel, to function under the aegis of my not-for-profit, so they could grow their ministry and raise money to buy the house. Surprisingly, they said yes.

And so we began a radical change in all of our lives.

The spiritual atmosphere of the house changed. God made room for them. He said this to me, "It's not a complete transition yet. You will all walk arm and arm, linked together, for the next year and then you will all know exactly what to do next. Let this transformation take you by surprise. Don't expect anything of the next year, but watch and see what I will bring, and be satisfied, regardless of your opinion."

So we began. We signed an agreement and shared a Shabbat dinner.



May I Invite You to Take a Step Together with Us?

The people who are buying my house are Scott and Coleen Baker. Coleen is a worship leader at Kehilat Ha Carmel and Scott is a technical writer regarding systems analysis, plus a jack of all trades around the house. They are both passionately involved in prayer. Their concept of the one new man specifically includes unity between Arab and Jewish believers. (I will share more about that in the next newsletter. See their greeting at the end of this letter.)

I would like to help fundraise for Scott and Coleen. There are a number of repairs that they want to make to the home which will require some financing, and they want to raise money to buy the house next year.

For myself, because I am not selling the house, nor renting its main portion, an income source has vanished in the wind.

Meanwhile, in South Carolina, God is overjoyed with what we have created. Most of the people who visit want more room to rest. They want to stretch out and stay awhile. So I want to expand God's Mountain, adding cabins in the woods, tree houses of prayer, more gardens, and eventually permanent homes. This will include roadwork, land leveling and expansion of the infrastructure. (Please contact me if you want more info about any of these things and see attachment for info about my 70th birthday worship celebration.)



As God is expanding the work in Israel and in the United States, I hear him say, "This is the time to grow my kingdom in grace and beauty, to help restore people's lives, to create environments where people can be in my presence and discover the beauty of who I am, drinking from My reservoirs of love on earth."



Can I brush gently against you? May I take your hand and invite you to take a step forward with me in making both of these places a greater reality? Sometimes, the most radical change begins with a footstep. And always, creating a resting place for God, a small portion of heaven coming to earth, is radical.

What Can You Do?

My not-for-profit is called, "Houses of Beauty," which is an English translation for "BEITEI TIFERET," which more accurately means, "A Home for the Glorious Beauty of God."

Anybody who wants to help financially, or through in-kind donations, or through time, please let me know. Our website is under reconstruction but I am including some recent photographs.

To donate, you can either use CashApp, send a check, or wait till we meet in person. The Address is Houses of Beauty, Attention: Wendy Cohen, 408 Highway 912, Travelers Rest, SC 29690 My CashApp name is \$Adonai3in1. Please specify whether you want your donation to go towards the Baker House in Israel or God's Mountain in South Carolina, or both.

Blessing Scott and Coleen Baker

I am honored. I have admired and respected Scott and Coleen Baker for all the years I've been coming to the north of Israel. I couldn't imagine better people to take over the baton for this ministry.

Please join me in prayer. "Dear Lord, only you know the fullness of Your heart's desire for Scott and Coleen Baker. Any words I put upon it might limit it. But You know all you are planning on doing through them, both at this house, and in everything else they are doing. I ask that Your hand will be upon every aspect, every iota, of their lives, that they will taste Your presence, always, in greater and greater measure, in every single moment of their time and in every single place where they find their feet standing. Prosper them and theirs greatly, financially, physically, emotionally, mentally, and especially spiritually. In Yeshua's Name I pray, amen!

The Bakers Greeting to All:

Shalom! Scott and I are worshippers of the Most High God and His Son, Yeshua (Jesus). We believe the Holy Spirit is working and moving today, living and empowering us to do what Abba wants. We love to worship with shofars, flags and dance. Scott is an excellent teacher of the Word and fearless in prayer. I, Coleen, find my joy in singing, drawing and writing. We are so excited to be embarking on this faith adventure with the Lord.

We want this place to be a place of prayer, praise, encouragement and refreshing, working in partnership with the local Body of Messiah.

Our heart has been for the “one new man” in Messiah, as truly peace in the Middle East can only come from the Prince of Peace.

We covet your prayers for us and hope to report regularly on what God is doing on this side of the Atlantic Ocean.

Blessings!

Coleen Baker for Scott and Coleen

My 70th Birthday:

It's my 70th, on August 18th, and in South Carolina, we are having 7+ Hours of Worship for my birthday. If you are anywhere near us, or can travel to us, please join us! I have limited housing available. See attached.

https://truefreedomlastsforever.com/2024/08/03/birthday-hallel-celebration/?fbclid=IwY2xjawEa8jhleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHauj0PYal9ZphFZo63djlUwIUHWbz1Z1BYup6mqGesQe0mYNDTwEezyKgg_aem_A0bXjelfus-Nwd2hQJ5PAg

In Closing:

This picture is an excerpt from a painting of Udi's, the artist at the Blue and White Gallery, in Jerusalem, in the Cardo. Such a beautiful man of God to visit!

Let's keep walking with the One we love more than life itself.

Shalom Shalom

Wendy

