



For several years Dr. Monte Luker of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary has offered trips to the Holy Land for members of our synods. In 2018, Dr. Luker is offering a study trip to members of the **Florida-Bahamas and North Carolina Synods**. Those who have accompanied Dr. Luker on these educational journeys in the past have found that they return with new insights into the scriptures, their faith and the political / social complexities of life in the Holy Land today. They meet Christians in Israel and Palestine and learn from them the realities of life in that beautiful and challenged land.



Sponsored by Educational Opportunities

**SAVE the TRAVEL DATE!**  
*January 9, 2018*

## The North Carolina and Florida-Bahamas Synods Holy Land Study Program with JCBS Instructor Dr. Monte Luker



**Bishop Tim Smith and Bishop Robert Schaefer** will be participating and **encourage all Rostered Leaders and Synod Members** to join them.

Depart from **Atlanta, Charlotte, Columbia, Tampa, Orlando, Miami**

Depart on **January 9, 2018** Return on **January 21, 2018**

### **January 9-10, Tuesday - Wednesday DAYS 1 and 2**

Departure from USA for your study tour of the Holy Land, arrival and transfer to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.

### **January 11, Thursday DAY 3 Theme: The People of Israel-Palestine**

Tour olive wood factory of local Palestinian family, with chance for purchases. Visit Church of the Nativity. Noon meeting with Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb at Bethlehem International Center, tour facility, and have lunch there. Meeting and tour with Bob Lang in Jewish community of Efrat. Overnight Bethlehem.

**Full Brochure and On-line Registration Coming Soon**

**For More Information Contact:**

**Rev. Beth Kearney or Ms. Connie Schmucker**

**BKearney@nclutheran.org**

**ConnieS@fbsynod.org**

**January 12, Friday DAY 4 Theme: The King of Might versus the King of Right**

Tour King Herod's palace-fortress, the Herodium. Visit Shepherd's Fields with devotion in shepherds' cave. Lunch at The Tent (bedouin style) in Shepherd's Fields (Beit Sahour) with the local Lutheran Pastor Ashrif Tannous and members of the congregation. Travel to Jerusalem for overnight.

**January 13, Saturday (Shabbat) DAY 5 Theme: The Itinerary of Holy Week**

Tour and study Holy Sepulcher Church. Meet with Pastor Mark Brown of Lutheran World Federation in Israel and tour Augusta Victoria hospital. The Mount of Olives, Bethpage, Pater Noster, Dominus Flevit, Garden of Gethsemane. Overnight Jerusalem.

**January 14, Sunday DAY 6 Theme: Second Sunday of Epiphany**

Return to Holy Sepulcher Church to experience early morning liturgies of the six denominations there. Worship at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Yad Vashem Holocaust museum and memorial. Israel Museum and Shrine of the Book (Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit). Dialog with Professor Mustafa Abu Sway on the topic, "Islam in the Holy Land." Overnight Jerusalem.

**January 15, Monday DAY 7 Theme: Ancient and Modern Jerusalem**

Temple Mount (Haram esh-Sharif) and Western Wall. Davidson Center (Temple Mount excavations). Orthodox Jewish dialog at Shorashim (Jewish Quarter). Lunch in Armenian Quarter. City of David with 3D movie, Warren's Shaft and Hezekiah's Tunnel, Siloam Pool. Overnight Jerusalem.

**January 16, Tuesday DAY 8 Theme: Communities in the Judean Wilderness**

Visit the Monastery of St. George and hike Wadi Kelt to Jericho (path of the Good Samaritan). Jericho for Palestinian lunch, tour of the tel, and visit to Hebron glass and pottery factory (a local industry). Overnight Kibbutz En Gedi on the Dead Sea.

*NOTE: All Lunches are at Your Own Expense*

**January 17, Wednesday DAY 9 Theme: Free Day**

Free day at En Gedi to refuel for the rest of our journey, to experience the Judean Wilderness and Dead Sea, and to listen for "the still, small voice" of God. Overnight Kibbutz En Gedi.

**January 18, Thursday DAY 10 Theme: Jews in the Holy Land Then and Now**

Tour of kibbutz with history and future of kibbutz movement and its role in the modern State of Israel. Study of the Zealots at Masada. Study of the Essenes at Qumran. Travel to Kasr El Yehud ("Bethany Beyond the Jordan") for Affirmation of Baptism Service at the Jordan River. Continue north to Galilee. Overnight Tiberias.

**January 19, Friday DAY 11 Theme: The Ministry of Jesus around the Sea of Galilee**

Bethsaida. Holy Eucharist on Mount of Beatitudes. Capernaum. Tabga. St. Peter's Fish lunch by the sea. First-century fishing boat at Ginosar. Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight Tiberias.

**January 20, Saturday (Shabbat), DAY 12 Theme: The Man from Galilee**

Nazareth and the Basilica of the Annunciation. Discussion with Archbishop Elias Chacour in Ibillin and tour of campus, lunch with students. Caesarea Maritime and the birth of the Christian Church (Acts 10). Closing dinner in Jaffa. Evening departure from Israel.

**January 21, Sunday DAY 13 Arrive USA**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR...**  
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*January 9, 2018*  
*to January 21, 2018*