



American Friends *of the*  
Episcopal Diocese *of* Jerusalem  
*Building Presence – Building Peace*

April 2010

25 Old King's Hwy North, Suite 13, Darien CT 06820



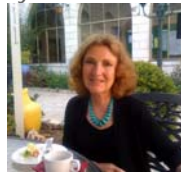
## Meeting the Needs of our Children

Growth and Hope

### Greetings!

With so much uncertainty and turmoil in the Middle East, it's a great joy to share news of growth and opportunity for the Christian community in the Holy Land. With your financial support, schools are expanding, and more children are able to receive an education rooted in reconciliation, respect for differences and love.

Thank you for your commitment to improving the future for these families. They will lead the region toward peace with your continued generosity.



Anne K. Lynn, Executive Director  
[aklynn@afedj.org](mailto:aklynn@afedj.org)

### Order AFEDJ information

Our overview, annual report and planned giving brochures are yours for the asking. If you're recently back from a trip to Jerusalem, we have information for you as well. Just send a request to [aklynn@afedj.org](mailto:aklynn@afedj.org).

Join Our Mailing List!



**DONATE NOW**

### Links

[AFEDJ website](#)

[Diocese of Jerusalem website](#)

[St. George's College website](#)

[Kairos Document](#)

**Diocesan Schools grow with our children**

We've shared the wonderful news about 8 classrooms added to Christ School in Nazareth last fall. Now more schools are adding capacity to begin to address the overwhelming need for Christian education in the region. Parents trust the Diocese of Jerusalem to instill values and faith in addition to strong academics. They know that a well-educated community will make better choices and improve the chances for peace. What a gift you've provided!

Arab Episcopal School in Irbid, Jordan has been praised for its work with blind and low vision students in addition to those with normal sight. Mainstreaming disabled students is a concept



AES Irbid students

that is receiving slow acceptance in this region, and our school is leading the way. The school has educated students in K-6, but those with disabilities who complete 6th grade have limited options to continue their studies. AES recently purchased an adjoining property and plans to build space for both 7th and 8th grade, plus a nursery school. They hope to eventually expand through 10th grade and include vocational training for the blind. They need your help with construction costs plus teacher salaries, books and equipment. They only need \$15,000 to cover construction -- a modest investment for

a significant and long-lasting resource.

St. Paul Shefa'Amr in Israel also acquired an adjacent property which they're developing into a school for the disabled. Their progress is shown at the top of this page. Even more remarkable, the work is being done with labor, professional expertise and materials sourced locally through inkind donations and community support. The pride and sense of accomplishment is enormous. We sometimes think that the region is permanently mired in conflict and despair. The St. Paul's family is shining example of hope and growth.

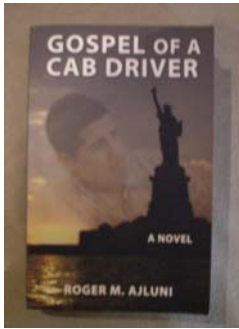


St. Philip's Nablus Nursery School

St. Philip's in Nablus has run a daycare facility for many years with a substantial wait-list. In an overcrowded city with high unemployment and a large refugee camp, Nablus presents a real opportunity for the church to minister in meaningful ways. St. Philip's recently announced plans to begin adding an elementary school, one grade at a time. Children will be able to grow in faith, absorbing lessons of tolerance along with their academic studies. They'd be grateful for your help with scholarships and teacher salaries.

Your gifts will have a direct impact on these children's lives. Bishop Suheil believes that education is the cornerstone to peace in the region, and AFEDJ chose it as our priority for funding for the next two years. With your help, each of these schools can develop future leadership, stabilize communities and prepare for a sustainable future. Please support this work now.

**Creative support for AFEDJ's work**



Each of these creative activities benefits AFEDJ in a way that's personal and meaningful. Find the way that's best for you or your congregation and let us know about it!

Dr. Roger Ajluni is a Palestinian-American physician living in Michigan. He recently published a novel, "Gospel of a Cab Driver," which struggles with the themes of identity and acceptance in a 9/11 America. Yet the book is an entertaining read. Dr. Ajluni has generously offered to share the proceeds of the book to support AFEDJ's work -- the first offer of its kind! We're very grateful for this honor and hope you'll order it online at [www.gospelofacabdriver.com](http://www.gospelofacabdriver.com). Thank you Dr. Ajluni!

No cook should be without Palestinian olive oil! It makes excellent hostess gifts and supports farmers in the Holy Land at the same time. Importing Peace, run by a Presbyterian volunteer, offers organic Palestinian olive oil for sale along with other products, and shares the revenue with AFEDJ. This year the proceeds will benefit the Episcopal Technological and Vocational Training Center in Ramallah. Please support this ecumenical, charitable and tasty enterprise at [www.importpeace.org](http://www.importpeace.org).



Parishioners at St. Chrysostom's in Chicago looked for a new and fun way to provide for our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Jerusalem and found it across the street. The owners of the **Old Jerusalem** restaurant have sent a gift to AFEDJ for each diner from St. Chrysostom's. Please visit the restaurant if you're in the Chicago area, thank the owners and enjoy an excellent Middle Eastern meal. You'll be supporting the institutions of the Diocese with each bite. Thank you to an imaginative outreach team and generous local merchant. At left are some happy diners at **Old Jerusalem**.



The AFEDJ is a nonprofit, non-political 501c3 which helps sustain the humanitarian institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem -- schools, hospitals and institutes for the disabled. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Diocesan institutions foster mutual respect and tolerance in a land torn by turmoil and poverty. Learn more about the work of the AFEDJ or the Diocese of Jerusalem. Visit [www.afedj.org](http://www.afedj.org) to learn about or contribute to any of the important work done in the region.