

Bahamas and Israel, February 2007

The Vancouver, WA ecclesia (USA) has for some time been in touch with a contact in the Bahamas, who initially got in touch with CCM through our websites. After lengthy correspondence, she requested for members of that ecclesia to visit and baptize her, and this was recently accomplished.

Sis. Jill Franklin writes:

Finally, here are the pictures of Velyn's baptism in the Bahamas. She got baptized on Friday, January 26, her "new birthday." Despite the windy weather, it was a blessed and beautiful day! She met us at the docks and we got to spend most of the day with her. We went back to her place so we could first talk, read the Bible and do some study. Then Velyn and Wayne changed into their bathing suits and we set out for the beach. Velyn knew of the perfect spot she wanted for her baptism, and she was right, it was absolutely breathtaking!

I had to walk out pretty far into the ocean so that I could get good pictures. brrrrr. As I'm sure you all realize, there is nothing that compares to watching a new creature in the Lord come out of the water with that huge smile and new robes of righteousness. It was truly a blessing for all of us!

Velyn is really an amazing woman who has devoted her life to the Lord. God isn't a part of her life, He is her whole life. I was both moved and humbled just listening to her talk about her studies and her ministries. This woman has so much to offer, so much to share. Her dedication to learning and sharing the true knowledge of God is truly inspiring. I would very much like to plan another trip there, possibly next year (but not in January - too cold!), to meet with her again and help in her ministry.

If anyone would like to join us, I'd be happy to extend my travel benefits and discounts. Freeport is such a beautiful place full of people interested in the Lord, ready and willing to discuss (can you imagine?). It would be a great "retreat" for us. Wayne and I thank you for this opportunity. It was a moment I will always cherish!

God Bless all of you,
Sister Jill Franklin

Sister Velyn writes:

"The baptism was great!!! We took quite a few pictures and I will e-mail them to you. I feel so great. We had such a wonderful time of fellowship the whole day. You would think that Wayne, Jill and I knew each other forever. It is amazing how much we share in agreement with the word of God. I love it. If all goes well, they will come again very soon and facilitate some Bible studies here. I will keep you posted. Have a fantabulous day in the Lord, Velyn".



Larger photos are viewable at <http://www.vancouverecclesia.net/velyn.htm>

ISRAEL February 2007

A brief visit was made to brethren & sisters and contacts in northern Israel. Sister Lena is very active indeed, holding house meetings and distributing clothing and welfare to needy folk in both the Russian and Arab communities.



Photo: Packing up clothes in Latvia for Israel



Photo: The clothes delivered to Sister Lena

One pleasing feature of the house meetings is that some local Jewish folk have begun attending on Friday evenings. One interesting feature of the meetings is the use of some cordless headphones. Lena is fluent in Hebrew and Russian, so she was able to sit and quietly translate by speaking into a microphone, which was picked up by the cordless headphones for those who wanted to hear in Hebrew. The business of bi-lingual translations and interpreting often makes meetings unwieldy and lengthy, as visitors to Eastern European Bible Schools have commented! The cordless headphones greatly reduce this.



Photo: Sis Lena translating

Photo: A skull-capped visitor to the home picking up the Hebrew translation by cordless headphone



For all this progress of the Gospel we give thanks and invite you to continue in prayer for all such outreach.

With love from your brothers and sisters of CCM