

Ursula, Josef and Pastor Reinhard

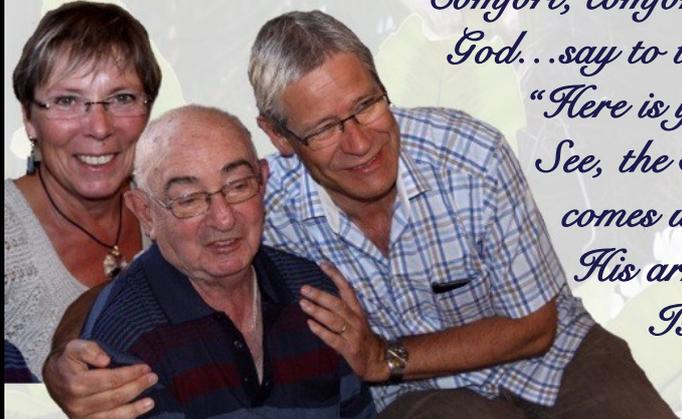
"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God... say to the towns of Judah. "Here is your God!"

See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and His arm rules for him."

Isaiah 40: 1+9



Tamara+Inge at a Bar Mitzvah near Hadera



AFTERNOON WITH GUESTS:

Pastor Reinhard and Ursula Meier at Ner Yaakov:

„... We came to a celebration in the Ner Yaakov home, ate good cakes and listened to Michael Grimberg, who sang with a strong voice Yiddish songs. Next to us sat Mrs Landau, and to our big surprise we found out, that her second husband came from Gunzenhausen, Germany, very close to the town we live in. Right away we entered the past, as Mrs Landau started to share about her terrible experiences during the Holocaust. Our hearts started to get heavy and we became sad.

I saw, that Julia, who sat opposite of me, suddenly started to have tears in her eyes. I quickly went to her and tried to reach out to her, as we sat a bit to the side, so I could listen. One terribly sad episode, which came only lately to her consciousness, would not give her peace. Over and over again she asked me: „How could human beings do such a thing? “

Also others told us about their painful memories of the Nazi time. But this sharing did not happen with any bitterness at all, it only helped them to „work these horrors of their past through.“ We see that each one deals with this terrible pain differently, and are in a different phase. One wants to share, others cannot cope with hearing the testimonies and stories again. Some only started in recent years to open up, but they try to help each other.

For us, as descendants of these perpetrators, it was so very difficult to sit there. Even to try to comfort with simple words seemed totally out of place. But these dear elderly people assured us, that they carry no resentment toward us, or our people. It is almost impossible to describe how precious their love, their openness and warm hearts toward us were, and we are deeply thankful for that. They also told us, what their biggest wish and hope is— that something like this will never happen again!

The meeting ended and we went to Michael Shnitkovsky, who was sitting alone on the terrace. For him it is too hard to hear about the Holocaust again. With heavy, but still with comforted hearts we said ‘good bye’ and committed our dear elderly brethren under the blessings of the God of Israel! “ Ursula Meier

SURVIVORS AND OFFICERS BUILDING THE TABERNACLE:

„Then in accordance with what is written, they celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles!“

„I wished you all could have been with us, on the day when the survivors built our Succa (Tabernacle) together with the police officers of the northern district of Jerusalem. It was a really joyful gathering, as they worked together to prepare for our annual “Feast of Tabernacles celebration.“ Michael, who helps eagerly every year, had become our specialist. In celebrating this biblical feast, we were blessed,

as many survivors, Dutch guests and police officers joined us.“

„...celebrate the festival to the Lord!“ Lev. 23

Ezra 3:4



Officers from north Jerusalem