



HOLIDAYS:

Group from CZW Germany at Rosh Ha Shana celebration

Arieh + Michael singing

Officer with Shofar

„Let the nations advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side!“ Joel 3:12

Rosh Ha Shana celebration with our German guests: Sometimes it is hard for me to judge if a meeting was really good, but when we receive such positive feedback, we are deeply grateful and encouraged. In Israel the New Year is a rather serious holiday, where people seek God and evaluate their own lives. Three officers came—which we deeply appreciated, because they really have much work right now—to bless all of us and to blow the Shofar. Our German guests were touched that police officers would come to us and bless the elderly for that holiday. I always have to make sure, that one of them will sit next to Sara—almost 90 years old! „Inge, the officer gave me a kiss. I think he fell in love with me!“ she told me jokingly!

Here are a few words from our German friends:

„What happened on that day is beyond human planning. God was among us! Everyone in our group was deeply touched and several of us had tears in our eyes.



1. Polina + Shimon
2. Ruthi
3. Fima

These precious survivors brought joy and even honour, to us, who are coming from the nation of the perpetrators. They cheered us up! We were also moved by the sobering blowing of the Shofar by the police officer. We all enjoyed

the good cakes and Yiddish songs. You saw, that we did not want to leave! From all our hearts: Thank you!“

Sukkot: „The Lord was good and it was just wonderful to hear so much singing and laughing in our house over the Sukkot holiday. After the survivors and policemen built the ‘Sukka’ —I enjoyed watching them, especially when the survivor told the officer, that he did not do it right and was the expert in ‚Sukka-building‘. We hosted several celebrations. It was such a joy sharing this holiday in songs and prayers especially with survivors who came from the former Soviet Union. So much of their „Jewishness“ was robbed from them. So, for us, coming from Germany it was a special blessing to hear Fima say, tearing up: „In your house, I really feel that I am a Jew!“ keeping on singing. There were many little „jewels“ we could share with you. One day we had about 30 guests—survivors, friends from Holland and the US—and we all together enjoyed the Feast. „Now I laughed so much, now I can go home and sleep“, said one of the elderly. A good friend invited a group of survivors, the volunteers and me to eat in a restaurant, which we combined with watching the Jerusalem March! The elderly watched, very interested in this colourful crowd—from soldiers and Israeli companies to the many Christian friends in their national clothes! — Thankful for words like: „We love Israel!“ and

„Israel, you are not alone!“



Jerusalem March

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Survivors watching