



As we celebrate this joyous season, we are reminded of the words from Isaiah 9:6

For unto us, a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

It's hardly a normal Christmas season for us in Israel. All of us, including the government, were shocked by the horrific events of October 7th. There are close to 1,000 Jewish believers, young men and women, who have been called up to defend our nation. A painful necessity.

Equally shocking is the Anti-Semitism that has once again reared its ugly head. It's too reminiscent of those days before the Holocaust. Both of our main ministries have been rising to the task of helping and comforting.

Family highlights

- In June we joyfully welcomed Raphael Hilsden, Michael and Becki's fifth child, into our growing family.
- Jamie's musical journey took a heartwarming turn as he formed an acoustic version of [Miqedem](#) to bring hope through music to displaced families and

many others who need comfort. Jamie's wife, Hanna, continues to build Balagan Studios, her flourishing fashion business. We're proud of her dedication and creativity.

- Joel and Laura's involvement in ministry at First Baptist, Woodstock, Georgia, is inspiring. Joel is the technical director and Laura serves church members with special needs. Noa loves the Youth program and also enjoys the school band. Shai loves sports and is good at it when he's not leading the neighborhood kids in some project. Naomi loves dancing and has shown herself an able scholar. Here's their church's [Christmas musical](#).
- We loved our visit with Jonathan in Halifax in October, meeting his church family there. His dedication as a worship pastor is evident in his beautiful [compositions](#).
- Michael and Becki's videography company has been in high demand during these challenging times, and they have been expanding their staff to keep up. Check out one of their recent [music video](#) productions. Their children, Ezra, Maya, and Adam are all doing well in school and showing great talent, while toddler David is always climbing and exploring. They all adore their baby brother Rafa.

Ministry highlights

- This year we celebrated 40 years of ministry in Israel. Hard to believe!
- Ann's production of a night of Hebrew worship was a resounding success, attended by over 800 people, in spite of loud and violent protests just outside our doors. These comforting songs of crying out to God with ["One Voice"](#) are being uploaded to YouTube.
- Our participation in the Empowered21 Amsterdam conference was a significant milestone. More than 6,000 leaders gathered to discuss the critical need for the Holy Spirit's power in global evangelism.

- FIRM's growth to 74 Israel-based ministries and our response to the recent crisis, hosting 1,500 Israeli families, has been a profound experience. Learn more about [FIRM](#). And we'd love you to join FIRM's next ["Hope and Healing"](#) service trip on January 24-31, 2023.
- [King of Kings Ministries](#) continues to make a difference and our network of congregations is expanding with new plants.

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to 2024, we are grateful for your support, prayers, and friendship. May this Christmas season bring you joy, peace, and renewed hope.

With much gratitude, we send blessings and shalom,

Wayne and Ann



If you feel led, here are ways to support us (with tax-deductible receipts):

[CANADA:](#)

[USA:](#) Where it says "FUND," select "GLOBAL WORKERS," then "Sub Fund," and choose, Hilsden, Wayne