

# FIRST UMC RICHARDSON PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

DECEMBER 27, 2023 - JANUARY 7, 2024



**Faith Connections Travel**  
Stepping Out in Faith

## JOIN US

on a Christian Pilgrimage following in the steps of Jesus!

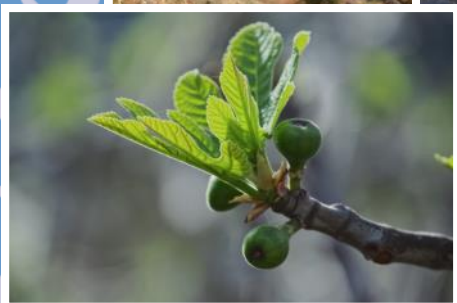
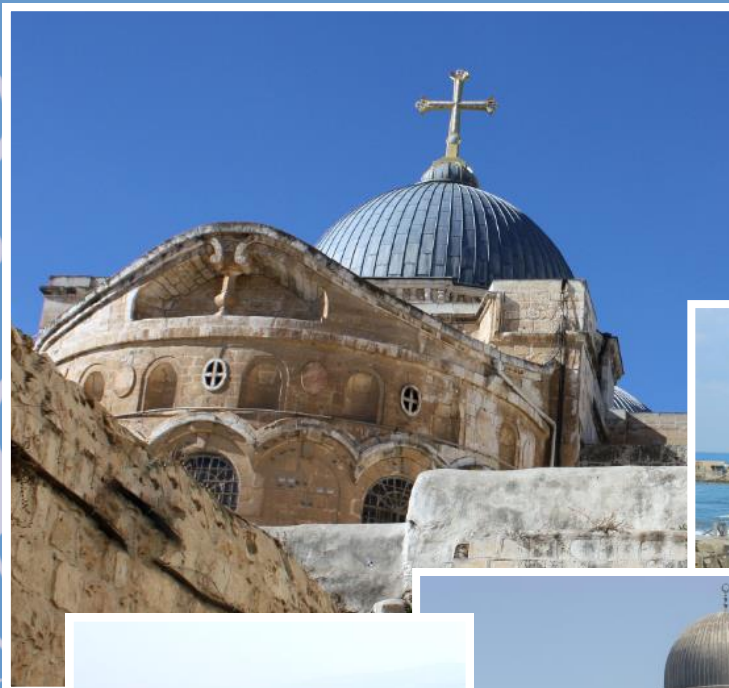
\$4999 Holy Land per person

\$500 optional Jordan Extension

\$260 Tips and Gratuities

Departing DFW

For details and contact info, visit  
[FUMCR.com/HolyLand](http://FUMCR.com/HolyLand)



**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**RICHARDSON, TX**



# FIRST UMC RICHARDSON PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

We are excited to be your leadership team for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan from December 27, 2023 to January 7, 2024.

Our journey will be a pilgrimage, not a tour or trip.

The difference between a trip or a tour and what we embark upon is the intentional journey that will help you deepen your faith and know God, yourself and your faith in a more personal way.

Fr. Richard Rohr defines *pilgrimage* as an interior journey enacted exteriorly. He points to the idea that pilgrims move in two directions at the same time—an outward direction toward a holy destination and an inward journey seeking an encounter with the sacred.

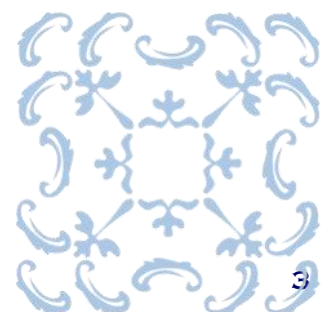
When you register, we will take you through a communal time of extensive preparation. During our time together, we will learn, see, smell, touch, taste, hear and stand in a way that will broaden your perspective and deepen your faith. Simply making yourself available to the possibilities is the beginning of this transformation.

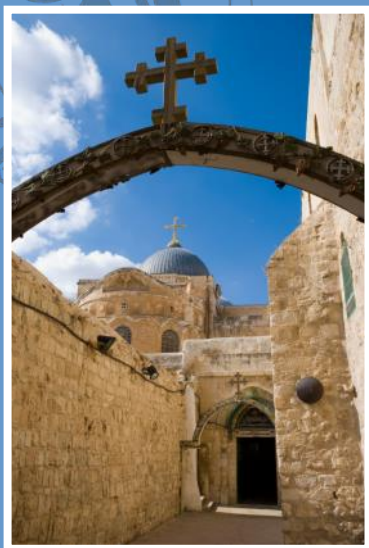
Our pilgrimage will include study, prayer, and visits to sites that we read about in the Bible. We will experience the history of our faith, we will be immersed in culture, and we will connect to Jesus and his journey as well as other figures of our faith.

We invite you to join us as we take this pilgrimage together!

Shalom,

*Dr. April Bristow, Dr. Dan Flanagan, Rev. Sarah Marsalis-Luginbill*





**\$4999 HOLY LAND**  
**PER PERSON FROM DALLAS**  
**PLUS TIPS/GRATUITIES \$260**  
**\$500 OPTIONAL JORDAN EXTENSION**

**Your comprehensive fare includes:**

- Round trip airfare from DFW to Tel Aviv
- First class hotel accommodations
- Portorage for one suitcase per person at all hotels
- Christian, English-speaking tour guide
- Daily hot breakfast and dinner buffets
- One lunch of St. Peter's fish when we visit the Sea of Galilee
- Farewell dinner on the last night at a local restaurant
- Private, air-conditioned bus
- All entrance and sightseeing fees
- Whisper sets
- Medical Insurance on the trip

**Not included:**

Personal expenses, "Cancel For Any Reason" Trip Insurance, lunches, beverages, excess baggage fees, donations to churches.

**Included in Gratuities:**

\$260 Tips/Gratuities is for the Tour Guide, Bus Driver, Hotel dining staff and included meals and managed by the Tour Leader. Additional Gratuities are at the pilgrim's discretion.

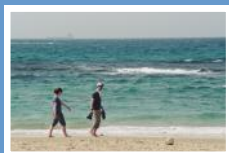
**ITINERARY SUMMARY**

**Day 1: Depart**

Depart Dallas on an overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

**Day 2: Arrive in Israel**

As soon as we arrive we begin our pilgrimage! We stop at Jaffa on our way to dinner and overnight in Netanya.



**Day 3: Caesarea Maritima, Mt. Carmel, Jezreel Valley, Mt. Arbel, Nazareth**

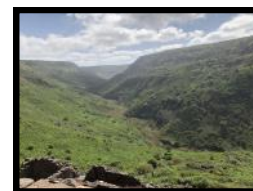
We start the day on the coast at the spectacular site of Caesarea Maritima, then we'll make our way north up to and over Mt. Carmel. We will cross the Jezreel Valley and go up to Mt. Arbel overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Dinner and overnight will be at our hotel in Tiberias, right on the Sea of Galilee.

**Day 4: Sea of Galilee, Ginossar, Capernaum, Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha**

We begin with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, docking at Ginossar to see a boat that dates from Jesus' time. We continue to Capernaum and then to the peaceful Mount of Beatitudes. After lunch of St. Peter's fish, on to Tabgha, traditionally associated with Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fish. Overnight in Tiberias.

### **Day 5: Beth Shean, Jacob's Well, Bethlehem, Shepherd's Field**

We leave Galilee and head south to the archeological site of Beth Shean, then to Nablus and Jacob's Well. We end our day in Bethlehem at Shepherd's Field and the Church of the Nativity. New Year's Eve celebration, dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.



### **Day 6: Mt. of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Western Wall, Jerusalem**

In the morning we visit the Mt of Olives to walk the Palm Sunday path to the Garden of Gethsemane. In the afternoon, we visit Jerusalem's Old City, Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Temple Mount, and we end our day at the Garden Tomb for worship. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.

### **Day 7: Masada, En Gedi, Wadi Qelt, Jordan River, Jericho**

We visit the mountain fortress of Masada, then the green oasis of En Gedi associated with King David. On our way to Jerusalem, we will see the fifth-century St. George's Monastery built into the cliffs of Wadi Qelt and enjoy a "Genesis welcome" on Mount Scopus as we come into the Holy City. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.



**Holy Land Only Pilgrimage continues**

**Optional Jordan Extension splits off**

### **Day 8: Abu Gosh, Emmaus, Jerusalem**

We say farewell to our friends who will continue to Jordan as we explore a few more sites around Jerusalem. We will visit the Shrine of the Book and a model of Jerusalem, Abu Gosh and the Church of Visitation, and Emmaus. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.

### **Day 9: Holy Land: Jerusalem**

Today we explore the City of David and Pool of Siloam followed by the southern excavations of the Temple Mount. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.

### **Day 10: Holy Land: Return Home**

Today we say farewell to the Holy Land and return home.



### **Day 8: Jordan Extension**

We say farewell to our Holy Land friends as we continue to Jordan by crossing the Allenby Bridge then on to the Baptismal Site on the Jordanian side. Dinner and overnight in Wadi Musa.

### **Day 9: Petra**

Today we visit the stunning ancient Edomite and Nabatean capital of Petra, called "the rose-red city half as old as time." Dinner and overnight in Wadi Musa.

### **Day 10: Madaba, Mt. Nebo, Amman**

We will visit Madaba and continue to Mt. Nebo, from where Moses viewed the Promised Land. Dinner and overnight in Amman.

### **Day 11: Jerash**

This day is devoted to touring the ancient ruins of Jerash. Dinner and overnight in Amman

### **Day 12: Amman/USA**

Transfer to the airport for our flight home.

## OUR SPIRITUAL LEADERS



### APRIL BRISTOW

**Dr. April Bristow** is Senior Associate Pastor of First United Methodist Church in Richardson, TX.

### DAN FLANAGAN

**Dr. Dan Flanagan** is Pastor, Senior Adults, Caring, Leadership Development at First United Methodist Church in Richardson, TX. As Theologian in Residence, Dr. Flanagan will lead the Pre-Pilgrimage Education and virtual tour.



### SARAH MARSALIS-LUGINBILL

**Rev. Sarah Marsalis-Luginbill** is Pastor, Adult Faith Formation, Young Adults, and United Women in Faith at First United Methodist Church in Richardson, TX.

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## OUR TRAVEL PARTNER WEBSITE AND TOUR OPERATOR

We are excited to work with our Travel Partner, Faith Connections Travel and Tour Operator, Nativity Pilgrimage. Take advantage of our travel partner website that supports this experience with travel information, education resources, photos from our journeys, and a blog to help us prepare for the pilgrimage. It's easy to find:

**[FaithConnectionsTravel.com](https://FaithConnectionsTravel.com)**

You will find all the details you need including how to register, how to contact us, FAQs, key deadlines dates, and a lot more. We encourage you to become familiar with it, use it, and let us know what questions you have. Enjoy!

For more information about First United Methodist Church Richardson and more specifics about our pilgrimage, see our church website,

**[FUMCR.com/HolyLand](https://FUMCR.com/HolyLand)**





Register online

**First United Methodist Church Richardson  
The Holy Land with Jordan Extension**

December 27, 2023 – January 7, 2024 Round-Trip From Dallas, TX (DFW)

Full name on passport:

Address (street, city, state, zip):

Phone Number:

Date of Birth:

Departure airport if not originating at DFW:

Cell phone number for receiving texts while traveling:

Email Address:

Emergency contact name:

Emergency contact phone:

Please check one of the following:

- I have a roommate (give name):
- I need a roommate
- I would like a single room (at an extra cost)

Do you plan to purchase Trip Cancellation Protection? Yes No

Frequent Flyer Number:

TSA Pre-✓ Number:

Please check one of the following:

- I am registering for the Holy Land **and** the Jordan extension.
- I am registering for the Holy Land only.

I understand it is my responsibility to obtain any visas/re-entry permit necessary for this trip if I don't hold an American passport. **PASSPORTS MUST BE VALID FOR 6 MONTHS AFTER SCHEDULED RETURN DATE.**

I have read and agree to all terms and conditions as set forth at: [faithconnectionstravel.com/terms-and-conditions](http://faithconnectionstravel.com/terms-and-conditions).

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Register online at [faithconnectionstravel.com/first-umc-richardson-registration](http://faithconnectionstravel.com/first-umc-richardson-registration) or by mail by sending this form and a copy of your passport photo page to: **Faith Connections Travel, 3606 Spring Run Ln., Melissa, TX 75454**. You will receive an invoice for the cost of the trip, with the deposit of \$500 per traveler due on receipt and the balance due in full by September 19, 2023. If you prefer, you may enclose a check for the deposit with your registration. Credit cards are accepted with a 3.4% convenience fee.



# FIRST UMC RICHARDSON PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

DECEMBER 27, 2023 - JANUARY 7, 2024

Dear Pilgrim,

First United Methodist Church Richardson invites you to join us on an unforgettable journey—a pilgrimage to the Holy Land that will enrich your life and faith. In December 2023, we will set out to learn about and to experience the land, and to grow as we tour, read the Bible, pray, worship, and enjoy Christian fellowship together. Let this brochure begin to inform you, then visit us at [FUMCR.com/HolyLand](https://FUMCR.com/HolyLand) or [FaithConnectionsTravel.com](https://FaithConnectionsTravel.com) for many more details, resources, and contact information.

*Shalom (peace)!*



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January 7, 2024

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\$4999 Holy Land per person  
\$500 optional Jordan  
Extension  
\$260 Tips and Gratuities  
Departing DFW

