



## TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL



# Tree of Life Journey to the Holy Land

March 8-20, 2022 | Optional Extension to Turkey – March 20-28, 2022

In their song, Crosby, Stills and Nash offer important words for all children in the human family:

*You, who are on the road  
Must have a code that you can live by And so become yourself...  
Teach your children well.*

For our March 2022 Tree of Life journey, we will have a special focus on education. What is the “code” being taught to the children of Israel and Palestine? As our own country struggles with the ongoing issues of systemic racism, the lack of civility in the public square, disregard for the truth, scorn of modern medicine during the pandemic, all culminating in the horrendous violence seen at our nation’s capital on January 6<sup>th</sup>, how do parents, faith communities and schools raise up a new generation of children, free of violence, ignorance, and fear? Most faith communities – sadly not all – put a high priority on instilling a moral compass in their children – a “code to live by” – so they can become the children of God they were created to be.

Native Americans wisely speak of “7 directions”. Teaching children about the points of the compass – North, South, East, and West – is an important part of their geographical education. Likewise, teaching them about geology, the earth beneath their feet is important for their intellectual development. So also, with the 6<sup>th</sup> direction. We want children to look up at the stars and wonder about the immensity of the universe. But how do we teach children to honor the “seventh direction?” As we travel together, we will meet extraordinary voices of conscience – Palestinian and Israeli, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian – who despite peer pressure, oppression and the cruelty and decadence of occupation/colonization exemplify what it means to honor that 7<sup>th</sup> direction.

Their dignity and courage are what we yearn for all children in the human family.

Learn more about Tree of Life Educational Fund at [www.tolef.org](http://www.tolef.org)

Here in our country as we struggle with how to create curricula that teaches what it means to be engaged in “antiracism”, in this journey we will have the opportunity to meet extraordinary two-legged curricula, those who could teach us all how to become more nearly ourselves and how to create “a more perfect union.” At the Presidential inauguration, we heard from a young 22-year-old poet, Amanda Gorman who personifies the spirit and the wisdom we would hope for all children.

*Somehow we’ve weathered and witnessed A nation that isn’t broken  
But simply unfinished...*

*We will not be turned around  
Or interrupted by intimidation...  
With every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,  
We will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one.*

from “The Hill We Climb” by Amanda Gorman

May that be the clarion call of this Tree of Life Journey! On this journey, we will visit Jerusalem on 2 Fridays to allow for prayers at Al Aqsa. We will also visit Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, and the ancient port city of Akko. We will plant olive trees at Tent of Nations and visit our Bedouin friends in the Negev. We would love to have you travel with us!

David W. Good  
Founder, Tree of Life Educational Fund [davidwgood@fcol.org](mailto:davidwgood@fcol.org)

Ghoufran Allababidi,  
President, Tree of Life Educational Fund [Ghoufran@tolef.org](mailto:Ghoufran@tolef.org)

*Photographs thanks to Susan Aboeid, traveler on the Tree of Life 2017 Journey.*

***Cost For Palestine and Israel Only:***

\$2350 for Students/Youth Under 25  
\$2600 for Adults (Double Occupancy)  
\$3300 for Adults (Single Occupancy)

***Cost for Extension to Turkey***

TBD but estimated at:  
\$1100 per Person (Double Occupancy)  
\$1600 per Person (Single Occupancy)

This will include all hotels, bus transportation, transfer to and from airport in Tel Aviv, major tips and at least 2 meals per day (breakfast and dinner). Does not include airfare or personal expenses.

All travelers are encouraged to make a voluntary contribution toward our “Honoraria Fund” that we use to support those peace and justice organizations with whom we meet and/or our “Travel Stipend Fund” that we use to provide scholarship support, especially for students, to make it possible for them to travel with us. In the past, such gifts have ranged from \$0 to \$10,000. Non-travelers are also encouraged to provide generous financial support for both the “Honoraria Fund” and the “Travel Stipend Fund” Tax deductible contributions can be sent to Tree of Life Educational Fund ([www.tolef.org](http://www.tolef.org)) at P.O. Box 968, Old Lyme, CT 06371.

Space is limited to a maximum of 30 travelers, and so please apply as soon as possible if you would like to reserve your place for this journey. You can find an application below and on our website, [www.tolef.org](http://www.tolef.org).

# Tree of Life Journey to the Holy Land

March 8 to March 20, 2022

Extension to Turkey, March 20 to March 28

Please complete this PDF application in Adobe Acrobat. Save a copy with your name and return as an email attachment to davidwgood@fccol.org and elaine@tolef.org as soon as possible.

Name (as it appears on passport) \_\_\_\_\_

First

Middle

Last

Do you have a passport valid through September 2022?

(Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond trip.)

Yes

No

Do you have at least 6 blank pages in your passport?

(The travel requires this.)

Yes

No

Name (as you like to be called) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different) : Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (name, relationship, phone) \_\_\_\_\_

This journey will involve some walking. Please describe any accessibility needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list allergies, medications, and medical conditions in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been vaccinated for Covid-19? Yes No

Have you also received a booster for Covid-19? Yes No

All travelers will be required to be vaccinated for Covid-19 and we will apprise travelers of any changes to entry requirements that might occur.

Do you prefer single or double occupancy? Single occupancy is subject to availability.

Single                  Double

Please indicate your gender identity. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a religious/faith identity? If so, please list it. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you traveled to Israel/Palestine before? If so, please give a brief description of your experience. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been engaged with the arts? If so, please give a brief description of your experience.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to participate in this journey? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tree of Life honors a three-part covenant for its journeys:

1. Before the journey, to begin learning by reading texts and watching films the trip leaders recommend.
2. During the journey, to travel in a spirit of humility, being willing to listen more than we speak, to live simply, and to honor the hospitality extended to us. We journey to listen to Christian, Jewish, and Muslim voices of conscience, not to engage in demonstrations or tell people who live in Israel/Palestine what they should or should not do.
3. When we return home, to do what we can to amplify the voices of conscience we have had the privilege of hearing, sharing our reflections and experiences as we feel called.

Do you accept the three-part covenant printed above?    Yes                  No

Please let us know about skills and gifts you could contribute to the journey, such as taking photos, sharing updates via social media, leading music, etc. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief biographical statement to share with fellow travelers (about 100 words).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Please provide a high-resolution digital image of yourself to share with fellow travelers (jpg or pdf)

A refundable deposit of \$500 is due at the time of application. Whether you submit an application online, via email or mail, please mail a check made out to **Tree of Life Educational Fund** to the address below.

Payment in full will be due by due by February 1, 2022 unless other arrangements have been made. Please note that this is payment for services rendered and is not a tax-deductible charitable contribution.

Additionally, we urge each participant to consider making a tax-deductible gift to Tree of Life Educational Fund. Your gift will support grants for those otherwise unable to afford the journey, as well as efforts to promote justice and peace in Israel/Palestine. In the past, such contributions have been anywhere from \$5 to \$10,000. Your gift of any size makes a difference.

If you have questions about the journey, please contact Ghoufran or David.

### **Payment**

We would prefer that payment be made by check, but payment can also be made online through our SafeSave payment gateway.

### **Payment by Mail:**

Please make checks payable to: **Tree of Life Educational Fund**

Mail to:

Tree of Life Educational Fund  
P.O. Box 968, Old Lyme, CT 06371

### **Payment Online:**

Deposits and payments for the upcoming Tree of Life Journey may be made on our website. As SafeSave charges us 3% per transaction, please consider adding a commensurate amount to your payment to cover this expense.

To pay online go to: <https://toleg.org/journeys/payment>

### **Return completed application**

**Email to** davidwgood@fcol.org and elaine@toleg.org

### **or Mail to:**

Tree of Life Educational Fund P.O. Box 968  
Old Lyme, CT 06371