

Istanbul Interfaith Pilgrimage of Peace

NOVEMBER 10 – 20, 2008

The Interfaith Team will spend 8 full days in Istanbul and three days of travel to share our faith with each other, worship together and visit each other's historical places in Istanbul. We will use Respectful Dialogue to explore with each other the ideological and religious aspects of each other's faiths, establish relationships of mutual respect, understanding, appreciation, and compassion. We will be staying at one hotel the full time in the old historical part of Sultanahmet and immerse ourselves in the ancient city of Istanbul by walking to nearby historical sites, using public transport to cross the Bosphorus to visit with Interfaith Groups with collaborative ties to the United States and hear from them directly how they are involved in local and international inter-religious programs/ministries.

We will also be meeting with Turkish families in their homes, visiting interfaith and individual faith mission outreach ministries, one of which will be the Immigrants Program receiving funding by UMCOR, and holding workshops on international concerns and how continuing efforts may be made individually and collaboratively to address the concerns of poverty and health with a particular focus on leadership development with young people for peace in the world.

ISTANBUL BASICS

The price will include round trip airfare from Houston International Airport, group transfers between the airport in Istanbul and lodging, breakfast and four lunch or dinner meals, ground transportation to and entry fees for sites listed in the itinerary, instruction and airport departure taxes.

INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- ❑ *Fuel surcharges that will not be known until ticket is purchased by September 11th and may be as much as \$150 to \$400.
- ❑ *Tourist Visa at Istanbul Airport - \$20
- ❑ *Any shots individuals choose to take for traveling
- ❑ *Individual Travel Insurance
- ❑ *Tips for Tour guides & Bus Drivers
- ❑ *Domestic travel within the US to and from Houston International Airport. The travel agency will help make travel arrangements per individual requests and bill accordingly separate from the group travel cost.
- ❑ *Personal expenses such as laundry
- ❑ *Extra beverages not included in the meal cost.
- ❑ *Excess baggage fees, tips for bus drivers and local guides. Any baggage overweight is covered by the individual at any time going or returning.
- ❑ *Changes in local costs of services and fees outside our control and unforeseen will be prorated amongst the whole team.

Sponsored and led by

General Board of Church & Society The United Methodist Church

Rev. Neal Christie

Tarrytown UMC

Rev. Ron Campbell

Peace with Justice

Southwest Texas Conference UMC

Wanda Holcombe

Leaders and Local Hosts who live in Istanbul:

Bill Bache, MDiv degree Perkins School of Theology SMU and Christina Bache Fidan (daughter), MA degree International Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution



Departing Houston International Airport, 10 November 2008

\$2,950

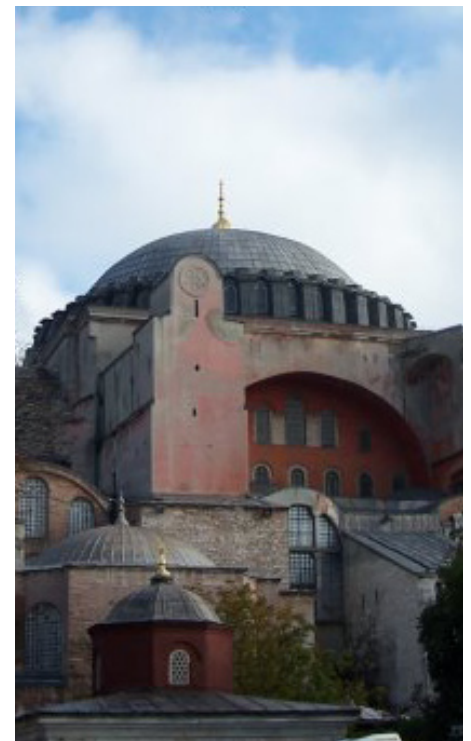
Plus a six day Elective Exploration of the Aegean Coast of Turkey including Ephesus & Troy

Lodging & Travel

\$800-\$1000

SCHEDULE TO INCLUDE:

- *Daily study and reflections as a group
- *A visit in home of Turkish Family
- *Attend a Sufi Liturgical Dance



SCHEDULE

DAY 1: MON - NOV 10

Travel from Houston International Airport

Lufthansa – Flight 441 to Frankfurt, Germany

Leave: 4:40 pm Houston - Central Standard Time US (1640)

Arrive: 9:15 am Frankfurt - Germany

Lufthansa – Flight 3342 to Istanbul, Turkey International Airport

Leave: 1:50 pm (1350) Frankfurt - Germany Time

Arrive: 5:35 pm (1735) Istanbul - Istanbul Time

DAY 2: TUES - NOV 11

Arrive in Istanbul check into Hotel Sari Konak

*First Group Interfaith Pilgrimage Context

DAY 3: WED - NOV 12

Interfaith Group Visit

*Second Group Interfaith Discussion

*Visit Historical Sites, Mission Ministries, & Local Study Presenters

DAY 4: THUR - NOV 13

Interfaith Group Visits

*Third Group Interfaith Discussion

*Visit Historical Sites, Mission Ministries, & Local Study Presenters

DAY 5: FRI - NOV 14

Islamic Faith: Visit Historic Places & Worship

DAY 6: SAT - NOV 15

Jewish Faith: Visit Historic Places & Worship

DAY 7: SUN - NOV 16

Christian Faith: Visit Historic Places & Worship

DAY 8: MON - NOV 17

Pilgrimage to Princes Islands Holy sites. Travel via ferry to the Greek Orthodox Seminary on Heybeliada Island, visit Christian, Muslim and Jewish sites and make the pilgrimage to the St. George Monastery on Buyakada Island.

DAY 9: TUES - NOV 18

International Relations & Conflict Resolutions

*Fourth Group Interfaith Discussion: How to Enable Global Peace

*Visit Historical Sites, Mission Ministries, & Local Study Presenters

DAY 10: WED - NOV 19

Free Day with Evening Closing Reflections

Fifth Group Discussion: How make a difference in the US

DAY 11: THUR - NOV 20

Travel Day – Leave Istanbul & Arrive in US Same Day

Lufthansa – Flight 3345 to Istanbul to Frankfurt, Germany

Leave: 6:00 am (0600) Istanbul (Leave for Airport 3:30 am)

Arrive: 8:05 am (0805) Frankfurt - Germany Time

Lufthansa – Flight 440 to Frankfurt to Houston International Airport

Leave: 10:15 am (1015) Frankfurt - Germany Time

Arrive: 2:05 pm (1405) Houston – Central Standard Time US

BAGGAGE:

- One checked suitcase (44 lbs.) and one carry-on bag per airline regulations.
- Luggage space on local transport in Istanbul is often limited and therefore we recommend only one check on bag and one carry on bag going to Istanbul, but upon return you may want to check two bags. Any extra cost for cartage will be at the cost of the individual.
- Keep carry-on baggage light and small.
- Carry-on luggage must fit under the seat or in the overhead compartment of the plane.
- Make sure your luggage is labeled with your name, address and phone number!



SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

*Persons having any special physical requirements will be responsible for any costs related to additional assistance or special arrangements needed to accommodate

*If you have any dietary restrictions or medical needs, please indicate on your application form.

*If you need a special seating assignment for air travel, you will need to send in advance with your registration form a letter from your doctor stating why and what kind of special seating is needed in order for us to request in advance with the airline.

*No vaccinations or inoculations are required for travel in Turkey. However, you should check with your own doctor or travel clinic for personal advice.

REGISTRATION FORM

A \$400.00 Deposit per person and a photocopy of your passport picture page is required along with the registration form before and no later than **Monday, August 4, 2008.**

Final Payment of Balance Due Received before or no later than **Friday, September 5, 2008**

Payment Method: *Credit Card online with Tarrytown UMC
<http://www.tarrytownumc.org/>

*Make checks payable to **Tarrytown UMC**

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Title: _____ (Rev., Rabbi, Imam, Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr. or ____)

Name: _____

(what you like to be called)

Occupation _____ Faith _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Business phone: _____

Home phone: _____

Mobile phone: _____

Email: _____

Roommate preference: _____

I would like to have a single room Standard _____ Deluxe _____

I understand that single rooms are subject to availability and that my account will be charged a single room supplement for the 9 nights (\$720 standard or \$1,136 deluxe)

Each person must procure a passport valid for six months after your return. The cost of visa at the Istanbul airport is \$20 US dollars. Those without US citizenship are responsible for proper re-entry documentation. All passengers must provide copies of their travel documents

PASSPORT INFORMATION

*Please submit legible photocopy with registration
(a valid US passport or other travel document is required)*

Name : _____

(as it appears on your Passport)

Passport number: _____ Date of issue: _____

(day/month/year)

Authority: _____

Date of birth: _____ Country of citizenship: _____

(day/month/year)

ELECTIVES:

____ I would like to enroll in the six day additional elective being planned to Aegean Coast of Turkey to include Esphesus & Troy. Estimated Cost \$800 - \$1,000 Lodging & Travel

____ I would like to extend my return date to accommodate personal travel (travel \$250 fee) and any additional costs related to the cost of the ticket changes. I understand that this travel is "on my own."

MAIL TO:

Wanda Holcombe
14900 Yellowleaf Trail
Austin, Texas 78728

FAX TO:

512.476.4301
Attn: Ron Campbell

To email registration contact:

wanda60@earthlink.net

For more information call Wanda Holcombe, 512.619.3469 or email wanda60@earthlink.net

Deposit and any payments made of balance due may be fully refunded 100% by September 5, 2008.

After September 5, 2008 no refunds will be made as non-refundable tickets will be purchased and substantial hotels pre-payments made.

This Interfaith Team is not subsidized by any faith group or individual. Therefore we suggest individuals obtain travel insurance to cover any personal decision not to go on the trip or medical reasons.

The overall cost of the trip will cover the cost of each individuals UMVIM emergency medical insurance (specific coverage can be seen on GBGM VIM website. 100% of cancellation fees are covered by the optional travel insurance (see next page), if the premium has been paid and the reason for cancellation is insurable. The cost of travel insurance is not refundable.

Lodging: The price is based on double occupancy and is covered in the overall trip fee. Single occupancy is available at an additional cost of \$720.00 Double Deluxe room is available at an additional cost of \$1,136 (see Sari Konak Hotel, www.istanbulhotelsarikonak.com, for images of different types of rooms. Hotel website is for viewing only. Please do not contact the hotel directly.)

If an uneven number of people register for double occupancy rooms, a single room will be assigned to the last person to register and a single room supplement will apply.

Luggage: The per person limit is one suitcase and one carry on bag. Airlines sometimes impose additional limits.

Airline ticketing: Reservations are non-refundable once ticketed. Travel is in jet economy class. Flight times are subject to change by the airlines. Leaders of the team are not responsible for such changes or delays and cannot reimburse expenses resulting from them.

Domestic "add-ons: Anyone who would like to purchase their domestic airline add-on ticket or travel insurance from the travel agency we are using for securing our airline tickets, contact the agency directly: www.pvt4u.com or Phone: 512-418-0290 or 866-393-4060. Additional costs will be paid directly to the travel agency or insurance company. All registrants are encouraged to purchase travel insurance of their own choosing.