



Keeping you informed with news on the mission partners we support, relevant global issues, prayer points and news from BMS. **If you would like to be part of High Street’s World Mission team, or to know more, please talk to one of the team:** Janet Briant, Polly Eaton, Joe Egan, Jennie Sugg, Chris Sugg, Carol Tipson.

The local network to support Ukrainians hosted in Berkhamsted and Tring continues to respond to need as they arise. If you are able to help in any of the following ways, please email batuhostingnetwork@gmail.com

- Offer work opportunities
- Volunteer at the donations shop
- Volunteer at meet-up at High Street Baptist Church on Thursday afternoons



As a church we are strengthening our connection with **Musalaha** — today we are learning more about their **children’s summer camps**.

Musalaha run an annual summer camp that brings together hundreds of children from Israel and Palestine. Children from different ethnic, religious and geographical backgrounds make new friends as they engage together in arts, crafts, water games, competitions and sports. Teaching on reconciliation helps to break down stereotypes of the ‘other’. This teaching is based on lives such as Joseph and Jonah — biblical characters accessible to all three faiths.

In 2021, amid the background of Covid and the war between Gaza and Israel, the camp still went ahead. The trust of parents towards Musalaha was such that 80 campers from Jewish, Christian and Muslim backgrounds came. The camp offered an alternative culture: attitude and teachings that counter the mainstream culture of fear and hatred. All activities were in Arabic and Hebrew. Each child learned how to write their own name in their ‘other’ language (and script!). They learned new phrases and songs in the two languages. All children shared cabins with those from the other side – and some became good friends. The overall theme was Jonah’s life and his attitude to people who were different from him. Many young adults, who had attended in previous years as children, were leaders, counsellors and volunteers in 2021. In some years young adults have come as helpers from churches in the UK and the States.

Musalaha was the only organisation to run a 5-day camp for children in Israel and Palestine (West Bank and Gaza). As you can imagine achieving this in 2021 demanded a very special effort – transport across the dividing wall in private cars, training one of the staff in Covid testing, and carefully fulfilling every government regulation. Afterwards several phone calls expressed positive feedback from parents, who were surprised their children had made friends with children with Jewish or Arabic names.



Find out more about Musalaha visit <https://www.musalaha.uk/> and <https://musalaha.org/>. To watch the video from the 2021 summer camp go to <https://youtu.be/lymmweDwsY4>

