"We packed in just about as much as anyone could in the 9 days. No wonder we were so tired each night. I really enjoyed traveling with the Resurrection Pilgrims along with Jim and Justus. Everyone was new to me. It was fun to see people absorb the history and present life and weave it together with their religious beliefs and any preconceived ideas and about what it is like to live in the Holy Land today. Here are some memories that I am left with:

-The people are so hospitable and they appreciate the tourists. In Duma where we stayed in family homes, the women dress covered except for their face and hands. Upon arrival after a day long trek from Awarta, our hostess immediately had our sweaty group of 8 all over her sofas and brought us beverages. Then came a big dinner – twice as much as we could eat. Her husband got out the bedding and was a big help to her. He loves soccer and played the game on his cell phone. George was happy about that.

-The food. You won't see frozen food, boxed mixes and the huge variety of what we are used to. People cook from scratch. The tomatoes, cucumbers and lightly seasoned rice dishes are especially tasty. And if you like strong Turkish coffee, with cardamom in it, you will be happy.

-Hebron. This place is sacred to Muslims and Jews. The double cave of Machpelah is thought to be where Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Sarah, Rebecca & Leah were buried. It is still a tense situation...we felt it.

I want to thank Betsy for putting this unique trip together and keeping us organized and excited along the way. It was a big responsibility and she is such a positive person. " Ann

Hebron: A visit to the tombs of The Patriarchs...Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah and Rebecca.. A shared Holy Site. Mosque on one side, Synagogue on the other.

Resurrection Youth and Adult Holy Land Pilgrimage 2018

Beit Sahour (Shepherd's Field) we visited the shepherd's caves. Realizing that the Angels came to invite the outcast to visit the Baby King! What am incredible message they received!

Bethlehem: The Church of The Nativity, and Mass in the caves by the manger, with a local Palestinian priest.

" I was part of the group that was able to travel on a pilgrimage to The Holy Land in June. Unfortunately I suffered through dehydration and gastral sickness toward the tail end of the trip. But I had a great time experiencing the spiritual and cultural differences and richness that The Holy Land has to offer. One thing that sticks out to me was the great hospitality that was shown to our group from families in small villages as we made our way walking along the path of Abraham, and in The Shepherd's Field. Reema, the mom who hosted us in Shepherd's Field, cared for me like I was her own son (her words). Overall the pilgrimage was a great faith experience for me and something I will always remember." Scott