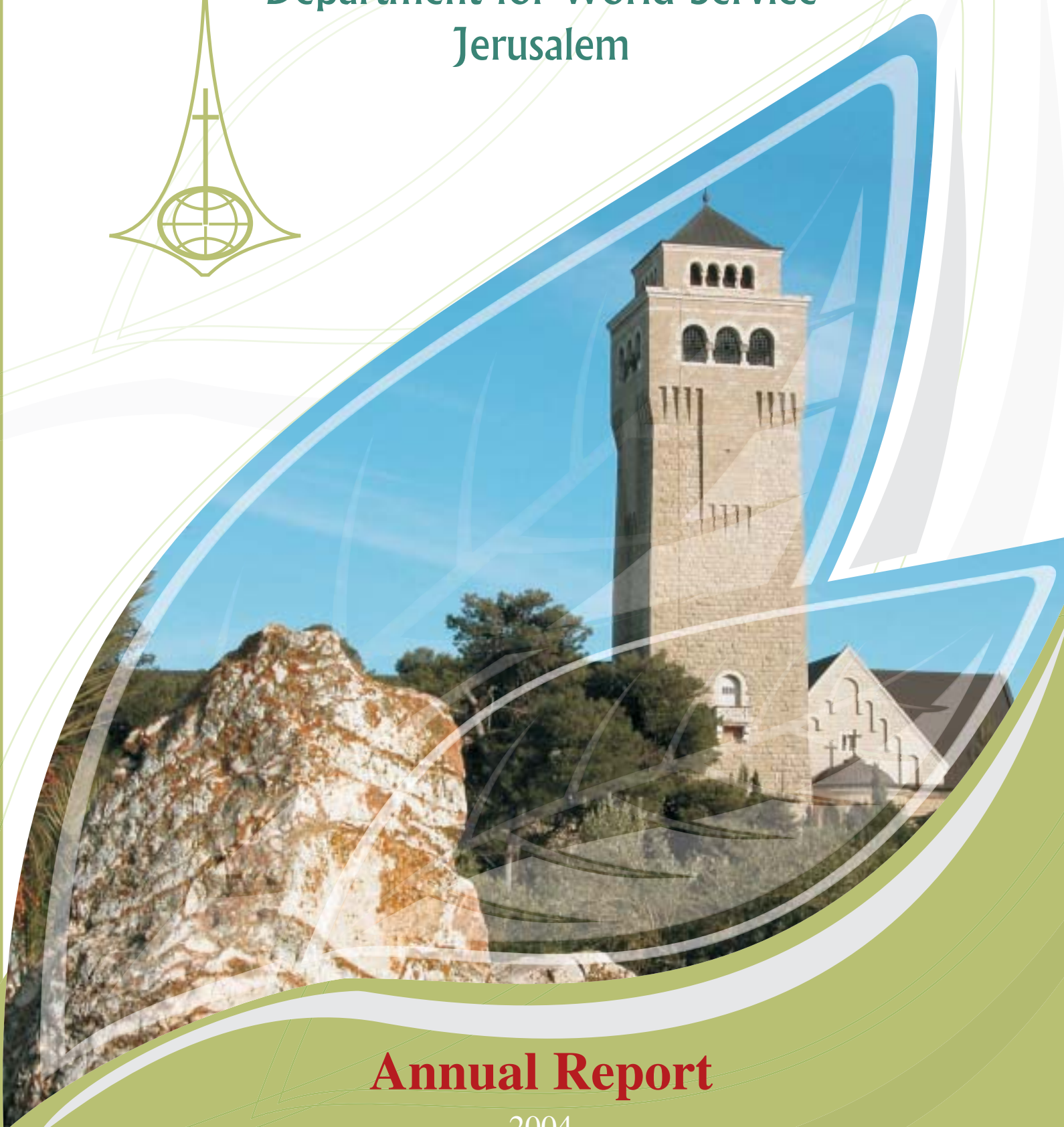


The Lutheran World Federation

Department for World Service
Jerusalem



Annual Report

2004

الإتحاد اللوٲري العالمى - القدس

Table of Contents

Foreword	1
Augusta Victoria Hospital Expands into New Areas of Cancer Treatment	4
"Hope and Health across the Wall" Busing Program Inaugurated	6
New AVH Project Means Improved Quality of Life for Diabetics	8
Village Health Program Reaches Villages near the 1949 Armistice Line	10
"Making Peace through Health" Emerges as Key Program of Augusta Victoria Hospital	12
Augusta Victoria Hospital Statistics (2004)	13
Augusta Victoria Hospital Board of Governance	14
The LWF's Vocational Training Center in Jerusalem is a Model for Palestine and Beloved Home for Students	15
Olive Oil from the Mount of Olives	16
Telecommunication Training for Women Opens Doors for Careers	18
New LWF Vocational Training Center in Ramallah Offers Fresh Opportunities for West Bank Youth	20
Vocational Training Students and Staff Challenged by Construction of Separation Wall	22
Vocational Training Advisory Board	23
Vocational Training Statistics (2004)	24
Donors and Supporters (2004)	27
Related Agencies and Member Churches	28
Jerusalem Program Financial Summary (2004)	29
LWF Scholarship Program	30
Jerusalem Program Senior Staff	31
Jerusalem Program Contact Information	32

Cover: The Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) and the adjacent Ascension Church and Tower are easily located on the skyline of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. In 1910, at the time of the dedication of these historical buildings in honor of Empress Augusta Victoria, the wife of Kaiser Wilhelm II, the facilities were the most modern in Jerusalem and the first in the Holy Land to have electricity. Since 1950, when the AVH and the surrounding properties were transferred to The Lutheran World Federation, the hospital has been in the forefront of providing quality medical services to Palestinian refugees.

The rock in the cover photo, in addition to the church and tower, reminds us of the strong LWF presence on the Mount of Olives. It serves as a symbol of the steadfastness ("sumood" in Arabic) of the LWF ministries and the LWF determination to offer hope in the midst of conflict and suffering.

Foreword

The LWF Jerusalem Program experienced a number of changes and developments in 2004. Early in the year Craig Kippels, former LWF Representative in Jerusalem, and his wife Lois moved to Uganda to continue his work with the LWF as Country Representative. By the end of April, Dr. Brian Neldner completed three months of service in Jerusalem as the LWF Interim Representative and returned with his wife Eeva-Liisa to Australia. I overlapped with Dr. Neldner for a few days in April and then, on May 24, Bishop Munib Younan, the Lutheran Bishop in Jerusalem and LWF Vice-President, and Mr. Robert Granke, Director of LWF's Department for World Service in Geneva, formally and warmly welcomed me to Jerusalem at a reception in the "Inner Garden" of the Augusta Victoria Hospital, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem. I know that both the Kippels and Neldners are missed here.



Rev. Mark B. Brown
LWF Regional Representative
Jerusalem

The Advisory Board of the LWF vocational training program together with staff decided to move forward with a "satellite" training program in the West Bank. Both the board and staff embraced the decision because of the innovative use of classroom training and field apprenticeships and because of the uncertainty created by the continued construction of the Israeli Separation Wall around Jerusalem and other parts of the West Bank. Randa Hilal announced her resignation in June as the Director of the LWF Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina, but then continued her employment with the LWF as the Director of the satellite program based in Ramallah (VTCR). Francis Gharfeh became the new Director of the VTC in the fall and together Randa and Francis are maintaining the LWF vocational program as a model in Palestinian society.

Since 1951, The Lutheran World Federation has been running the Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) on the Mount of Olives and caring for the property it holds in trusteeship for the Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Foundation. Each year has offered many and varied challenges and opportunities, pushing the dedicated staff to the limits of their creativity and steadfastness. 2004 was no exception. The unilateral decision by the Israeli Government to build a Separation Wall around Palestinian cities and villages increased the difficulties Palestinian patients and hospital staff had to overcome on a daily basis in order to reach the AVH. The Wall being built around Jerusalem separates the city from the rest of the Palestinian territories and undermines Jerusalem as the center of Palestinian society.



Staff searched for ways to protect the patients' basic right to access quality health care. Dr. Tawfiq Nasser, Chief Executive Officer of the AVH, and the AVH staff responded by designing and implementing a busing system – coordinated with the Israeli authorities – that maintains, even enhances, the AVH's ability to serve refugees and others living in poverty in the West Bank. The busing program helps to preserve the historical connectedness of Jerusalem to the West Bank and



to break through the isolation imposed by the Wall. The AVH staff continued in 2004 to strengthen the specialty health services it offers and anticipates in 2005 the full utilization of the radiation oncology unit that was completed in 2004.

Throughout 2004, the LWF worked for a satisfactory end to the current tax dispute with the Israeli government. Recognizing the value of the LWF's humanitarian services to Palestine refugees, Jordan (in 1966) and Israel (in 1967) both granted the LWF full and comprehensive tax exemptions. Unfortunately, the taxes now claimed by the Israeli Tax Department put the LWF programs and all the services they provide to Palestinians in East Jerusalem and the West Bank at great risk. The LWF wants the State of Israel to reaffirm the Lutheran World

Federation's comprehensive tax exemption as per the 1967 agreement. Maintaining the LWF's tax exemption will help to ensure delivery of vital humanitarian services provided by the LWF and build confidence for successful peace talks. More information and updates about the tax case can be found on the website of the LWF Jerusalem program: www.lwfjerusalem.org.


In November 2004, the LWF Jerusalem program hosted a consultation in coordination with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) in order to develop plans for a housing project on the LWF Mount of Olives property. Momentum is building for this important endeavor. I hope you will be in contact with us if you are interested in helping to provide Palestinian Christians with affordable housing and to maintain the Christian presence and witness in Jerusalem. Elsewhere on the property a section of wall on the LWF's northern boundary was completed. Additional funding is sought as we attempt to secure the entire perimeter of the LWF property as a necessary first step to building the housing units and other potential projects.

On behalf of the LWF staff here I would like to extend our thanks to all of our LWF colleagues in Geneva, supporting churches and individuals, related agencies and donors who encourage us and struggle with us to deliver humanitarian assistance to those who need it most. Your partnership is much appreciated as together we work to build hope and confidence so that the cycle of violence between Palestinians and Israelis is broken, that peace talks may continue, and that those who are willing to take risks for peace are strengthened.

I encourage you to visit the LWF programs in Jerusalem and the West Bank, to see the remarkable ministries that are underway, to dream with us about new avenues of witness through service, and to pray and advocate alongside us for a just peace between Palestinians and Israelis.

Mark B. Brown

Regional Representative



On behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and the international Lutheran community, Bishop Munib Younan attended the funeral of President Arafat in Cairo, Egypt, on November 12, 2004. Later the same day the body of President Arafat was flown by helicopter to the West Bank. The Lutheran World Federation Regional Representative, the CEO and a delegation from Augusta Victoria Hospital, a pastor from the ELCJHL, and numerous international Lutheran clergy serving in Jerusalem attended the burial at the Muqata in Ramallah and expressed condolences to the Palestinian leadership gathered there. Even while mourning the loss of President Arafat, Palestinian leaders began preparations for new presidential elections to be held on January 9, 2005. As 2004 came to a close, there was cautious optimism that the cycle of Israeli-Palestinian violence could be broken and the occupation ended.

Augusta Victoria Hospital Expands into New Areas of Cancer Treatment

“That disease” is the common name for cancer in the Palestinian community. It is a non-descript name that people use to avoid even the mention of the real name, “Saratan,” due to the superstition that uttering the word is sufficient to trigger the disease in the speaker or the hearer. Nevertheless, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) decided a few years back to go into the area of cancer treatment and to fulfill in yet another way the hospital’s mission to provide needed services to refugees and others living in poverty.

Despite the stigma hanging over the disease itself and the many hindrances that AVH faced in implementing this program, the motivation and energy among staff to create a center of excellence to serve the patients grows daily as

AVH draws closer and closer to implementing the full range of cancer services.

The epidemiology of cancer in the Palestinian population is similar to what is seen in many countries. The expected incidence (new cases) annually is estimated at three thousand. Among a population of over three million this may seem low. However, close to fifty percent of the Palestinian population is below the age of fifteen and when this is taken into account, the ratios are close to what is seen in many other countries. Even though data detection methods are undeveloped, what makes cancer a main concern to the health authorities is the lack of any comprehensive services available to the Palestinians within their geographic areas of control. Patients and families must leave the Palestinian areas to find radiation treatment and other advanced treatment modalities.

Three years ago the hospital started to provide chemotherapy services through a complete medical oncology program supported by a strong tradition at the hospital in internal medicine services. The unit proved to be a total success by all medical standards and has received the acknowledgement and support of many regional centers that are of international repute. The unit provides basic medical oncology services and acts as a referral unit for the two other governmental hospitals that provide basic chemotherapy services. The unit sees an average of twenty patients per month with close to sixty sessions of outpatient chemotherapy.

The radiation oncology unit was completed toward the end of 2004 and the work on commissioning the linear accelerator started in January of 2005 with the help of medical physics expertise from





Linear Accelerator (Funded by the German Government)

Advocate Health System (Lutheran General Hospital) in Chicago through a partnership developed and fostered by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The hospital is actively recruiting expert staff and, even though the expertise is in short supply, AVH continues to push to open the unit as soon as possible. Currently, the unit employs two medical physicists and three radiotherapists and is in the process of finalizing the selection of the physician to lead the team.

The vision of AVH is to become a comprehensive center of excellence in cancer treatment. This vision includes services to adults as well as children. In April 2005 a young physician who is finishing his specialization in Pediatric Hemato-oncology is scheduled to join the staff of AVH.

AVH will become the refuge for children and adults seeking treatment for cancer. The hospital has developed a plan to provide cancer services in a holistic manner focusing on the physical and the psycho-social needs. To that end, the hospital started a psycho-social unit that will provide support for patients and families. This unit will also run a core of volunteers and will introduce activities such as play and art therapy for children.

At its completion, the center for adults will have a medical oncology unit, a radiation oncology unit, a surgical oncology unit, and a psycho-social unit (for adults and children). An additional unit will be set-up within the pediatric department to care for children with solid tumors and leukemia.

The hospital staff find fulfillment in their services to cancer patients. They help to alleviate the suffering of a very special segment of the patient population and they do so while administering very difficult treatment protocols and preserving the patients' comfort, dignity, and overall quality of life.



Medical Physics Lab (Funded by Bait Al-Mal-Morocco)



Chemotherapy patient at Augusta Victoria Hospital

"Hope and Health across the Wall" Busing Program Inaugurated

AVH asserts the rights of patients and humanitarian staff to access their health care facility despite the Israeli Separation Wall

Often, if not always, the realities of conflict and violence, hate and mistrust, take their heaviest toll on the meek and the victims who hold no stake in the dialogue of violence. Aid agencies are often torn between the need to deliver specific services and the moral duty to advocate for the basic rights of the most vulnerable in our society, individuals who end up being punished for realities not of their own making.



The conflict in the Holy Land puts Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) in the middle of this dilemma. As the fragmentation of Palestinian communities continued in 2004 due to measures such as the Separation Wall, closures, and checkpoints, the AVH needed to focus considerable attention on asserting the right of patients to move freely and access their health care facility. In doing so, like any other aid agency, the hospital had to walk a thin line between a strong advocacy

effort and acceptance of a compromise that would assure minimum hindrances to the delivery of vital humanitarian care.



The restrictions on Palestinian access to Jerusalem pushed the AVH administration to take the position that accessibility to health care is a human right and that it is the duty of the hospital to find ways to ensure the timely and proper delivery of care to

its patients. This was a necessity because the AVH provides some unique services that are not otherwise available to Palestinians in the West Bank.

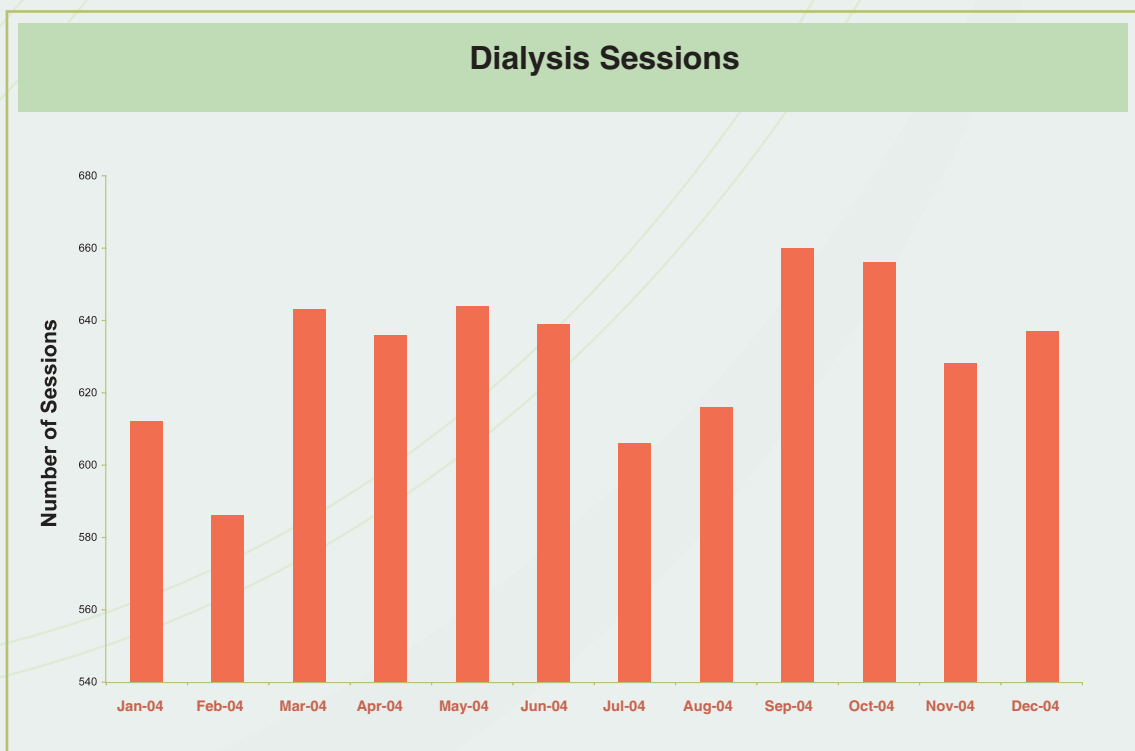
Therefore, in August 2004, with the help of the German Representative's Office in the West Bank, AVH staff met with the Israeli civil administration and advocated for a busing program for patients and staff. The high visibility of the needs coupled with the diplomatic presence resulted in a positive response. The program was launched on September 1st, 2004.

The program at its maturity will have four routes that will connect the hospital to the Palestinian areas served by the hospital which lie to the South, North, South East, and North West of Jerusalem. The buses will make two trips daily carrying patients as well as hospital staff.

By the end of 2004, buses were covering two of the four routes and transporting an average of fifteen patients and ten staff members daily. Early in 2005, the busing system was extended to serve another charitable eye hospital in Jerusalem.

The name used for this project is an echo of the voices of the staff and patients. Staff were losing hope that they would be able to continue to work in the areas of their health expertise. Patients worried that they would be redistributed to hospitals lacking the expertise to meet their health needs.

At the break of dawn, often welcomed by the beautiful sight of the sunrise over the Jordan Valley to the East of Augusta Victoria Hospital, children arrive to receive dialysis treatment. The life and hope that is evident in their faces as they sing and dance on the AVH bus, as if going on a school field trip, emerge as morning songs that fill the hospital and the hearts of staff with unparalleled joy.



New AVH Project Means Improved Quality of Life for Diabetics

A community approach to hospital services is always a challenge. Hospitals by definition are places where people go when they are sick, not healthy. Primary care was and is still seen as the domain for prevention that cuts down on the need for a greater role of hospitals in sustaining the health of a community. Actually, one measure of success for the primary health system is the degree to which it cuts down the excessive use of hospitalization.

Nevertheless, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) for the last few years has been working to establish a new approach to community involvement that will change some of the traditional beliefs related to the role of the hospital in the community.

As AVH was in the process of defining a new community role, DanChurchAid, a long time supporter and partner of AVH, came with a project for diabetics in partnership with the World Diabetes Foundation. The foundation agreed to fund a “Diabetes Prevention and Nutrition Counseling” project for the Palestinians served by AVH.

The hospital quickly accepted and mobilized resources to achieve the three main goals of the project. The first goal is to attend to diabetics by providing a free clinic at the hospital staffed with expert nurses and nutritionists. The second is to implement training programs for front-line medical doctors and nurses to develop their skills in early identification and better management of a patient’s condition. The third is to promote health education for school children and to help students and teachers reduce behavior that may predispose students to developing diabetes later in life.

The project registered significant success in 2004 in relation to each of its goals. Over five hundred registered patients were reached and will become members of the newly established project. The project runs weekly clinics and nutrition counseling sessions. Staff members visit other centers and



schools weekly and provide the training and health awareness campaigns that target prevention from the disease. The hospital also attached a social worker to the project for patient and family counseling.

Due to the success of the program, the AVH received an invitation to attend the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) meeting that was hosted by the Israeli Diabetes Association in Jerusalem. The presentation at the meeting by the AVH team was received with the utmost support and enthusiasm from both the Israeli Diabetes Association and the International Diabetes Federation. The outcome was an official request by the Board of the International Diabetes Federation to form a society that will be admitted to the Federation on behalf of Palestine.

The future plan of the center is to use the same model for establishing an institute inclusive of all non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, coronary artery disease, hypertension, and cancer. The institute will combine the same three objectives of treatment, professional education, and health promotion and prevention.



Village Health Program Reaches Villages near the 1949 Armistice Line

The LWF's Village Health Program was established in the early 1950s and quickly became one of the most important healthcare programs following the 1948 war. Access to areas near the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line) was difficult between 1948 and 1967, so the Jordanian Government relied on relief agencies such as the LWF to provide services to the villages near the Line. The LWF Village Health Program was designed to serve such areas that were un-served or under-served.

Now, over fifty years later, The Lutheran World Federation still operates clinics in four villages near the Green Line. These villages are again subject to attention because of the Israeli Separation Wall being built nearby. The Wall is having a dramatic and negative impact on the livelihood of those residing in these Palestinian communities. The Wall often does not follow the precise path of the Green Line, so some of the villages may end up being located on the West Bank side of the Green line, but on the Israel side of the Wall. In such a circumstance, how do they receive medical services?

The long history of good relations between the LWF and these villages carries with it a sense of responsibility to try to find solutions that will meet the needs of the population. Therefore, the LWF started to explore and implement a different model of services, one that provides urgent care as well as primary care. In addition, LWF started employing, when possible, professional and para-professional staff from the villages as a way to provide employment and a dignified living for disadvantaged groups.

The new model started in Beit Liqya in 2004 and is aimed at increasing the level of care gradually to include some urgent care. The evening and night staff on duty will be from the village itself to facilitate better services and the Augusta Victoria Hospital will serve as a consultation and referral center for professionals working evenings and late hours. While the full realization of this program is slow, steps are being taken gradually and as the financial situation allows.

Currently, the Village Health Program in total (four clinics) encounters approximately 1300 patients every month. The services include physician consultation, basic laboratory, pharmacy and supplies, health education, promotion and home health care. The clinics also host diabetes programs, social work programs, and specialist physicians.

Maternal and child health is a focus of the Village Health Program. This work is led by a female physician who also performs ultrasound, family planning and other services related to maternal-child health. On average, the clinics perform eighty



ultrasound studies each month and the team works closely with women on birth spacing and birth control methods.

The program is run by one general physician and one pediatrician with a staff of five nurses and a lab technician. Senior residents and officers from the hospital go to the clinic on a rotational basis.

In the future, the Village Health Program will focus on developing more comprehensive services in cooperation with the community while monitoring the effects of the Wall on the people served. The program is also investigating additional geographic areas that may be un-served or under-served to see how best to meet the health needs there.



"Making Peace through Health" Emerges as Key Program of Augusta Victoria Hospital

*Reflections of the AVH Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Tawfiq Nasser*

There is much truth and wisdom in the saying that healing the body and soul is one of the most satisfying endeavors of human ingenuity. But in my experience the greater joy lies in endeavors to reconcile the human spirit with what it fears most and to unmask the joy from behind experiences of great pain and sorrow.

The Palestinian – Israeli conflict is a long conflict consuming the life of both nations. It has cut deeply into each individual and community, to the point where no one can say they have not been victimized at one level or another.

The state of pain, humiliation, and dehumanization that traumatized one side had a corresponding state of pain, fear and insecurity on the other side. True, the ideology, politics, sociology and economy may vary substantially, rendering much judgmental debate about right and wrong. But the fact remains that human psychological trauma deserves no less neutrality and non-judgment than care giving in medicine and health. If the latter is under the oath of total impartiality and selflessness, the former comes under an even greater universal ethical code that elevates human morality above all temporal political discourse.

This was the impetus of the “Making Peace through Health” program at Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH). Amidst the heaviest times of political conflict during the second uprising, the quiet tunes of peace, equity, mutual respect were echoing beneath the heavy drums of war. The program managed to grow and sustain dialogue and empathy on both sides to a point where lives of patients and professionals were impacted in ways unrealized, even in the best of times.

The joint program of making peace through health has encompassed five main medical specialties: emergency medicine and domestic violence, medical oncology, radiation oncology, pediatric oncology, and diabetes. The Hadassah Medical Organization in cooperation with the Peres Center for Peace trained three AVH physicians, twelve nurses, and three radiation therapists in oncology. Israeli professionals were hosted for multiple health and medical activities at AVH.

Emergency Medicine and Domestic Violence are two programs run by the International Institute of Emergency Medicine and Health out of Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. The programs facilitated the coming together of AVH medical and nursing professionals with the emergency staff at Hadassah Ein Karem Hospital. The program was credited with having developed some of the best training in emergency medicine that both sides experienced. It was all done at AVH and included medical and nursing professionals for many other health providers on the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

The hospital and all its partners in this program are currently discussing ways to institutionalize and sustain the program. They are doing so because of great medical and health benefits to be sure, but also because of the inherent success in creating friendships that are the seeds of an equitable process of peace making.

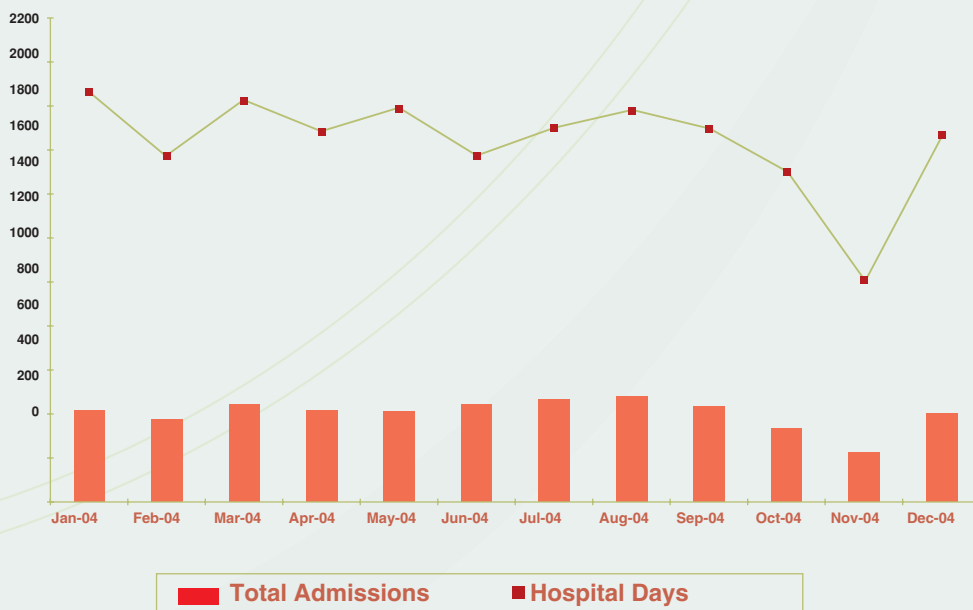
As I reflect on the “Making Peace through Health” program and the difficulties it has had and continues to have, I marvel at the fulfilling aspects that many of us have experienced. The most notable of which is balancing the fidelity each of us has to his or her national aspirations, yet focusing on creating a dignified, equitable, and friendly environment where the most sensitive of issues and the most rigid of positions can all become subject to a sincere compromise that aims at reconciliation.



Comparative Admissions



Hospital Indicators



Augusta Victoria Hospital Board of Governance

Bishop Munib Younan (AVH Board Chairperson)
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

Dr. Emile Jarjoui (AVH Board Vice-chairperson)
Medical Director, Caritas Baby Hospital (Retired)
and Chairman, East Jerusalem Hospital Forum

Rev. Dr. Robert Bacher
ELCA / Executive for Administration (Retired)

Dr. Malte von Barga
Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Stiftung

Dr. Rainward Bastian
German Institute for Medical Mission

Rev. Mark Brown (Ex-officio)
LWF Regional Representative

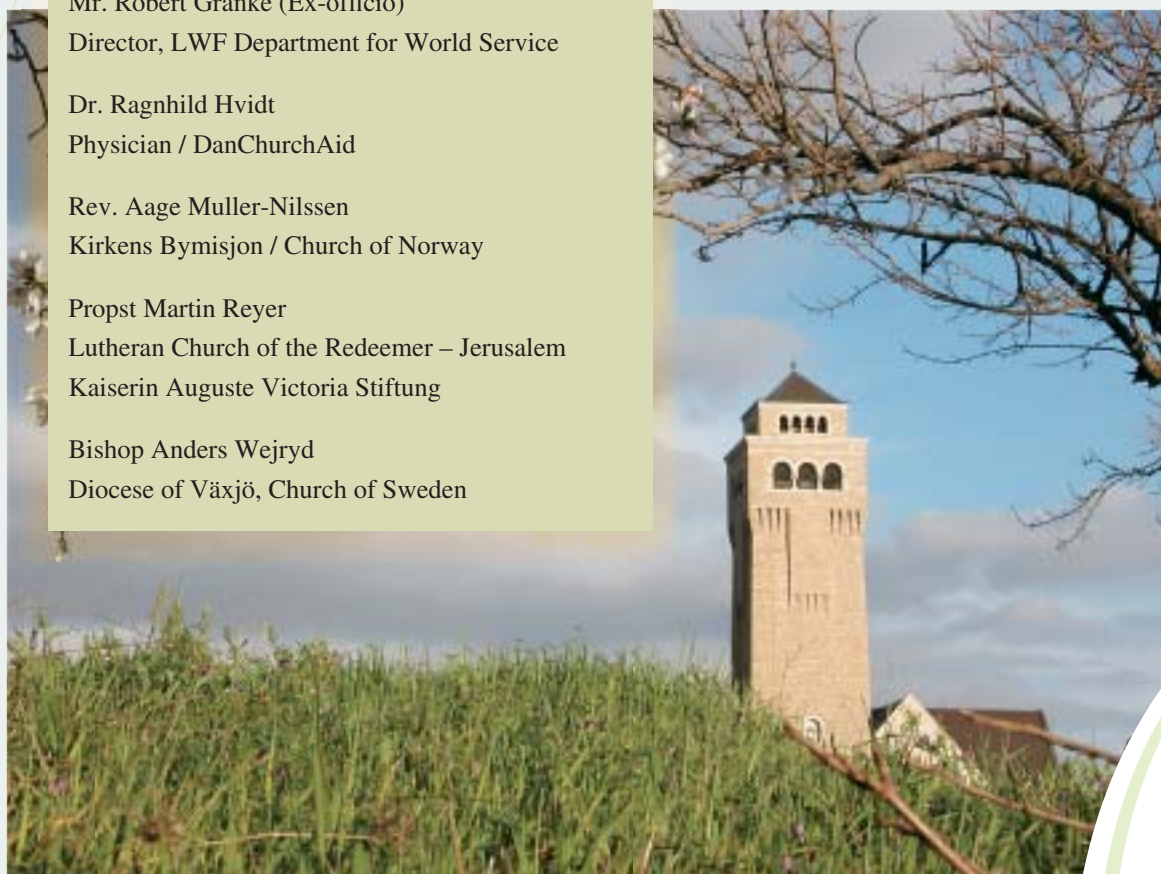
Mr. Robert Granke (Ex-officio)
Director, LWF Department for World Service

Dr. Ragnhild Hvidt
Physician / DanChurchAid

Rev. Aage Muller-Nilssen
Kirkens Bymisjon / Church of Norway

Propst Martin Reyer
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer – Jerusalem
Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Stiftung

Bishop Anders Wejryd
Diocese of Växjö, Church of Sweden



The LWF's Vocational Training Center in Jerusalem is a Model for Palestine and a Beloved Home for Students

The importance of vocational education and training is constantly on the rise at this time of rapid technological development in Palestine. The quality, as well as quantity, of education and training is crucially important to this country as it strives to maintain its economic growth and overall viability. An investment in vocational training is therefore an investment in the future of the nation.

A special feature of the educational policy at the LWF's Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina/Jerusalem is to ensure that theoretical and practical training are linked as closely as possible right from the start. This approach makes entry into the working world for young people a gradual progression. Practical experience in the working world is complemented by theoretical teaching at the VTC. The experience gained in the workplace helps students to see the point of what they are studying at school.

The VTC was very successful in 2004 in increasing its production and creating professional links with the local market. Such links added to the quality of education and training provided by the VTC. In addition, these links have generated more income for the VTC. The VTC is well positioned among other businesses and professional organizations striving for a positive role in the market.

The VTC is a model for vocational institutions in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system of the Palestinian Authority (PA). The VTC has participated in developing a national strategic plan of the new TVET in Palestine. The richness of experience and the quality of training demonstrated by the VTC has influenced many decision makers in the PA ministries to follow some of the training models pioneered by the VTC. Also, the VTC has played a leading role in networking with other non-governmental vocational institutions in order to create a league, NGO-VET, which is now represented in the PA Higher Council of the TVET-PAL.

At the same time, the VTC remains an attractive place to students for culture, sports and lifestyle. In the absence of community theaters and cultural centers, the VTC students often organize music and entertainment evenings, sports competitions and other social activities. Also, students and staff participate in community work and volunteer during the olive picking season. Such activities in small ways compensate and encourage many students in light of the deprivation they experience due to poverty and the Israeli occupation. The VTC promotes a good and healthy lifestyle and is a great place to live.



Francis Gharfeh, Director
LWF Vocational Training Center (VTC)
Beit Hanina





Olive Oil from the Mount of Olives

Each year, the Lutheran World Federation harvests and presses olives from the 800 trees on the LWF property on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. Some of the oil is used in the Augusta Victoria Hospital kitchen. The rest is available to LWF visitors and friends in hand-blown bottles made by Palestinian artisans working in Hebron using recycled glass.

Donations for the olive oil go to the hospital's "Fund for the Poor" in order to offset the hospital's operational costs and help make it possible for the LWF to continue to provide health care to Palestinian refugees and others living in poverty.

You may pick up some bottles of olive oil on your next visit to the LWF Mount of Olives campus or ask us to ship them to you. As long as the supply from a particular harvest lasts, we can send you olive oil for a donation of 15 USD per bottle, plus 5 USD for packing and shipping, for a total of 20 USD per bottle.

You can also help by donating a gallon of olive oil to the hospital for a donation of 200 USD. This oil is primarily used for cooking, but is also used directly on many of the local foods served to patients in the hospital. Your donation goes toward purchasing olive oil for the hospital and for building up the hospital's "Fund for the Poor."

We are seeking to raise 1,000 USD for the LWF's health services with the planting of olive trees. Each donation of 1,000 USD would cover the cost of planting an olive tree on the LWF campus and strengthen the "Fund for the Poor" in order to help cover the medical costs of patients who cannot afford to pay. Each donation will be remembered by the planting of an olive tree and attachment of a commemorative plaque.

You are welcome to join us during the olive harvest, usually from October 15 to the end of November. If you are planning to visit Jerusalem as a pilgrim or tourist, please consider dedicating a half day or more to volunteering in the Lutheran World Federation's olive groves on the Mount of Olives. It is a marvelous experience! Students and others here for a longer period could split their time between olive picking in the early mornings and/or late afternoons and exploring Jerusalem and its environs during the rest of the day.

To make a donation for a bottle of olive oil, a gallon of olive oil for the hospital, an olive tree for the campus, or to make a contribution generally to the LWF Jerusalem Program, make a check out to: The Lutheran World Federation

And mail it to:

Rev. Mark B. Brown
The Lutheran World
Federation
P.O. Box 19178
Jerusalem 91191 ISRAEL

Contact us at:

Email: info@lwfjerusalem.org
Tel: +972.2.628.2289
Fax: +972.2.628.2628



Alex Kuttab, LWF Chief Financial Officer for the Jerusalem Program (right), and other LWF staff enjoyed their time volunteering during the olive harvest.



Telecommunication Training for Women Opens Doors for Careers

On July 3rd, 2004, the third group of women graduates walked across the stage at the LWF's Vocational Training Center in Beit Hanina to receive their certificates in the field of telecommunication. They were part of the 52nd group of graduates of the center. LWF-VTC started training 55 years ago, but only integrated women into the program five years ago.

Including women for the first time in a male-oriented secondary industrial school/vocational training center has been possible because of the support system provided by The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) for the trainees, the assertiveness of the trainees, the awareness of female trainees' families, and the increased societal acceptance of women's employment. The VTCs in Beit Hanina and Ramallah, through the presence of a female director and two female trainers, provide encouragement and role models for the female trainees.

The quality, up-to-date, market-relevant training provided by the LWF's vocational training program helps immeasurably when it comes to placement in the market place and to landing that first job. LWF involvement in the facilitation of women's employment has been an important factor for market acceptance of the female graduates. Most graduates have been able to find employment in the field in which they were trained within six months of graduation.

The percentage of female graduates employed within their profession has increased over the years from 44 percent of the first group to 70 percent of the third group. The employment percentage of the third group matches the male graduates' employability rates within the same period, which were generally lower than previous years due to the uprising and ongoing conflict.

Women trainees have been integrated into the overall activities of the VTC and men trainees have been gradually integrated into the telecommunication classes originally offered only to females. Such measures are empowering for the women students and prepare them for future employment in a



male-dominated field. In the first year, telecommunication classes were only offered to women. In the second, third, and fourth years, the school had separate telecommunication classes for males and females. In the fifth year, there was one class for both male and female students.

Women trainees comprise 13 percent of the student body at the VTC. Their presence has taught the other 87 percent of

the trainees that women can be trained in a non-traditional vocation, in a technological field, and be successful as well. The women graduating in the field of telecommunication also had the opportunity to receive some training in carpentry and metal workshops as part of their curricula. This has been an important factor in changing the stereotypes of women held by both male and female trainees.



The inclusion of women became a normal practice when any new course was added. Building on the experience of the VTC in Beit Hanina, the Vocational Training Center in Ramallah has also included women as a normal practice.

By providing assistance to female trainees so that they can overcome the obstacles they face, the LWF has enabled 32 women to cross the stage with the last three graduating classes and is preparing the two classes currently enrolled. The female students face the same obstacles due to the Separation Wall and checkpoints and the deteriorating economic situation that the male students face. The women must overcome a number of additional cultural and social obstacles. The LWF response has been to provide a boarding section for women, as well as to secure some loans for fees for women who are often the first victims of the deteriorating economic situation.

Recruiting and training Palestinian women in a non-traditional field has been a challenge at many levels and remains one that The Lutheran World Federation enthusiastically accepts.

Employability rates of the first three groups of women graduated from LWF-VTC

Category	2002 Percentage (%)	2003 Percentage (%)	2004 Percentage (%)
A. Graduates employed in their own vocations	44%	50%	70%
B. Graduates self-employed in their own vocations	0%	0%	0%
C. Graduates employed in vocations other than their own	33%	17%	10%
D. Marriage	18%	40%	0%
E. Graduates continuing education	22%	0%	10%
Total employed in their own vocations or any other vocation (A+C)	77%	67%	80%

New LWF Vocational Training Center in Ramallah Offers Fresh Opportunities for West Bank Youth

Isam is a seventeen year-old from Beit Liqya, a West Bank village near Ramallah. He is the eldest among seven brothers and sisters. His father has been unemployed for over eight months due to illness. So, when Isam heard about the Lutheran World Federation's new vocational training center in Ramallah, he enrolled in the auto-mechanics department confident that he would soon be making a major contribution to the family income.



The Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (VTCR) will enable Isam to move quickly into the market as a qualified semi-skilled worker. Due to the economic pressures on his family, Isam's only alternative would have been to drop out of school in order to work as an unskilled worker. Isam could not go to the LWF's Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina (Jerusalem) because of the extra expenses for transportation and boarding.

Isam, like many other trainees enrolled at the VTCR, is trained as an apprentice in the market after having completed certain preparatory courses in the center. The work placement in the community and the extensive follow-up on his progress by VTCR staff provide young men and women like Isam with good chances of employment in the areas of their training before and after graduation.

Isam and the majority of the students attending the LWF vocational training centers in Beit Hanina and Ramallah are from the West Bank. During the 2004-2005 academic year, Isam and his classmates can reach the VTC in Beit Hanina and could attend there if they preferred, but this opportunity may be denied to most students from the West Bank next academic year due to the Israeli Separation Wall going up near the VTC.

The VTCR serves as a West Bank base for training as well as for sending mobile teaching units





Final touches were completed and training at the LWF's new vocational center in the West Bank city of Ramallah began on October 11, 2004, with 35 trainees enrolled in the auto-mechanics, carpentry, and telecommunication courses.

VTCR encouraged students to enroll at the VTC in Beit Hanina despite the threat to their freedom of movement posed by the Separation Wall.

The concept of the VTCR was developed and supported by Action by Churches Together (ACT) in mid 2004. Since then, a general location was chosen and a proper workshop in the middle of the Ramallah industrial zone was selected, prepared and equipped. Numerous links with the local chambers of commerce, professional unions, youth groups and grass roots organizations were established. Trainees were recruited and training started in October 2004. A symbolic inauguration was held during a visit of the Palestinian Minister of Labour and the LWF Vocational Training Advisory Board.

Forty-three trainees were enrolled in the inaugural class at the VTCR. The students are learning one of the following three vocations: telecommunications, auto-mechanics, and carpentry. The trainees completed their initial classroom studies and workshop training at the VTCR and moved to their placements in the community. The VTCR collaborates with sixty workplaces where

trainees are currently being trained or where other students will train in the future. In 2005 the LWF VTCR will expand its outreach to youth in villages through mobile training.

The LWF vocational training program has once again shown the vision and agility needed to respond to the ever-changing political and economic situation in Jerusalem and the West Bank. This vocational training program continues to be known for its excellence and professionalism and for the hope it inspires in young women and men like Isam.



In December 2004, Randa Hilal, Director of the LWF's Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (left), guided (left to right) Ghassan Khatib, Palestinian Minister of Labor, Vocational Training Advisory Board Members Göran Rask and Jorunn Kapstad, and Board Chair Robert Bacher through the new facility.

Vocational Training Students and Staff Challenged by Construction of Separation Wall

The Separation Wall is the latest Israeli occupation measure to block West Bank Palestinians from getting to Jerusalem and to prevent Palestinians from Jerusalem from reaching the West Bank. In addition to other measures designed to restrict movement, like checkpoints and permits, the construction of the Separation Wall inevitably severs people from roads, fields, jobs, schools, hospitals, and family members. Such a wall or fence running through the neighborhoods of any city would have severe humanitarian consequences for its residents. It is no different for Palestinians. The Separation Wall is a source of daily tension and conflict, imposing economic and humanitarian burdens and undermining the security and peace it is intended to achieve.



The LWF Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina/Jerusalem is less than two hundred meters from a portion of the Separation Wall, built as an envelope to separate Jerusalem from the West Bank. This portion of the Wall divides the VTC's neighborhood into two separate urban existences. Consequently, once the final portions of the Wall are in place, the economic and social habits of thousands of residents living in this part of Jerusalem will be disrupted. A major concern looms regarding the access of many students coming to the VTC from the other side of the separation barrier.

Since the imposition of Israel's closure policies, movement between Jerusalem and Ramallah, for example, has become extremely difficult. Before the current uprising, it took fifteen minutes to reach Ramallah from the VTC. After September 2000, many routes were blocked by earth mounds and concrete blocks, forcing travelers to go through the Kalandia checkpoint. The risk of being refused passage through Kalandia checkpoint (where permits are required) means that some people with business in Jerusalem resort to taking a much longer and more expensive route around the barriers.

More than 67 percent of the students at the VTC hold West Bank ID's and more than 50 percent rely on the boarding service available at the VTC. Boarding is a preventive measure to minimize the daily trips of students across barriers and checkpoints and to reduce their daily risk and stress. The completion of the construction of the Separation Wall may undermine completely the access to the VTC for those who don't have permits.

In 2004, VTC students experienced a significant amount of harassment by military patrols circulating around the VTC neighborhood. Such measures could be understood as preparations for when the Separation Wall is completed near the VTC. Under such circumstances, the VTC is exploring all possibilities and solutions to maintain a legal and secure access for all its students and staff.



The Lutheran World Federation

Vocational Training Advisory Board

Rev. Robert Bacher (VTAB Chairperson)
ELCA / Executive for Administration (Retired)

Mohammad Al-Malki*
GTZ - Ramallah

Ms. Monika Beaux
Lutheran World Federation/World Service – Geneva

Rev. Mark Brown (Ex-officio)
LWF Regional Representative

Mr. Francis Gharfeh (Ex-officio)
Director, LWF Vocational Training Center –
Beit Hanina

Mrs. Randa Hilal (Ex-officio)
Director, LWF Vocational Training Center – Ramallah

Ms. Jorunn Kapstad
Norwegian Church Aid

Diana Kattan**
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and
the Holy Land

Ms. Ulrike Kipp
LWF - Germany (DNLWKZW)

Mr. Göran Rask
Church of Sweden

* Left Advisory Board in June 2004

** Joined Advisory Board in June 2004



LWF Vocational Training Program Student Data (2004)

LWF Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina

Department	Year the Department was Established	Number of Students 2004/2005	
		First Year	Second Year
Auto Mechanics	1964	17	15
Auto-Tronics (car Electricity & electronics)	Part of automechanics, 2003	16 ¹	
Carpentry	1950	19	13
Electronics/Telecommunications (Women)	2000	6	12
Electronics/Telecommunications (Male)	2001	6	13
Plumbing and Central Heating	1988	17	10
Welding Forging and Aluminum Works	1950	17	17
Theory	1964	All Students	
	Total	98	70

LWF Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (VTCR)

Department	Year the Department was Established	Number of Students 2004/2005	
		First Year	Second Year
All one-year system:			
Auto Mechanics	2004	19	
Carpentry	2004	10	
Electronics/Telecommunications (Male & Female)	2004	14	
Theory	2004	All Students	
	Total	43	

Multiple System Trainees Data

System	Accreditation	Duration	Output of System	# of vocations /courses	# of trainees
Vocational training	Ministry of Education	2 years	Skilled Labor	5	152
Vocational training	Ministry of Labor	6 month-1year	Semi-Skilled Labor	1VTC+3VTCR	59
Tawjihi	Ministry of Education	300 hours	Tawjihi ²	1	12
Afternoon courses ³	Ministry of Labor	30-300hours	Semi-skilled or upgraded	8	116
Total					339

Graduate Employment Statistics (2004)⁴

Category	Percentage (%)
A. Graduates employed in their own vocations	65
B. Graduates self-employed in their own vocations	5
C. Graduates employed in vocations other than their own	12
D. Graduates continuing education	10
E. Unemployed Graduates	12
F. Graduates of 03 studied & examined Tawjihi in 04	8
Total employed in their own vocations or self-employed (A+B)	70
Total employed (A+B+C+part of D)	82

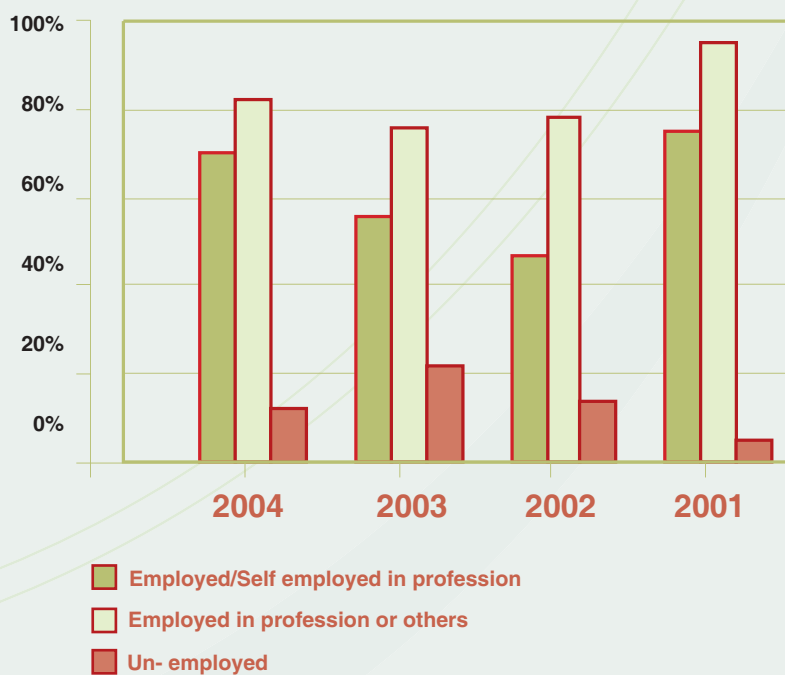
¹ One Year system accredited by Ministry of Labour to graduate semi-skilled workers.

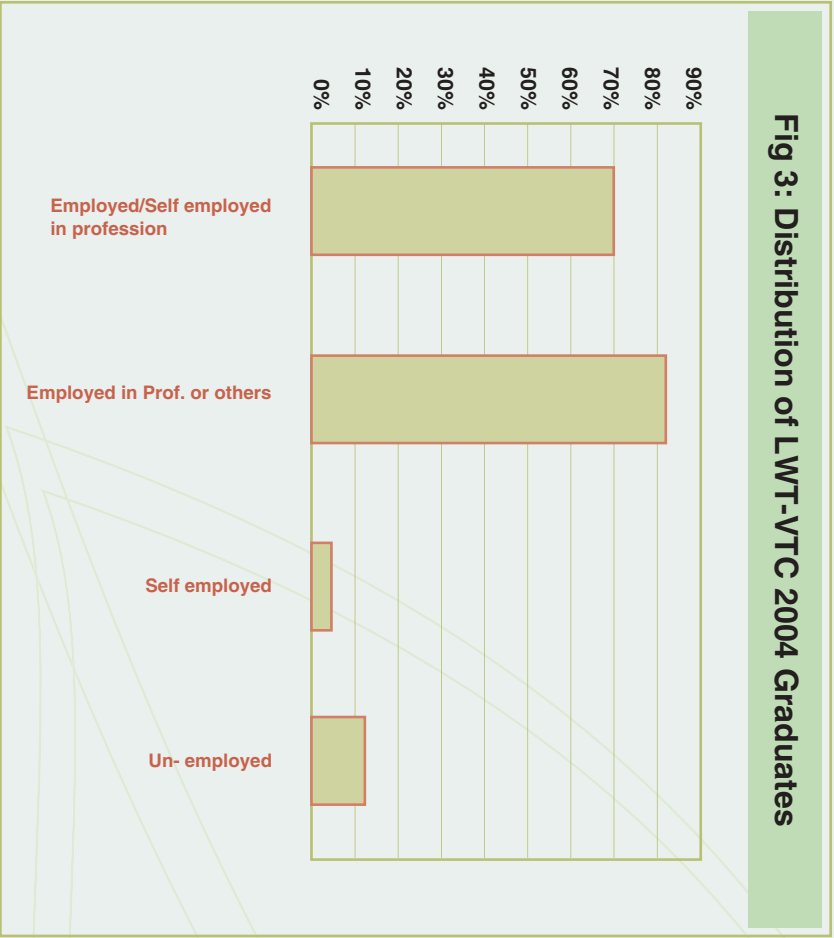
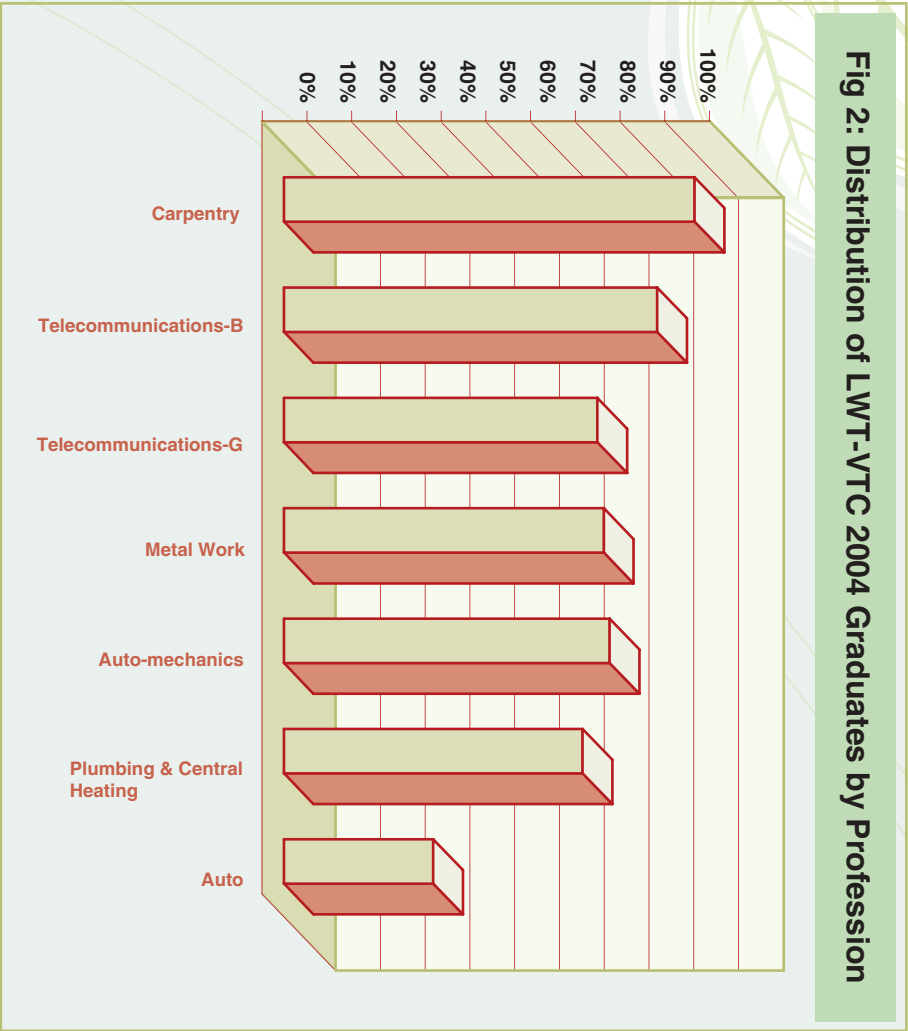
² Tawjihi is the national exam that certifies the student to further their education in colleges or universities.

³ For Juveniles, for the unemployed, & upgrading courses for practitioners.

⁴ These statistics are based on 65% of the Questionnaires, filled by the 2004 Graduates 6 months after graduation.

Fig 1: Comparison of Graduates' Statistics 2001 to 2004





Donors and Supporters 2004

Brian Neldner

Caritas Zentral

Craig Kippels

Dale M. Crouse

First Lutheran Church

Gail Mary Chupick

Genvieve Odegaard

Hanne

Hazel Peterson

Holy Faith Church

Irish Representative Office

Jeanne O. Lippert

Joann A. Esser

Jonathan Zarov

Kariya Church

Kathleen Schoening

Laurel Doermann

Marsha Gunderson

Mary J. Cilley

Mary Jensen

Metropolitan

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pastor Richard W. Krug

R. D. MacDonald

Ralph and Amy Strand

Reverend Bruce and Mrs. Cynthia Burnside

Reverend Robert and Mrs. Shirley Bacher

Ruth Hansen

Schoening Family

St. Pauls Church

St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Thomas Lutheran Church

Susanne Brown

Suzanne Harer

Tawfiq Nasser

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church

Welfare Association Consortium

Women of ELCA First Lutheran Church

Zion Lutheran Church



Related Agencies and Member Churches

Action by Churches Together (ACT)
Australian Lutheran World Service
Bread for the World, Germany
Canadian Lutheran World Relief
Church Development Service, Germany
Church of Sweden
DanChurchAid
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V.(EED)
FinnChurchAid
German Development Cooperation (KFW)
German National Committee of the LWF Hauptausschuss
German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
Icelandic Church Aid
Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran World Relief
Norwegian Church Aid
United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)



Supplies provided by the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) were delivered in June, 2004, to the Saint Vincent Ain Karem Home for Physically and Mentally Handicapped Children. The Lutheran World Federation Jerusalem Program regularly distributes handmade quilts, sweaters, health kits, school kits, toys, sewing kits, soap, and other humanitarian supplies to people in Jerusalem and the West Bank. Donations from LWR and other partners make it possible for the LWF to touch the lives of those most in need across a variety of boundaries. In the case of Saint Vincent's, it was a Lutheran institution working together with a Catholic institution to care for Jewish, Muslim and Christian children living with disabilities.

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

Department for World Service - Jerusalem Program INCOME FOR 2004

Income Received Through Geneva:

Bread for the World	230,000
Canadian Lutheran World Relief	99,327
Church of Sweden	454,429
DanChurchAid / Danida	256,829
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	456,972
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada	5,642
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V.(EED)	122,115
FinnChurchAid	48,893
GNC-HA Deutscher Hauptausschuss	141,978
Icelandic Church Aid	7,760
Norwegian Church Aid	140,107
Norwegian Church Aid-MFA	189,098
Other USA Donors - Bethany LC	740
Other USA Donors - Wartburg College	1,172
Wakachiai Project	1,000
Sub Total	2,156,062

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

Department for World Service - Jerusalem Program

COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL DATA

	2004	2003	2002
Revenues			
Vocational Training Program	874,705	1,014,123	757,852
Scholarship Program	28,641	24,627	28,728
Augusta Victoria Hospital (Operations)	6,333,601	6,513,912	6,756,250
Village Health Clinics	211,490	222,432	186,279
Emergency through ACT	356,239	626,781	811,394
Expenses			
Vocational Training Program	771,933	988,196	779,059
Scholarship Program	24,092	24,173	25,987
Augusta Victoria Hospital	6,410,130	6,560,796	5,827,807
Village Health Clinics	200,124	183,449	171,958
Emergency through ACT	318,015	652,600	899,311

LWF Scholarship Program

The Lutheran World Federation/World Service (LWF/WS) in Jerusalem operates a Scholarship Program to assist young people within the local community to further their education through attendance at university. This program offers financial assistance to approximately 25 students a year. Candidates are chosen based on financial need and academic excellence. The assistance is generally in the form of a loan, but grants are given to those who have verifiable financial or physical circumstances that justify a grant.

There are 26 LWF scholarship recipients for 2004-2005. The 17 young women and 9 young men come from Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala, Nablus, and Hebron. This year's recipients represent a wide range of fields of study, including accounting, nursing, education, architectural engineering, business, civil engineering, dental medicine, computer engineering, biology, and chemistry.

The Augusta Victoria Hospital ambulance is always ready to be dispatched when needed in the Jerusalem area.



The Lutheran World Federation

Department for World Service

JERUSALEM PROGRAM SENIOR STAFF

I. LWF CENTRAL OFFICE

Rev. Mark Brown	Regional Representative
Alex Kuttab	Chief Finance Officer
Atif Khatib Al-Rimawi	Human Resources Officer

II. AUGUSTA VICTORIA HOSPITAL (AVH)

Tawfiq Nasser, Ph.D.	Chief Executive Officer
Bassem Sweiss, M.D.	Acting Chief of Clinical Services
Alex Kuttab	Director of Finance
William Hadweh	Director of Nursing
Michel Bahbah	Director of Patient Services
Atif Khatib Al-Rimawi	Director of Human Resources
Muhammad Khweis	Director of Support Services

III. VILLAGE HEALTH CLINICS (VHCs)

Khlood Haveel, M.D.	Clinical Supervisor
---------------------	---------------------

IV. VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER – BEIT HANINA (VTC)

Francis Gharfeh	Director/Principal
Peter Jahshan	Workshop Coordinator
Saliba Bannoura	Department Head - Carpentry
Jirius Bannoura	Department Head - Auto Mechanics
Gabi Kamel	Department Head - Metalwork & Aluminum
Izzat Hamdan	Department Head - Plumbing & Heating
Ayman Nasser	Department Head - Boarding
Hashem Shouli	Department Head – Electronics & Telecommunication

V. VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER – RAMALLAH (VTCR)

Randa Hilal	VTCR Director and Vocational Training Consultant
Yousef Shalian	VTCR Coordinator
Thaer Shqair	Vocational Training Quality Controller (Head of Theory)

VI. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Suad Freij	Supervisor
------------	------------



Mission

The Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service Jerusalem Program

continues to protect and preserve the Mount of Olives property

while securing the resources necessary to:

- 1) provide humanitarian services and protect the human and religious rights of the Palestinian people;
- 2) strengthen the presence and witness of the Christian communities in the Holy Land;
- 3) promote understanding, peace, and reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis and among Jews, Christians, and Muslims;
- 4) strengthen the ecumenical and international presence in the Holy Land; and
- 5) reduce the LWF deficit related to the AVH and secure the long-term financial viability of the LWF Mount of Olives projects.

Mailing Address:

The Lutheran World Federation

P.O. Box 19178

Jerusalem 91191

Israel

Phone: +972.2.628.2289 or 627.9908

Fax: +972.2.628.2628

E-mail: Info@lwfjerusalem.org

Website: www.lwfjerusalem.org

Location:

At-Tour Street, Mount of Olives

East Jerusalem



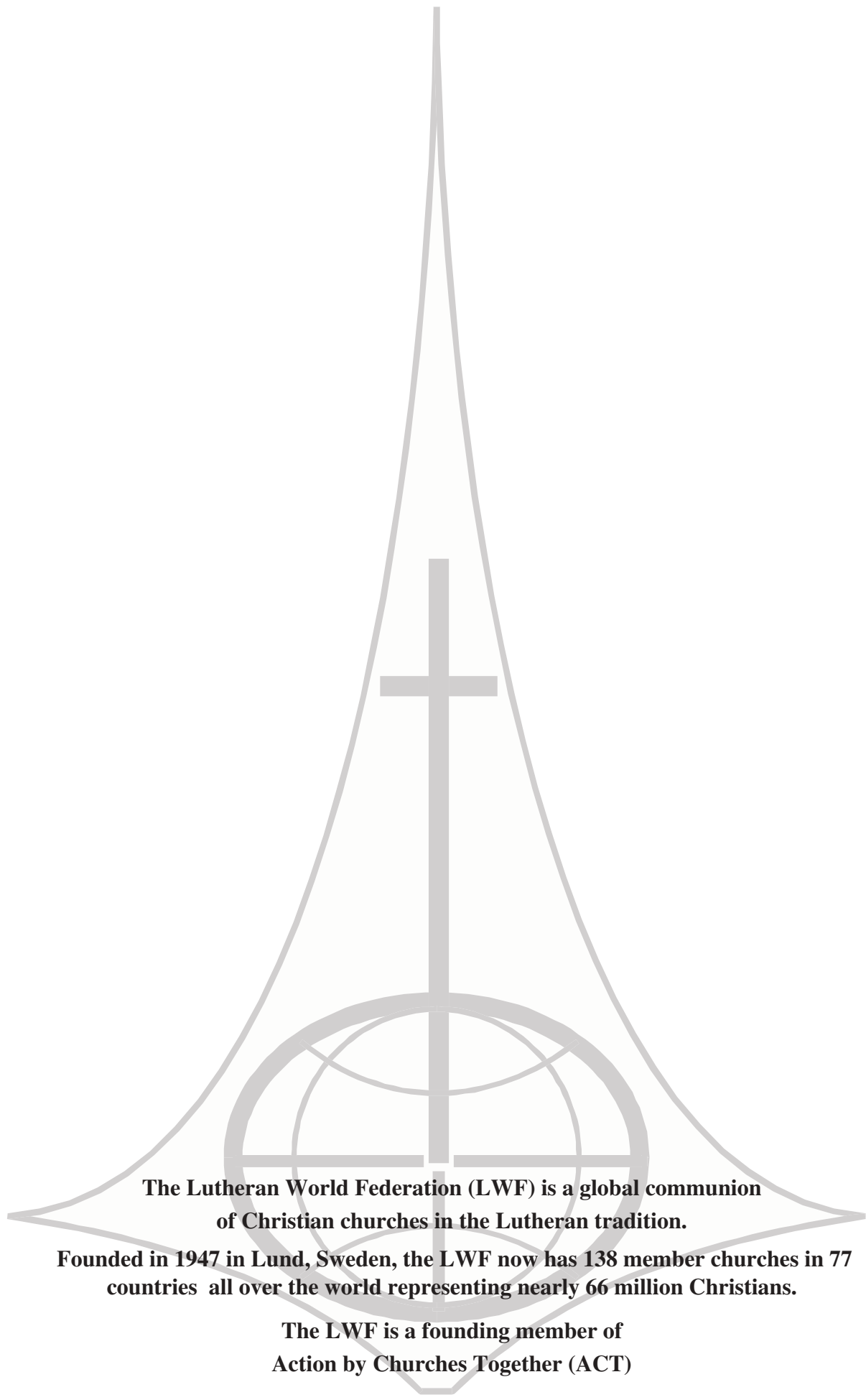
LWF Jerusalem 2004 Annual report

Editor: Rev. Mark Brown

Text: LWF staff

Photography: LWF staff photos; Karin Brown;
Nicholas Brown; Leif Gustavsson, Church of Sweden

Printing and Design: Turbo Design



**The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion
of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition.**

**Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the LWF now has 138 member churches in 77
countries all over the world representing nearly 66 million Christians.**

**The LWF is a founding member of
Action by Churches Together (ACT)**



The Lutheran World Federation

Department for World Service
Jerusalem

الإتحاد اللوٲري العالمى

القُدس