

Turkey: Discovering Ancient Footsteps of Faith

January 9-24, 2015

Leader: Rev. Dr. Marty Stevens, Gettysburg Seminary

Worship Leader: Mr. Tim Braband, St James Lutheran Church



Estimated Cost \$3,400—\$3,600 per person

Cost covers round-trip airfare from Washington-Dulles, double-occupancy hotel rooms with private bath, all meals (except two dinners), all transportation in Turkey, sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary, and English-speaking Turkish tour guide. Not included: two dinners in Istanbul, beverages, personal needs, travel insurance. Estimated cost is based on current prices with a reasonable increase, since airline and hotel costs will not be set until Spring 2014. Single supplement \$350. Deposit of \$500 by September 1, 2014 to reserve space. Final payment due December 1, 2014. The itinerary indicates included sites, included meals (B, L, D), and overnight locations. The exact schedule may be adjusted due to local conditions or time restrictions. The study tour may be used as part of a course in the January term by Gettysburg Seminary students. Limited to 35 travelers.

Fri, Jan 9 Depart USA from Washington-Dulles late-afternoon for overnight flight to Ankara.

Sat, Jan 10 Arrive in Ankara mid-afternoon (and 7 hours ahead of EST) and transfer to the hotel. Enjoy welcome dinner at the hotel and early to bed. D-ANKARA

Sun, Jan 11 Investigate the capital city of Ankara. Visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations and the Mausoleum of Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey. Afternoon drive to Urgup in Cappadocia. B,L,D-URGUP

Mon, Jan 12 Discover ancient Cappadocia, famous for rock carvings and home to early Christian theologians. Visit: Kaymakli Underground City, inhabited since pre-historic times; Uchisar, volcanic rock formation with a spectacular view from the top; Goreme Open-Air Museum, rock-carved churches with frescoes and mosaics, including the Dark Church. After dinner, marvel at the Whirling Dervishes. B,L,D-URGUP



Tues, Jan 13 On the way to ancient Iconium (modern Konya), visit the Sultanhanı Caravanserai built by a 13th c Sultan. Highlights in Konya: Mevlana Museum, burial place of the founder of the religious order that includes the whirling dervishes; Karatay Tile Museum; Museum of Wood and Stone Carvings; and the Mosque of Aladdin, with some of the oldest rugs in Turkey. B,L,D-KONYA

Wed, Jan 14 Continue westward to the biblical site of Antioch of Pisidia, the place Paul first preached to Gentiles. Lovely Antalya on the Mediterranean coast is our destination this day. B.L.D-ANTALYA

Thurs, Jan 15 Visit Perge, and Aspendos, with remains from the late first-century. A walking tour of Antalya explores the Old City with its broad boulevards right on the Mediterranean. Walk in ruts made by Roman chariots through Hadrian's Gate. Examine ancient treasures in the Antalya Archaeological Museum. B.L.D-ANTALYA

Fri, Jan 16 Heading north, visit Aphrodisias, a Roman cultural hub dedicated to the goddess of love. B.L.D-PAMUKKALE

Sat, Jan 17 Visit Hierapolis to see the necropolis and natural white rock formations. A 5th c. church marks the site where the apostle Phillip was martyred. Head west to Sardis, capital city of the ancient kingdom of Lydia and one of the Revelation churches. See the Temple of Artemis and the restored gymnasium/synagogue complex. End the day in lovely Kusadasi, the modern city near Ephesus B.L.D-KUSADASI

Sun, Jan 18 Be transported back 2000 years in Ephesus by walking the same ancient streets that Paul walked and imagining him in the ancient library. The Slope Houses, with finely restored frescoes and mosaics, show how the rich lived. The Ephesus Museum houses plenty of interesting artifacts. Visit the Virgin Mary's House and the 6th c ruins of the Church of St John, with its cross-shaped baptismal pool. B.L.D-KUSADASI



Mon, Jan 19 Discover the 4th c BCE city of Pergamum, one of the seven churches in Revelation. Visit its fabled acropolis, asclepium (earliest healing center in Asia Minor), and ruins of the library that once held over 200,000 parchment volumes. Pass by ancient Smyrna, another of the Revelation churches. B.L.D-BERGAMA

Tues, Jan 20 On his third missionary journey, Paul departed from Assos, once known as the most beautiful place in Asia Minor. Walk the ruins of Homer's ancient Troy. Cross the Marmara Sea by ferry and continue to the exotic city of Istanbul. B.L.D-ISTANBUL

Wed, Jan 21 Easy walk to monuments in the Hippodrome, site of Roman chariot races. Revel in the splendor of the Blue Mosque, so-called for its 20,000 blue tiles, the Mosaic Museum, and 6th c Hagia Sofia with surviving mosaics. Visit the gigantic underground 6th c. Basilica Cistern and wander the incomparable 15th c Grand Bazaar. B.L-ISTANBUL



Thurs, Jan 22 Explore the Ottoman Royal Tombs, Topkapi Palace and related Harem, luxurious setting of Ottoman sultans. Marvel at the beautiful Byzantine frescoes and mosaics in the 14th c Kariye Museum (St. Savior in Chora). Visit the Rustempasa Mosque. B.L-ISTANBUL

Fri, Jan 23 Enjoy views of Istanbul from the water with a boat ride on the picturesque Bosphorus. Enjoy the luxurious furnishings of the Sadberk Hanım Museum. Free time for last minute shopping. Enjoy a farewell dinner. B.L.D-ISTANBUL

Sat, Jan 24 Fly from Istanbul to USA and arrive home the same day. B

For further information or to reserve a space, contact:
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