

Twelfth North American Coordinating Committee Meeting of the LCJE  
Las Vegas, 27 February – 1 March 1995

## International LCJE Report 1995

By Kai Kjær-Hansen

In a letter, dated 26 January 1995, Kearney Frantsen, LCJE's coordinator for North America, writes to LCJE members in connection with this conference: "A number of you indicated that you had to choose between the two [i.e. the Las Vegas conference and the international conference in Jerusalem, June 1995], and you chose Jerusalem. That's understandable."

It's true – that it's understandable. The money which each of us has at our disposal for inspiration for evangelistic work among Jews is, of course, limited. It's also understandable that LCJE's International Coordinating Committee, and not least I as International Coordinator for LCJE and responsible for the Fifth International LCJE Conference in Jerusalem, 18–23 June, this year – that we are very anxious to see how it goes. And we look forward to seeing LCJE members and others go up to Jerusalem – to receive mutual inspiration for the ministry of the gospel among the people who first received it.

I am not going to say anything about the program. It has been sent out and besides I have brought some for those who for some reason have not received the invitation. The only thing I am going to do now is to encourage you to come to the conference and consider the invitation to the Galilee tour immediately after the conference. Apart from inspiration for the continued work for that which God has laid on our hearts: "Yeshua for Israel", we also hope that the conference may be an inspiration for the Jesus-believing Jews in Israel – even if there are some among them who think that we should not hold such a meeting in Jerusalem. It is up to us to show their fear to be groundless. We are going to hold it in Jerusalem because, in Zeist 1991, the majority of the members of the Israeli LCJE chapter voted for a the proposal that the Fifth International LCJE Conference should be in this city.

We are not going up to Jerusalem to evangelise Jerusalem in these days but to have a conference about him who suffered, died and rose in Jerusalem – and on the Mount of Olives told his Jewish apostles to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Samaria and Judea, indeed to the ends of the earth, here for example.

Since the last North American meeting I have taken part in a meeting held by LCJE Israel and one by LCJE Europe. Bear with me. It is not just a piece of cake to be coordinator of this strange network, which LCJE is, and a Jesus-believer of non-Jewish descent. In Israel a Gentile Christian has to defend why he is involved in an evangelistic network for Jesus-believing Jews, in Europe a Jesus-believing Jew might get the feeling that the work is being dominated by Gentile Christians, but in the North American LCJE there are so many strong groups that co-existence within the same framework requires a lot of respect for each other.

As coordinator I say it again and again: We need each other!

Since last we have also had the pleasure to see a special Japanese LCJE chapter being formed.

In Europe some efforts have been made to have a theological LCJE conference in Scandinavia. However, the result may be that instead of holding a conference, a book may be

published about Jewish evangelism in a Scandinavian context. In England they are working along the same lines, and I hope that within the next few years we shall see the results of these efforts. It is nothing new when I say that personally I think that we have a big responsibility to publish material that contradicts the Christian theology and the Jewish theology which agree in going against mission and evangelization from us. A network like LCJE does not itself produce books but members and groups involved with LCJE can do it. And LCJE can give inspiration.

It is a pleasure for my wife Kirsten and myself that we can again participate in this North American LCJE fellowship. I am not exaggerating and I am telling the plain truth when I say that each time we have left an LCJE meeting, it has been with joy and inspiration. Actually, it was the meeting in New York that inspired me to edit the book "The Death of Messiah" – to mention but one example. Others will be able to give other examples.

As one who in many ways works with Jewish evangelism on a theoretical level, I also feel a need to say that the North American meetings fill me with gratitude that there are others who are not just theoreticians but people willing to do the hard toil, whether it be in a congregation or out on the streets reaching Jews with the gospel.

Keep on with it!