

Tuesday, May 26th
Jerusalem!

This morning we slept in (to 7:30)! After a nice breakfast at Beit Shmuel, we were on our way to the *tayelet* (promenade) overlooking Jerusalem. It was beautiful, seeing the walls of the Old City amidst the apartments and modern buildings. We *davened shacharit* as a group and sang *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*.

After seeing the city and speaking of the biblical and historical significance of the structures and geography, we moved on to Yad L'Kashish. This non-profit organization provides the elderly with artistic trades. Many of those who work at Yad L'Kashish are immigrants, and the organization helps them to get acclimated to Israel, as well as to give them a satisfying work opportunity. The men and women currently working there range in age from 60-93. We were able to see many of them at work, and then had the opportunity to purchase beautiful crafts from their shop.

We then split up into small groups and had lunch before moving on to see the City of David. Roughly 3000 years old, the City of David, is a fascinating area that is constantly being uncovered. Each year, more space is opened up, and more archeological evidence of the city is uncovered. We watched a 3D video of the city, explored the city with our guide, and then walked through Hezekiah's tunnels.

We ended the day with family visits and some structured free time. Three students were greeted by their relatives and taken out for an evening in Jerusalem. The rest of the group went to Emek Refaim for dinner and then checked out the outside events at the Jerusalem Film Festival before walking back to Beit Shmuel for the night. We're making it an early one tonight, as tomorrow will be a very busy day in the Old City with a very early start.