



"TO LIVE AND SERVE WHERE JESUS GREW UP WAS NOTHING SHORT OF MAGICAL!"

FROM NORTHPORT (ALABAMA) TO NAZARETH

REFLECTION

KATHY OCHOCKI, ONE OF OUR US SUPPORTERS, VOLUNTEERED THROUGH SERVE NAZARETH IN 2019. READ HER THOUGHTS BELOW:



Kathy Ochocki (right) with Christine Farah (left) and Jane Shurrush (second from the left) from the SERVE team and other volunteers

Spending a month in Nazareth was one of the highlights of my life! It was November of 2019, and I volunteered with the **SERVE Program** at the Nazareth Village and Nazareth Hospital. Sharing the experience with other volunteers made it even more special.

At **Nazareth Village**, (an open-air museum that replicates life in first-century Galilee), I served as a Hostess at the period restaurant, there on the grounds. As Village staff served a delicious array of first-century foods to eager visitors from all over the world, I would identify and comment on the foods. The menu included savory roasted chicken, lentil soup, cabbage salad, authentic dips, and pita bread, along with a dessert of apple slices with date paste. Visitors always remarked how delicious the food was, and how special the experience!





Kathy Ochocki (right) with a friend in Nazareth



Kathy Ochocki (left) with her friend, Kitty (right) in Nazareth. Kitty is from Hong Kong and she was a SERVE volunteer at Nazareth Village with Kathy. Kathy is from Northport, AL.

Volunteering in the Chaplaincy program at **Nazareth Hospital** is also a treasured memory. What a special opportunity to show and share the love of Jesus! I was paired with a local volunteer and we would visit different wards, visiting and praying with anyone who welcomed this form of encouragement. I became friends with one such patient, and we now keep in touch through Facebook.

During my time in Nazareth, I clearly felt God confirming His call on my life. Lord willing, I plan to return on October 12, to participate in the **Nazareth Challenge**, as well as volunteer with SERVE Nazareth. All those with a heart to serve, and a love of adventure should consider applying. Housing and food are provided for a very reasonable monthly fee, and opportunities to explore the many spots of historical significance are made available. Believe me, when I say, you will be blessed!



Do you also have a story to share? If you or someone you know has a story about being involved in any part of the Trust's work, we want to hear from you!

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