

## **Jan's Journal**



Happy Pentecost Sunday! Rather than a Pentecost service, you are enjoying the Affirm Team's worship leadership this week. June is Pride month, which will be acknowledged through this service! Thank you to all members of the Affirm Team!

Greetings from Izmir, Turkey. It is Wednesday evening here. As we will be travelling tomorrow, this is my opportunity to send you an update on our activities to date:

We arrived late on Saturday evening. Our flight from Toronto was delayed an hour and a half and our flight from Dublin was delayed an hour and a half. We were rather tired when we arrived! It was lovely to see our friend Nihat waiting as we came through customs and security. Nihat drove us to our hotel in the centre of the Izmir business district. The same hotel we had stayed in on our previous visit. On Sunday, our friend Alpaslan and his daughter Aylse drove us to the seaside town of Urla south of Izmir for lunch at a café overlooking the Aegean. On Monday we visited our Turkish travel agent to finalize all the arrangements we had discussed with her via email, then we visited the new Izmir Museum, which chronicles the history of the ancient city Smyrna and the progress from Smyrna to present day. We then visited the famous elevator, the Bazaar, the Agora and Kadifekale castle. Yesterday, Nihat drove us to Pergamum, an ancient city which has been occupied by Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, and Christians, as well as Muslims. We visited the Acropolis, the healing place known as the Ascepcion, the Red Temple and the museum. Today has been a rather quiet day. We visited three museums in Izmir prior to having a farewell dinner with our friends.

Tomorrow we will set off at 10 am for the journey to Pamukkale.

I hope all is well in beautiful Burlington!

As always, I am interested in hearing your thoughts!

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Blessings,

Pastor Jan

