

A visit to Yad LaKashish

By Bert Thompson, Federation board member

My wife Joan and I made our first trip to Israel on May 7. The trip, which included 14 members of the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island, was a Lag B'Omer Pilgrimage led by Rabbi Mark and Carol Gross. During our 12-day trip we spent three days in Jerusalem. In addition to praying at the Kotel, we also experienced all the wonders there were to see in Jerusalem.

Before leaving Jerusalem, our group paid a visit to the Yad LaKashish senior center. The sign above the entrance states: "Do not forsake me when I grow old, when my strength fades, do not abandon me." Our group was warmly greeted by Executive Director Nava Ein-Mor.

Yad LaKashish provides Jerusalem's neediest elderly with the life-affirming feeling that they are still active and productive members of society. Mainly immigrants and Holocaust survivors, the elderly at Yad LaKashish receive social, emotional and financial

support. Every day at Yad LaKashish, hundreds of low-income elderly men and women come to work in a variety of artistic studios. There they create hand-



Nava Ein-Mor, Yad LaKashish Executive Director, with Bert and Joan Thompson

crafted, beautiful, professional quality Judaica and gifts, which are then sold in the Yad LaKashish Gift Shop.

Nava expressed her appreciation to our Federation for the grant money



they receive. During our tour, we saw firsthand how our grant money was used and how it has helped change the lives of so many.

A personal thank you to all in our community for your financial support to our Federation. ★

