

Christmas Smile 2007

As the final Christmas celebration in Bethlehem in concluding, and slowly the decorations are being taken down till next year, we take time to reflect of the joy of season, and we thank you for making the Christmas Smile 2007 a success. This year our program was held at the Terra Sancta School in Bethlehem. Inside, over 1000 children with their parents packed into the school auditorium to watch the program that the WTAM children's department had been preparing for 3 months.



Nativity Scene

The program included Dabka dancing, theatre, and singing. The program encompassed not only the excitement of Christmas but also addressed issues of nonviolent problem solving and the Palestinian identity. Our women's department also contributed, by singing three songs for the people in

attendance.

Throughout the program you could hear the children in the crowd laughing, clapping, and singing along to the program, while other children joined in by dancing in the aisle. In a land fraught with distress and daily tension it was inspiring to see the youthful, lighthearted joy in the children. This program not only brought the spirit of Christmas to the children, watching the children's joy lifted the spirits of all who were in attendance.



Dabka Dancing



Singing Santas

At the program's conclusion every child went home with a colorful blanket and a bag of chocolate. In this oddly chilly weather, the blankets have not only been a fun gift but a useful gift, and we are continuing to respond to the needs of the community by handing out more blankets to people who come to our office.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for making this program possible. It is through your support that



Women's Choral Group

this joyous event was able to take place. It is through your thoughts, prayers, and financial support that we were able to bring the joy of the season to, not only the children of Bethlehem, but their family and friends as well. As we begin the New Year we want to wish you joy, love, and peace in the coming year, and may our

relationship with you continue to grow stronger.



**Singing by the
Children**