

October 17, 2021

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome. We are glad you're here.



O Almighty and most merciful
God, of your bountiful goodness
keep us, we pray, from all things
that may hurt us; that we, being
ready both in body and soul,
may cheerfully accomplish those
things which you command;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Today's Psalm: 123

KEEP OUR EYES FIXED ON JESUS

Hebrews 12:1-3

Pastor Tim Pusey

DECORATORS NEEDED

We would like to have some of the Christmas decorating done early so that when people come to drop off their shoe boxes the foyer is festive looking. If you or someone you know is gifted in this way, please contact Pastor Stephen. We need leaders and helpers!

NNU University Choir & Orchestra

TONIGHT at 6:00 pm
Valley Shepherd Nazarene

Under the direction of Dr. Philip Miller, this ensemble features over 100 students from a wide variety of majors across the campus.

Childcare provided for children 3 years old and under.



OCTOBER IS
PASTOR
APPRECIATION
MONTH



PUMPKIN PARTY

OCTOBER 22nd FROM 7-9PM | VSN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Ladies, grab a friend, bring the kids and join Women's Ministries as we decorate (not carve) pumpkins together!

Refreshments, pumpkins and decorating materials will be provided.

Register in the foyer 10/10 and 10/17.
Cost is \$5/person.

BANGLADESH RESTRICTED CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN BANGLADESH



OVERVIEW: Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world. Churches are careful when offering relief to the poor and needy because they do not want to encourage false conversions among people claiming faith in Christ solely for economic benefit. While Bangladesh is a majority-Muslim nation, the government avoids undue influence from Islamists and actively fights extremism. Millions of Bangladeshis are learning about Christ and the Bible through media outreaches.

MAJOR RELIGIONS: 87 percent of Bangladeshis are Sunni Muslims. Approximately one-half of 1 percent are Christians.

PERSECUTOR: Local Muslim authorities, Islamist extremist groups, families and communities persecute Christians.

WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN UZBEKISTAN: Many Christian groups meet publicly, while others worship in unregistered churches. When Muslims convert to Christianity, they are often forced to leave their community.

ACCESS TO BIBLES: The Bangladesh Bible Society and the missions community have made Bibles available in several languages, but those in rural areas and especially

Muslim converts have difficulty finding and acquiring them.

VOM WORK: VOM relocates those expelled from their communities and provides for the medical needs of those injured in persecution attacks. We support Bible distributions and evangelism training, and we provide rural pastors, bold evangelists and church planters with necessities and resources for their ministry.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- *Pray for the boldness and protection of Christians actively sharing their faith in the north*
- *Pray for the strength and comfort of those suffering mental and emotional persecution*
- *Pray for a front-line worker who conducts retreats for persecuted Bangladeshi Christians*
- *Pray for Barrun's boldness and protection as he reaches out to Muslims*
- *Pray for Joban, who lost his house and land when he became a Christian*
- *Pray for the encouragement of Christians, who are often the only believers in their village*
- *Pray for Christians continuing to work among the 1.3 million Rohingya refugees*

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•1815 SE Bison Rd., Bartlesville, OK 74006 •800-747-0085

Prisoner Profile



PRISONER NAME: Hossein Kadivar

LOCATION: Iran

ARRESTED: Jun 2020

HELD: 499 Days



Christian converts Hossein Kadivar and Khalil Dehghanpour were detained while attending a house church on Jan. 29, 2019, in the northern city of Rasht. Six other Christians from the same church were arrested during the same time period. At a court hearing on July 24, 2019, Judge Mohammed Moghiseh called the men “apostates” and argued that the Bible was “falsified.” The men were subsequently sentenced to five years in prison for “acting against state security” and “promoting Zionism.” Their sentences were upheld on appeal in February 2020, though neither the men nor their lawyers were allowed to attend the hearing. Released on bail of approximately \$13,000 in March 2019, the men were summoned to begin serving their sentences on June 2, 2020.

Hossein Kadivar is married with a family.

All nine men are from the northern city of Rasht and are members of the Church of Iran. The church’s pastor, Yousef Nadarkhani, is currently serving a 10-year prison sentence, and the men were helping lead the church in his absence.

Address for Wang Yi

Evin Prison

Saadat Abad

Tehran

Islamic Republic of Iran

Please note:

When writing a letter, never mention the name of the source of your information or the name of any organization such as Voice of the Martyrs or Prisoner Alert. It is not dangerous for a prisoner to receive letters from individuals, but if an organization is mentioned they may be accused of links with ‘foreign organizations’ and receive harsher sentences. Also, please do not state anything negative about their government. For the latest information, including letter writing tools and helps, please visit PrisonerAlert.com.

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