

## Upcoming Events

- Nursery Available (Ages 0-5) - Parents > attendant will escort you
- Every Sunday - L.I.F.E. Groups @ 9-10AM - All Ages
- Aug 31<sup>st</sup> (Sun) - "Zestful for Jesus" FBC Fellowship Luncheon after church
  - See your email for all the details (Ques? - See Anna & Marina)
- Now through Aug 31<sup>st</sup> - Accepting Gift Donations for Ladies Retreat (Ramie Hood)
  - All donations in foyer please
- Sept 9<sup>th</sup> - FBC Monthly Board Meeting @ 7PM
- Sept 10<sup>th</sup> (Wed) - WAF Auction Donations Due
  - Ques? > to Deb Simone
  - Please place donations in Silas Hall. Tagged with Giver Name
  - Monetary donations > Deb Simone/Karen Wells (Checks @ We Are Free)
- Sept 25<sup>th</sup> (Thur) - "We Are Free" Golf Tournament @ Valleybrook
- Oct 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> (Thur-Sat) - Ladies Retreat, Wildwood, NJ
  - RSVP & Ques? > Lisa Cotter (See Flyer for details)
  - \$50 DESPOSIT TO RESERVE A ROOM (DUE SEPT 7<sup>th</sup>)
    - \$350 - Single Rate (Per Person)
    - \$240 - Double Rate (Per Person)
    - \$210 - Triple Rate (Per Person)
    - \$190 = Quad Rate (Per Person)
- 10% of ALL our Giving goes to Global Missions  
Designated Offerings can be made to - Local Outreach, Changemakers etc.
- Get CONNECTED with God, His Church & His People see - CONNECT Card
- Wednesdays @ 7:00PM Bible Study & Prayer [www.fairmeeting.net/fbcblackwood](http://www.fairmeeting.net/fbcblackwood)

## — MISSIONARIES —



### Florida (Arabic Church Plant)

- Adam & Noor Batarseh
- [adambatarseh@gmail.com](mailto:adambatarseh@gmail.com)

## Persecuted Christian

- ALGERIA -

### STRESS OF PERSECUTION IMPACTS HEALTH

Two Christians are struggling with health problems as they wait for their court cases to be resolved. Soon after Murad became a follower of Christ, he was active in telling others the Good News & eventually became a pastor. Algerian government took notice of his Christian activities, arresting him & charging him with numerous violations of religious laws. If he is convicted, Murad could face years in prison. He has appealed his case to their Supreme Court, but stress of his legal ordeal has created some serious health issues. A member of his congregation was also arrested & his ongoing court case has also created health problems for him. Workers ask for prayer for the health of these 2 Christians to improve. They ask people to pray for resolution of the court cases that does not include prison time & will enable churches to operate freely within Algeria.

Before the founding of Islam (7th century) & the subsequent invasion by Arab Muslims, Algeria was inhabited by the Berber people. Today, they live mainly in Algeria's mountainous Kabylie area in the north, while Arabs inhabit the rest of the country. The Christian faith has a long history in North Africa, especially among ethnic Berbers. The early church father Augustine of Hippo is thought to have been a Berber. After centuries of oppressive Muslim occupation, public Christian worship & witness have largely disappeared. 97% of Algerians are Sunni Muslims, but many Berbers are rediscovering their Christian heritage. Churches have seen rapid growth, & Algeria has experienced one of the world's largest movements of Muslims coming to faith in Christ. Algerian Christians are reaching out boldly to their Muslim countrymen, causing increased persecution in an uncertain political climate. Christian converts from Islam are pursued by the government & family members. They face a variety of hardships from the local community.

Algeria is an example of a persevering church in N. Africa & is also a leader for theological training & church development in the region. Nearly all church growth has occurred within the Berber community. Although churches are allowed to meet openly, in 2018 the government temporarily closed & harassed many churches. Berber Christians, who are watched carefully, have gained a collective through an association of churches. Sharing the gospel with Arabs can cause serious problems, but Berber Christians continue to share the gospel boldly in & around al-Qaida terrorist camps. Secret communities of Arab Christians exist throughout the country. While it is not common for Christians to be imprisoned, one believer was imprisoned for nearly a year in connection with a social media post.

There is a Bible society in Algeria, but the printing & importation of Bibles is carefully monitored, limited & controlled by the government. Bible distributions are risky for the distributors & congregations involved, & Bibles are often confiscated by government officials. Give Bibles

Please Pray -

For Bible distributors & recipients, as distributions are risky & government officials confiscate Bibles.

That Christians will hold fast to "the faith"

That Christians whose churches that have closed by gov't will find ways to meet.

That Christians whose churches have been closed by authorities will reach out to their neighbors despite the risks.

For a pastor from a Muslim background who was sentenced to prison for holding "unlicensed worship."

[WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES](http://WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES)

