



7 January 2026

NMI SNAPSHOT



A Safe Place



In a small village in the Middle East, a JESUS Film team came to share the love of Christ. Before they left, a small prayer group formed. Over time, this prayer group grew into a regular fellowship, and a local man, whom we'll call *Simon* for his safety, was chosen as the first lay leader. Eventually, Simon was anointed as the group's pastor.

At first the believers met in a home, but soon the group grew too large to fit. Also, on hot days or when it rained, the house was not sufficient. Pastor Simon encouraged the people to begin raising money for land. The church members gave what they could, but they needed help. That's when faithful giving to Alabaster and [Nazarene Missions Projects](#) made the difference.

Because of the faithful generosity of Nazarenes around the world, through Alabaster offerings and through direct giving to this church's Nazarene Missions Project, the land was secured. And last year, a church building was constructed.



What began as a prayer group in a living room is now a vibrant congregation with worship services, Sunday school, and NYI. Today, this congregation has a *safe* place to gather, to worship, and to grow together in Christ.

Alabaster and Nazarene Missions Projects giving helped create a long-term presence for the Church of the Nazarene in this community, where the love of Christ continues to reach more and more people.

Thank you for being part of this story and many like it around the world!

(Note: Thank you to Nazarene Missions Projects for sharing this story.)

KIDS KALEIDOSCOPE



Click [here](#) to access Kids Kaleidoscope, a monthly addition to NMI Central to awaken and nurture a spirit of missions in everyone.

EURASIA REGION



In 2021, the Church of the Nazarene marked the 100th anniversary of its presence in the Middle East, which began in Palestine and Syria in 1921. The first Nazarene churches in the Middle East were comprised of refugees and those living in poverty, and the early ministry of the church consisted of food relief, care for orphans and vulnerable people, and education for children through Nazarene schools. Now, 100 years later, Nazarene churches continue this legacy. We're thankful for our missionaries and local leaders who serve faithfully and with compassion in the Middle East. (Taken in part from Nazarene News 10 December 2021, Tim Bowen-Evans for NCM Eurasia)



7,892 congregations



7 fields



285,665 members

PRAY

- Pray that more projects like this will take place in the Eurasia Region.
- Pray for the safety and fruitfulness of this church and for all our missionaries who serve in Creative Access areas. (Creative Access areas are places where open proclamation of the gospel can be restricted, requiring creative approaches for ministry and missions.)



PRAISE

- Praise God for the generosity of supporters around the globe who gave to Alabaster and to this project.
- Praise God for new believers and the growth of this church.



COULD YOU SERVE?

Is God calling you to give to Nazarene Missions Projects similar to this one? Click here: <https://give.nazarene.org/category/global-missions-projects> or to give to the World Evangelism Fund click here: give.nazarene.org/donate/world-evangelism-fund

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