

## Pray for the Persecuted Church: Turkey

### Pastor Detained After Helping Refugees

Source: Middle East Concern

On October 7th of last year, Rev. (Dr.) Andrew Brunson and his wife Norine were arrested in Izmir, Turkey, where they have been residents for 23 years. The pastoring couple were held as a threat to national security, although it is believed that the real reason for the arrest is related to their Christian relief work with refugees from Syria (including Kurds). They were denied access to either lawyers or consular assistance for over four weeks.

Following some publicity in the Turkish national press, and action on the part of the United States Embassy, Norine was released on October 19th. However, to date, Rev. Brunson remains in detention. Turkish officials have since tried to impose on him the signing of a waiver falsely attesting that he did not request consular assistance.

Negotiations between the U.S. Embassy and the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs resulted in a consular official finally being allowed to meet with Rev. Brunson on November 5th, and again on November 30th.

The ministering couple had previously signed papers agreeing to comply with a deportation order. However, the official in charge marked a box on the document to indicate that this agreement applied to a "leader, member, or supporter of a terrorist organization." (This accusation was based on the testimony of a secret informant whose claim has also been used to prevent the pastor's lawyer from accessing the case file.)

On December 9th, the accused pastor was moved to the Counter Terrorism Department, and from there taken to the court for questioning. The lawyer, having just met his client for the first time, was also in attendance. Following the court appearance, Rev. Brunson was transferred to Izmir Aliaga Prison.

Please uphold Rev. Andrew Brunson in prayer, asking that the slanderous accusations and falsified documents against him will hold no credence in court, and that all charges against him will be quickly dismissed. May God's presence and peace surround the faithful Christian leader, serving as his strength and refuge during this time of uncertainty and need. Additionally, pray for his wife Norine, their children, and fellow believers in Turkey who are also in need of strength and the ongoing assurance that the Lord is indeed working all things together for good to those who love Him...and for His ultimate glory.



### Our Missionary/Church Planter of the Week: Feb. 8

#### **Ron and Jeannie Seck, Missionaries, Hungary.**

Ron and Jeannie began working as NAB missionaries in 2011. Working with Community Health Evangelism, they use a wholistic approach as they seek to produce healthy Christians, churches, and communities among the Roma in Central Europe. Using their unique giftings, Ron and Jeannie work to transform Roma villages in Central Europe so they are healthy communities filled with healthy Christians and healthy churches. They also do evangelism and discipleship and act as a resource to the churches of Central Europe. Pray for the TOT1 Seminar in Balatonföldvár, Hungary, coming up in two weeks. For more information, visit [nabonmission.org/missionaries/ron-jeannie-seck](http://nabonmission.org/missionaries/ron-jeannie-seck) or their website, [justaseck.com](http://justaseck.com).

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REMINDER: TURN IN OUTSIDE MUSIC GROUP SURVEYS – please place in the box in the foyer, there are extra copies available if needed

## BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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## Sunday, February 5, 2017

Accompanist: Jan Questad and Pam Osmanson

Greeters: Gene & Judy Preston Scripture Reader: Theresa Friesen

Nursery: Dan Hanson Usher: Dave James

Children's Church: Mindy Roeder and Garret James

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, & Christian Greetings

Praise Affirmation.....I Peter 2:24-25

Hymn #2....."Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Hymn #103....."Blessed Be the Name"

Prayer of Praise

Offering

Offertory.....Pam Osmanson

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Ministry of Music

Children's Moments with Pastor Merv Kramer

Scripture Reading.....John 15:5-8

Children may be excused for Children's Church (3 yrs-2<sup>nd</sup> grade)

Sermon... "The Rewards of Abiding - Fruitbearing".....Pastor Kramer

Prayer Response

Communion Service

Hymn #452....."Make Me a Blessing"

Love Offering – Alpha Center

Closing Hymn #447....."Freely, Freely"

Benediction

Postlude

\*\*\*Nursery care is available for children infant thru 3 years old

(Please contact an usher for information and/or direction)

\*\*\*Hearing Amplifier Available – Please contact an usher

**Please join us after the worship service for coffee and treats in the fellowship room.**

**Sunday School for All Ages**

Combined Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> Grade with Aaron Skogen or Jan Questad in Nursery  
Combined 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade with 2D Gerdes and Mindy Roeder in Cubbies Room  
6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade with Erica Skogen or Judy Preston in Pastor's Office  
9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade "Truth Project" with Mike & Stacy Frost in Youth Room  
Adult Classes:

- "Grace" Bible Study with Mike Benson in Fellowship Room
- Video study with Pastor Kramer in Sanctuary. Today's topic is "What the Bible Says About Dinosaurs" - part 1

**\*\*\* Praise & Prayer\*\*\***

**Elmer Gerdes**, healing from hip fracture surgery, now at Garretson nursing home

**Ruth Ortiz**, possible cornea transplant surgery (previous one was unsuccessful)

**Ruth Hansum**, recovering at home from back surgery

**Lajeane Wright**, wife of Jim Wright, for continued strengthening, dealing with side effects of medication; encouragement and endurance for Jim

**Lorrayne Montecuallo**, for healing from broken hip, now home recovering

**Ron Benson**, brother of Mike Benson, for heart health issues

**Amanda Benson**, as her sending church, Amanda has asked that we lift her up in prayer as she is in the mission field.

**Serving Our Country:** Josh Onnen, Air Guard; Chad Carlson, Air Guard (Son-in-law of Carl & Lindy Johnson); Devon Lee, Army, and Kristina Lee, Air Force (Grandchildren of Ray & Dee Olson)

**For Your Information and Prayer**

- Today: -5:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Service
- Wednesday: -6:30 p.m. Awana Clubs
- Thursday: -7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study Fellowship at Rachel Hsaio home, 501 E. Switchgrass

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|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>OUR GIVING:</b> | Sunday, January 29, 2016 |
| General Giving     | \$ 838.00                |
| Building Fund      | \$ 25.00                 |
| Total              | \$ 863.00                |

**Our Prayer Partnership**

- Brandon Valley Baptist Church
- Mountain View Baptist Church, Spearfish, SD

**Next Sunday: February 12, 2017**

- Greeters: Justin & Sara Tiffany
- Usher: Gene Preston
- Nursery: Scott & Nora Sittig
- Scripture Reader: Pat Lacey
- Children's Church: Doris Conradson and Maegan Questad

**Upcoming Events:**

- **Sunday, February 19:** Missionaries Ron and Jeannie Seck (NAB Hungary Field Director) will be joining us for the **5:30 p.m.** Congregational Prayer Service on February 19<sup>th</sup>. They will be accompanied by Marijana and Emil Cizmanski from Novi Sad, Serbia. Marijana is an NAB National Worker that we support when we support the Secks. This event will give you an opportunity to meet them and hear an update on what is going on in Central Europe.
- **Saturday, February 18:** "Christian Worldview in Daily Living" study for College/Career/Married Men will meet at the church at **7:00 a.m.** Talk to Chet Hsiao or email him at [chestonian@gmail.com](mailto:chestonian@gmail.com) for more information
- **Saturday, February 18:** Sunday School Social - Swimming at Midco Aquatic Center, see insert for more information

**Alpha Center Legacy Dinner**

Alpha Center is commemorating 33 years of serving the Sioux Falls community with a Legacy Dinner on Friday, April 28 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. There will be musical entertainment and the guest speaker is former abortion provider Dr. Anthony Levatino. Please register online at <http://alphacenterfriends.com/dinner/>

Please call 605-361-3500 or e-mail [info@alphacenter.org](mailto:info@alphacenter.org) for more information about hosting a table.