

Card Shower for Amanda Benson:

We would like our church family to write a note/card of encouragement to Amanda. She would love to hear from all of you. Mike and Jolene will be going to Manila at the end of May. Please put your card in the basket by Sunday May 21. We will bring them with us. Thanks for your support!

Pray for the Persecuted Church: Russia

"Missionary Activity" Results in Deportation Source: Forum 18 News Service

Prosecutions continue under Russia's severe "missionary activity" restrictions, resulting in the first known deportation of a foreigner. In February of this year, an Indian pastor, Victor-Immanuel Mani, was forcibly separated from his Russian wife and one-year-old child for allegedly violating the new restrictions on "sharing beliefs," according to the Religion Law and Code of Administrative Offences.

Accused of advertising religious gatherings on social media, and giving religious literature to a non-member of his church, the pastor was sentenced by the Naberezhnyye Chelny City Court in Tatarstan on December 20th, 2016. He also received a fine of 30,000 Roubles (about \$724 CAD). During the trial, lawyers asserted that the meeting notices on the church's social media group were not aimed at non-members but were purely informational. The pastor also testified before the court that the accusing visitor, on his own accord, had purchased the books and helped himself to flyers.

During a subsequent hearing on January 25th, an appeal was presented to the local court. As the appeal had been denied, Pastor Mani was ordered to leave the country -- even though he is also a legal Russian resident. His lawyers and the Love of God Evangelical Church are now preparing an appeal which will be presented to the Supreme Court of Tatarstan, arguing that the deportation order is in contradiction of a 2013 Supreme Court ruling: "Expulsion from the country, which is home to members of (the defendant's) family, may violate the right to respect family life."

In two other legal cases, separate appeals have been made against court orders to destroy confiscated Bibles (including an edition used by the Russian Orthodox Church) and other religious texts. This occurred despite the courts having no legal right, as the confiscated materials were not legally classified as "extremist." Additionally, religious organizations are receiving large fines for not displaying their "official full names" on publications, websites or buildings. Nizhny Tagil Evangelical Christian Church is appealing such a conviction.

"When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19). Please pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit in the courts, serving as a Defender of true justice and righteousness, and for His presence to encourage and strengthen those who are facing charges relating to new restrictions on sharing one's faith. May great peace, comfort and provision be granted to Pastor Mani and his loved ones as they wait in hopes of soon being reunited. Ask the Lord to also be with the legal representatives working on the various appeals, giving them wisdom, guidance and safety. No matter how much the government tries to suppress Christianity, may God make Himself known in the courts so that He will be glorified in each and every case.

Our Prayer Partnership

- Brandon Lutheran Church
- Association Regional Leadership Team

BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

400 N. Splitrock, Brandon, SD 57005

Ph: 582-2248

Merv Kramer, Senior Pastor

Ph: 330-2723

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Website: www.brandonvalleybaptistchurch.org

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Sunday, April 30, 2017

Accompanist: Jan Questad and Jackie Kramer

Greeters: Gene and Judy Preston Scripture Reader: Gene Preston

Usher: Doyle Young Nursery: Ginger Nelson and Katrina Nelson

Children's Church: Scott & Nora Sittig and Trevor Skogen

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, & Christian Greetings

Songs of Praise.....Bluegrass Singers

Prayer of Praise

Offering/Offertory

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Ministry of Music.....Bluegrass Singers

Children's Moments with Pastor Merv Kramer

Scripture Reading.....John 21:1-17

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

Sermon... JESUS' LAST JOURNEY AND ENCOUNTERS:

"Peter the Fisherman"Pastor Merv Kramer

Prayer Response

Closing Hymn #451....."O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

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-1st Grade with Aaron Skogen or Jan Questad in Nursery
 Combined 2nd-5th Grade with 2D Gerdes in Cubbies Room
 6th-8th Grade with Erica Skogen or Judy Preston in Pastor's Office
 9th-12th 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 Neil Anderson's "Freedom in Christ" session 2 "A New Identity in Christ"

For Your Information and Prayer

-Thursday: -7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study on Ecclesiastes at Ginger Nelson home (208 W Greenwood St)

Next Sunday: April 30, 2017

-Communion, Love Offering for Crystal Springs Camp
 -Greeters: Justin & Sara Tiffany
 -Usher: Scott Sittig
 -Nursery: Dee Olson and Dan Hanson
 -Scripture Reader: Theresa Friesen
 -Children's Church: Lindy Johnson and Trevor Skogen

Upcoming Events:

Now thru May – Collecting clothes (size Kids to Adult Medium), shoes, crutches, canes, and wheelchairs for Guatemala

June – We will again be **servicing at the St. Francis House**. We need four people to sign up to serve at 6pm. We also need people to sign up to make: barbecue sandwiches, chips, seven layer salad, beans, and vanilla ice cream and pop (two treats they usually do not get).

We need you to sign your name with the amount of food you're providing or indicate if you wish to be a server. Also mark your first and second choices for serving dates from the list of eight options in June. The signup is on the kitchen counter.

OUR GIVING:	Sunday, April 23, 2016
General Giving	\$ 1,203.00
Love Offering – Gideons	\$ 329.00
Building Fund	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 1,557.00

(Approximately \$2,500 is needed each week to meet expenses)

*** Praise & Prayer***

Kevin Van Malsen, resting in hospice care at The Cottage in Luverne
Maxine Savage, for healing and strengthening
Elmer Gerdes, healing from hip fracture surgery, at Garretson nursing home
Lajeane Wright, wife of Jim Wright, thankful for her increasing physical strength, continue to pray for increasing mental clarity; also encouragement and endurance for Jim
Lorrayne Montecuello, 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)

Our Missionary/Church Planter of the Week: April 30



Paco Damian, Field Coordinator, Hispanics for Christ, Queretaro, Mexico. At the age of seventeen, Paco began to get involved in the youth ministry at his church. After serving as a leader for six years and finishing his university studies in architecture, God called him to study at the Word of Life Bible Institute in Argentina. In 2004, God put a desire in Paco's heart, together with Israel Contreras, to start

Fusion Ministries. Fusion Ministries is a church-planting ministry established in the state of Queretaro in central Mexico. God has permitted them to establish their first church, Iglesia Biblica Misionera (Mission Bible Church), with a vision to continue planting throughout the region and motivate other pastors in the area to plant churches. Paco and his wife, Shawna, have two children. Pray for Paco and his ministry through Hispanics for Christ. Visit www.hispanicsforchrist.org to find out more.

Healing Hope Ministries will be hosting its **2nd Annual Walk to Remember, Pancake Feed and Raffle** at the **VFW in Brandon on Saturday, June 3** starting at **9:30am**. The **Pancake Feed** will be from **10am-12pm** and is a free will donation. The Walk will start at the VFW and then go up to the Elementary Track. No matter the length of life, every child leaves an impression on a parent's heart. We invite you to Walk, Share, Remember the life of a child. Whether you're a parent who has lost a child of any age, a family member, friend or caregiver of a child, all are invited to walk for any child gone too soon. If you'd like to have your child remembered with a memorial sign and their name printed on the t-shirt, please email karri@healinghopes.com by **May 10**. T-shirts can be purchased for \$20 at www.healinghopes.com (**pre-order by May 10**). All proceeds will go to helping Healing Hope Ministries develop a Retreat Center for families who've lost a child at any age, to any cause of death.