

## Pray for the Persecuted Church: Afghanistan

**Kidnapped Finnish Mission Worker Freed** Sources: World Watch Monitor, BBC

A Finnish mission aid worker who was held hostage for nearly four months was freed on September 14th. The unnamed woman had been studying the Dari language in preparation for her first assignment when she was kidnapped from an international guesthouse in Kabul. The guesthouse -- which was attacked on May 20th -- was run by her employer, Operation Mercy. During the attack, a German female colleague and an Afghan guard were killed. Thus far, no group has claimed responsibility for the attack, nor for holding the Finnish worker hostage.

The slain German worker, who had served in Afghanistan for 13 years, headed a literacy project. According to the Swedish-based organization, "Both (mission workers) were experienced and had a deep desire to serve the people of Afghanistan." While saddened by the loss of the two lives, we are greatly encouraged by the release of the Finnish missionary. Our prayer is that this surviving mission aid worker will continue to be strengthened so she can overcome the difficult ordeal and be able to face the days ahead with renewed hope.

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## Hurricane Harvey Donations

As the North American Baptist Conference gathers to support our churches in times of need or crisis, we wanted to send an update that there are currently no reports of damage to NAB churches or member's homes in the Texas area at this time. Please continue to pray for the area affected and for God's provision as the torrential rain and flooding continues. Regional Minister Dan Heringer will keep us informed and updated as things progress.

Since monetary donations are the most effective way of providing direct aid and there are aid groups already at work on the ground, we encourage you to give through Samaritan's Purse to provide assistance to those impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

**Donations can be made online at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)**

### BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

400 N. Splitrock, Brandon, SD 57005

Ph: 582-2248

Randy Battey, Senior Pastor

Matt Murphy, Church Administrator

Website: [www.brandonvalleybaptistchurch.org](http://www.brandonvalleybaptistchurch.org)

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## Sunday, October 1, 2017

Accompanist: Pam Osmanson and Jan Questad

Greeters: Terry & Chris Kramer Nursery: TBD

Usher: Paul Osmanson Scripture Reader: Justin Tiffany

Children's Church: Dee Olson and Garret James

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, and Christian Greetings

Praise Affirmation..... Isaiah 35:4-6

Hymn #76..... "O for a Thousand Tongues"

Prayer of Praise

Offering/Offertory

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Moments of Transition with Pastor Merv Kramer

Communion Service

Hymn #364..... "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Love Offering – Baptist World Alliance

Scripture Reading..... Revelation 1:12-2:6

Sermon... "Keeping the Blocks in Place"..... Pastor Randy Battey

Outline:

I. What Is Our Focus? 1:12-20

II. Who Are We? 2:2-4, 6

III. How Do We Change? 2:5

Prayer Response

Closing Hymn #286..... "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Benediction

Postlude

**\*\*\*Nursery 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

- Preschool - 1st Grade in the Nursery with LaDell Hanson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in the Cubbies room with 2D Gerdes
- 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade in Pastor's office with Judy Preston or Erica Skogen
- High School in the Youth room with Mike and Stacy Frost
- Adult Class on I & II Peter in the Fellowship Room with Mike Benson
- Adult Class in Sanctuary

### For Your Information and Prayer

- Today: 11:30 a.m. Potluck meal (Last name A-M set up, N-Z clean up)
- Wednesday: Awana Clubs (HS starts at 6pm, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> starts at 6:15pm, Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade starts at 6:30pm)
- Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study at Lindy Johnson home, 413 Heatherwood, Brandon

### Next Sunday: October 8, 2017

- Greeters: LeeRoy & Ginger Nelson
- Usher: Mike Kresak
- Nursery: Justin & Sara Tiffany
- Scripture Reader: Pat Lacey
- Children's Church: Doris Conradson & Maegan Questad

### Upcoming Events:

- Friday, October 6 6:15-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Live Simulcast of **Extraordinary Women Conference** at Faith United Church, 800 N Splitrock Blvd, Brandon. \$15 registration fee includes dessert, light breakfast, and lunch. Speakers include Nicole Johnson, Angie Smith, Liz Curtis Higgs, and more. Register by October 2<sup>nd</sup> at [www.faithunitedepc.org](http://www.faithunitedepc.org) or call 582-6788 for more information.
- Saturday, October 14: 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at the church

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

**Carol Kline**, mother of Theresa Friesen, recovering from a stroke  
**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); Kristina Lee, Air Force (Grandchild of Ray & Dee Olson); Amir Rottluff, Navy (grandson of Charlotte Rottluff)

We extend the hand of love and sympathy to Jim Wright in the recent death of his father, Robert Wright, Emmetsburg, Iowa.

### Our Prayer Partnership

- Celebrate Church, Brandon
- Worship Pastor, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Sioux Falls

<b>OUR GIVING:</b>	Sunday, September 24, 2016
General Giving	\$ 1,805.46
Building Fund	\$ 25.00
<u>Designated</u>	<u>\$ 565.00</u>
Total	\$ 2,395.46

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

**Needed:** weekly snacks for Middle and High School Awana youth. They can be prepackaged or homemade. Please avoid tree nuts and coconuts. You may put items in the treat cupboard east of the fridge. Thank you!