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Donations

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MORE UPDATES?

Visit arcministry.org/updates for other update methods like email and telegram.



NEWSLETTER

**ANABAPTIST REFUGEE
COMMITTEE**

Equipping Anabaptists to engage with diverse cultures creating enduring relationships to express the love of Jesus.



MAR 2025

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Author (Ernie) in action.

By Ernie Beachy

IF HEAVEN CAN BE MEASURED

ARC Life Report. Update from an ARC Team Member in Minneapolis.

Stars fascinate me. Not only the stars themselves, but the metrics of distances and volumes in the universe are sure to stretch my perception of size and, by extension, my perspective of whatever is appearing big to me at the moment. I like to remember that it is only possible for something this great to have been made by someone even greater, and that One is in control of my life as well.

Living in a city makes observing the sky less rewarding, as the artificial light keeps our eyes from adjusting sufficiently to see the plethora of stars that are visible in a dark environment. But recently we have been blessed to see a touch of northern lights, as well as the moon in its full phase.

Two days a week we have evening classes. Boys from multiple families, mostly 6-16 years of age, are brought to the Teahouse. As the days get shorter, darkness descends during class, and the rides home are lit by headlight bulbs. I have the privilege to transport a number of brothers, and on a recent evening, the full moon was hanging low in the sky as we started home. The conversation began with the quality of the zoomed-in photos our phones could take of the moon, and continued to a discussion of the heavenly bodies in general.

“There are so many stars, nobody knows how many there are,” Ahmed said. “They just keep finding more and more!”

“Yes,” I replied, “We have no idea where the end is or if there is one! Actually, the Bible says God’s love and care for His people are like the stars— they just go on forever and we can never find the end!”

We were nearly at their home, and conversation soon lapsed into silence for the last few blocks. I pulled up to the curb and bumped the buttons to open the doors, and as we said our customary goodbyes, I pondered the awesome love God has for these

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STARTING OVER

What would it be like to find yourself uprooted from everything familiar— homeland, culture, social circle, family, jobs, language?

What would it be like as an older gentleman, an educated man accustomed to a place of respect in your society, to suddenly be unable to land a simple job at a local store?

What would it be like as a woman or child to be left behind as your husband or father flees to another country with hopes of eventually bringing you as well?

This and much more is reality for many of the Afghans in the US. Some have come voluntarily, some from necessity.

As house parents in Minneapolis my wife and I were privileged to observe the love and care being shared with Afghans under these circumstances. We learned a lot.

-Dave and Karla Yoder



**PRAYER
REQUESTS**

- 1. TX:** Wisdom for the team as they look for a path forward.
- 2. MN:** Pray for the Afghan boys and young men we teach in evening classes; we see God working in their hearts.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Looking to Serve? Email volunteer@arcministry.org or call Peter Wadel at 763-358-3816 to get started!

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- MN: -Single man for April.
-Single lady mid-April.
-Single lady for May.
-**Urgent:** House Parents for Spring and Summer.
- TX: –

FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY '25

INCOME

Donations	\$7,029.64
MSP Buuilding	
Donated Services	\$4,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,529.64

EXPENSE

Programs	
- Minneapolis	\$24,164.94
- Mexico Border	\$12,806.27
- Resettlement	\$5,000
Administration	\$3,473.14
Fundraising	\$2,697.79
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$48,142.14

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$133,751.21
ENDING BALANCE	\$97,138.71

Donations can be sent to ARC Ministry Arc Ministry at PO BOX 459 Seymour, MO, 65746 or online at arcministry.org.

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boys, and was thankful that He is putting that love in my heart as well. I pray they come to know my immeasurable God! And I believe the interest they have shown in knowing more about Jesus will be rewarded.

“Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done... But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel;... I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jeremiah 31:37,38)



Author with student

Bethany VanPelt

THE PRAYER STEPS

I scan my key to unlock the door, and Jen and I step into Apartment Building 1319. I take a breath and recognize “apartment air,” but after several months of English teacher life, it’s all part of the routine and I hardly notice. It’s 3:00 on a Tuesday afternoon and we are ready to begin our last class for the day. We begin the ascent to the second floor on the Prayer Steps.

The steps we are ascending were named Prayer Steps by previous teachers and passed on to us. As we climb these steps, we breathe prayers for strength and grace. The class we are about to begin will be filled with opportunities to connect with our dear ladies, Hajira and Shakira. However, four energetic little boys will also be a part of class, and so class may not go as planned. We have learned in days past to let go of our expectations for class and know the quality of class is not based on how much English is learned.

We reach the end of our climb and start down the hallway to Apartment 205. I begin our recitation and Jen joins in. “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” (Ephesians 3:20).

At Apartment 205, I knock. From within, I can hear soft chatter and the scuffle of small running feet. The door swings open and we are granted entrance. And so begins our time together. Playing with four little boys who are all under the age of three, cuddling baby Anaya, teaching English, and chatting with our ladies will make this time together well-spent. At the end of the hour, we’ll descend the Prayer Steps and breathe prayers of gratitude for the opportunity to be here in the Twin Cities.



REQUEST A PRESENTATION

Interested in a presentation for your church or school? Contact Peter Wadel (763) 358-3816 for additional details.