

Shortly before my PA trip, and in an ominous foreshadowing of how the *Eid* outreach would turn out in the Amish country, I was contacted by a Waterford sister. She shared with me that she's been friends with a Palestinian Muslim couple that run a restaurant she frequents on Sundays after church. She has become so close with them that at one point she wanted to share the gospel with the couple. As our phone call went on, I learned that she, as a good member of the Lord's church, has shared with them materials on Islam that were written and published in the brotherhood by a man who doesn't even attempt to camouflage his absolute disdain toward Muslims (hint: he's not me.) In response to her bafflement over the non-receptiveness of her Palestinian friends, I had to break to her the bad news that if she ever wanted to share the good news with Muslims, she may not want to share those kinds of materials. The author's exposure to Islam is at best second hand and at worst influenced by his ultra-patriotism, and the attempt to make Muslims fall in love with the gospel instead of loathing it should often take an entirely different approach.

The Amish man who invited me to do the volunteer training before the Muslim Feast of Sacrifices had, unfortunately, subcontracted the event to an organizer that invited other speakers he is more aware of on merit of their YouTube hits and/or academic degrees given by institutions with no direct exposure to the fundamentally Arabic faith of Islam. The organizer asked me to submit *my* materials on Islam to *him* for approval, and told the volunteers not to share my tract which I was commissioned to mass-print. One speaker, an American born and raised in a subcontinent that has long witnessed ethnic tensions between Muslims and Christians, was given enough time slots to undo everything I attempted to do in my only class on Friday morning. Whether I was invited to drive across three states to *learn* about Islam from the latter (who, as you can imagine, did not show up for the actual outreach) was not answered. Who would've thought that the hardships of the outreach to Muslims were coming from inside the house.

Having said that, my first reward was when I was recognized, on the very first morning of the Eid, by a cheerful Algerian family I had met the year before during the same event. My cards were smuggled by a few sisters and handed out to Muslims who, although celebrating a religious holiday with their families in a premeditated manner, couldn't hide their gratitude for the sentiments conspicuous in the evangelistic clickbait. An estimated four thousand Muslims drove from several states to attend the event during the entirety of the four-day season and it was the biggest outreach of the year of its kind.

During my visit, I got to take the first two people I met in the U.S. to see the *Daniel* musical. I got to meet with a local youth group, and visit with an Albanian family that are attempting to share Christ with their Muslim neighbors (who happened to be their relatives.)

Within several days earlier in the month, two groups came to tour my Bible Miniseum and relive the story of how we got my most favorite book.

I have voiced the need for a new Bible translation in standard Arabic during a Zoom meeting with a Wycliffe group. The most common one used in worship today is written in so archaic a language it isn't suggested for new believers, and most of the new translations are either written in ridiculously specific accents or deliberately use Islamic terminology that compromises the rudiments of the gospel.

We have started the summer evangelism in Dearborn parks and college campuses during the summer classes, I will be joining the fun now that I am back home.

I will be in Houston next week, Lord willing. I will speak to one visiting group at one local congregation the week after, and another the week after *that*, and am still crossing my fingers for a church of Christ congregation to send one youth group on a mission trip to Dearborn one day in the near future.

And finally, the contributions for the past month and a half (minus the book sales and speaking honoraria) have totaled \$2,780 against its \$3,000 budget. If you have purposed in your heart to make a contribution to keep this ministry going, whether by mailing a check or online, please visit <a href="ArabChristianMinistry.org">ArabChristianMinistry.org</a> or write your generous check to the Walled Lake Church of Christ (memo/ACM.) You can also <a href="Contribute directly">Contribute directly</a> to the Walled Lake congregation, and contact its eldership at this email or contact our board members (listed on the website) if you have any questions. Thank you, and God bless.



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