



BUILDERS

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Open Doors in Sacramento

Arabic Church of Sacramento ADF CHURCH LOAN

Church: *Arabic Church of Sacramento*

Pastor: *Raed Awabdeh*

Address: *2730-2810 Eastern Avenue*

Sacramento, CA 95821

Phone: *(916) 320-3429*

Loan type:

- Building purchase
- Land purchase
- Building renovation
- New construction
- Refinance

Ministry Focus:

Arabic-Speaking Immigrants

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: Arabic Church of Sacramento Sacramento, CA

Imagine moving your family to a foreign country. You don't speak the language or understand the culture's values. Something as small as buying food is stressful. But what if your kids need medical care? How are you going to navigate the transportation system? What if people take advantage of you?

For some 12,000 people in Sacramento, California, those types of situations are daily concerns. Sacramento has one of the highest

populations of Arabic immigrants in the United States, and Arabic Church of Sacramento has risen to the call of meeting their unique needs. As Pastor Raed Awabdeh says, the church's purpose is to bring the good news of Jesus to oppressed, weary, and broken-hearted people from every nation of the world. Arabic Church launched in 1998; about 10 years later, the members opened an Arab-American Center right next to an Arabic marketplace. The center's purpose is to help Arabic immigrants assimilate into American culture.

(Continued on inside)



“The church’s purpose is to bring the good news of Jesus to oppressed, weary, and broken-hearted people from every nation of the world.”

-Pastor Raed Awabdeh

COVER STORY (cont.)

At the center, they can get help filling out forms, learning how to drive, enrolling their kids in school, and making doctor’s appointments. Pastor Raed says, “God gave us this opportunity to cross into their culture and serve them and share the gospel.”

Arabic Church also serves the Arabic population in Sacramento through outreach programs. The church holds an annual summer retreat where around 110 refugees learn about the life of Jesus. The church also has a back-to-school program for Arabic children. About 600 usually attend, and each one receives a backpack with school stationery, the New Testament, and the *Jesus* movie.

Even though Arabic Church is 20 years old, it is only recently (on April 25, 2018) that God miraculously provided a permanent meeting place. To secure the property, the church needed to make a down payment of \$450,000. But two days before the members needed to sign, they were still short \$100,000. It was important that they sign by April 25 because otherwise they would lose a \$200,000 discount.

ADF approved a loan in the amount of \$750,000 for the purchase, trusting that God would supply the rest of the funds—and He did! God prompted a former Arabic Church member to donate the rest of the money just in time. He wired it at 1:37 p.m. on April 25, and the church signed for the property at 4 p.m. that same afternoon.

The new space will enable Arabic Church to hold more activities and events for the Arabic immigrants. Pastor Raed believes that the new building will help Arabic Church’s members to have a greater sense of ownership and responsibility as they serve their community. Just one of the facility’s uses will be Living Water Preschool Academy, which will provide a Christian education to Arabic children.

“Christ has placed an open door for our church,” says Pastor Raed. Right now three Muslim people are waiting to be baptized. By God’s grace, Arabic Church is creating a home for Arabic people in Sacramento, all while pointing them to Christ.

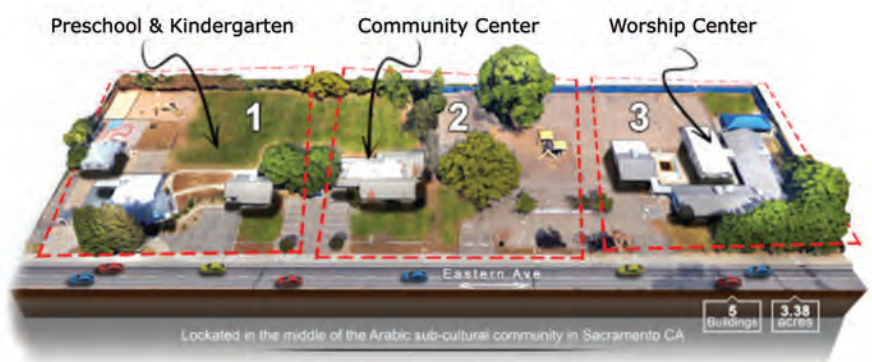
To share with our Alliance family what God’s doing in your fellowship to advance the Kingdom, please contact us at adf@adf-inc.com

BEFORE
↓



AFTER
→

ARAB-AMERICAN LEARNING CENTER



President's Corner

Sharing with Larry McCooey



GUEST
CORNER:
GUY BURGO

HAVE YOU PUT YOUR WISHES IN WRITING?

Dear Fellow Investors and Friends,

For this edition of *Builders*, I have asked my colleague, Guy Burgo, to write the following *Guest Corner* article. I trust that you will find it helpful.

Please share your thoughts by contacting me at presidentcorner@adf-inc.com. Your feedback is always welcome.

Lawrence L. McCooey

CPA, PFS, CGMA

President

The Ten Commandments and the Bible make it obvious that the Lord places a great emphasis on putting important agreements in writing. The important agreements we put in writing include marriage licenses, loan agreements, business contracts, and more. But when it comes to writing our Last Will and Testament, we tend to put it off year after year.

Having Christian wills that legally provide for our loved ones is an important act of stewardship that believers often overlook. Most Christians think of writing a will as simply a legal process. However, when we stop to consider that God is the owner of all (Psalm 24:1), our perspective should change. We need to recognize that our wills are the legal documents that transfer stewardship of everything the Lord has entrusted to us. This fact is why we should not only stop putting off this responsibility but also bathe the process in prayer and consider biblical principles when designing our wills.

When writing a will, we should consider several biblical concepts, such as:

- It's important to have our houses in order (2 Kings 20:1).
- We are to take care of parents and grandparents (1 Timothy 5:4).
- We are called to provide for our families (1 Timothy 5:8).
- God wants us to be generous (2 Corinthians 9:6-7).
- Our children shouldn't get too much too soon (Proverbs 20:21).

So I hope you will take the time to be a good steward of your family and the possessions God has entrusted to you by writing your will or trust from a biblical perspective. If you need assistance with this process or estate planning, please feel free to contact us at Info@theorchard.org or (719) 268-7202.

Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. (1 Corinthians 4:2)

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