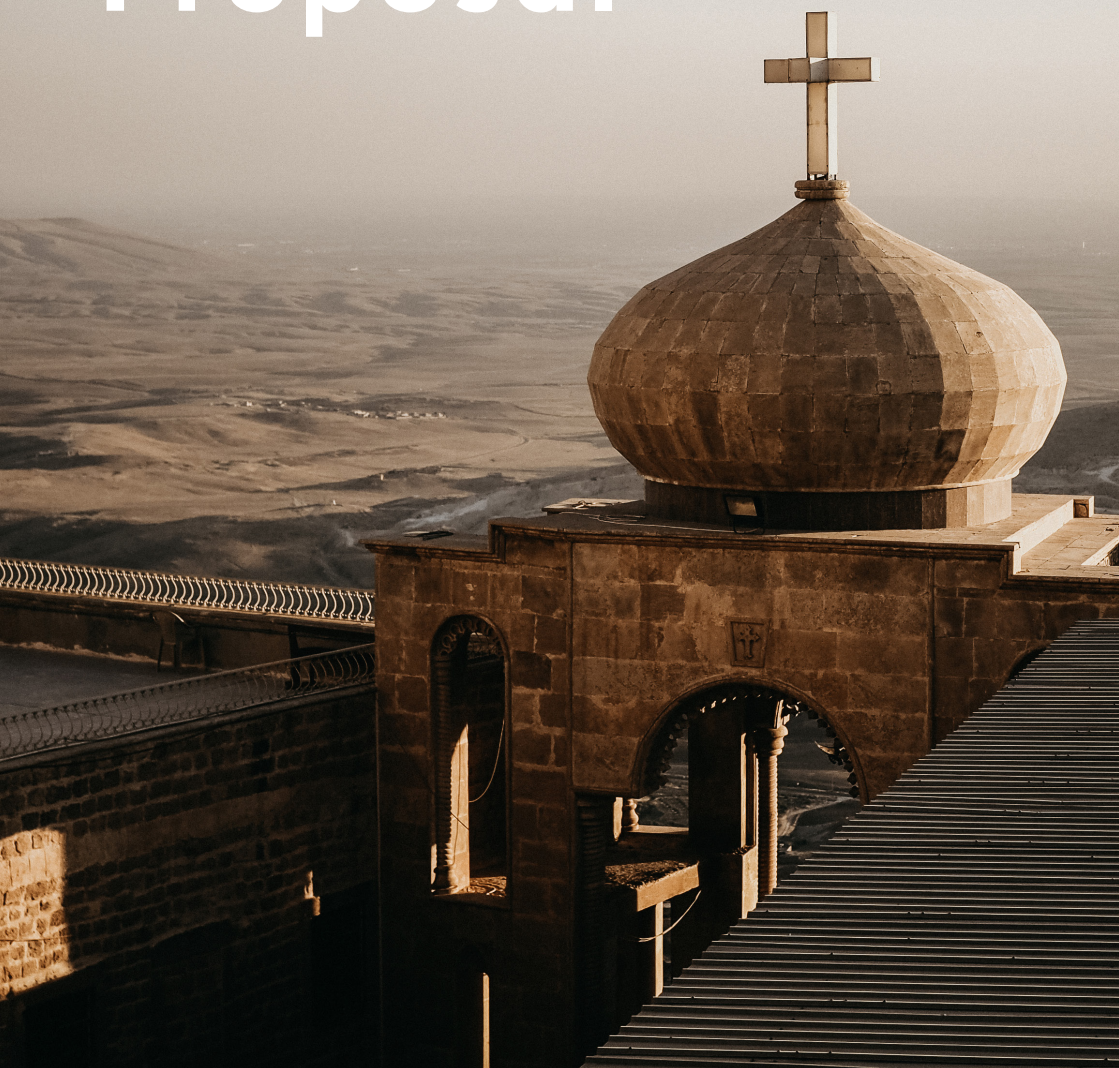


Partnership Proposal



Carlingford Baptist Church

Carlingford Baptist Church have a vision 'to be passionate disciples of Jesus Christ in a growing network of diverse but united communities on a mission':

Open Doors is a charity helping people follow Jesus all over the world, no matter the cost. Since 1955, Open Doors has worked to support the local church, even in the midst of pressure and persecution. We are present in over 60 countries, advancing the gospel and helping the local church thrive.

By partnering with Open Doors, you have the opportunity to unite with believers living in the hardest places on earth to follow Jesus. Our projects are all about seeing Jesus proclaimed to the nations, a mission that is aligned with Carlingford Baptist Church. We provide our support to passionate disciples of Jesus; disciples from countries like Iraq, Nigeria, North Korea, Somalia and Syria.

Brother Andrew, the founder of Open Doors believes that "if we understood the potential power of our prayers, we would be on our knees 100 times a day, praying for the things that turn the world upside down." We have specifically chosen the project in this proposal due to our ability to provide specific prayer points and stories that can harness your priority of prayer while also challenging your congregation in the passionate pursuit of Jesus.

Why Partner With Open Doors?

Every Christian is trying to figure out how to follow Jesus in today's world. Whether that's in places like Iraq, North Korea, or here in Australia. We don't exist to end persecution, or even to avoid those things that try to stop us from following Jesus. Instead we work to overcome them, together.

We believe a partnership with Open Doors will encourage your church with stories from the persecuted church, as they learn what it means to boldly live out faith in Jesus Christ. At the same time, your community will be empowering the global church in some of the hardest places on the planet to follow Christ.

Partnering with Open Doors doesn't just send funds to place in need to spread the gospel, it is also an opportunity to learn from the persecuted church and challenge Australian Christians to be bolder in our faith and proclamation of Jesus as Lord.

The Goal

A partnership with Open Doors will enable Carlingford Baptist Church to make a greater impact for Jesus and help people follow Jesus all over the world, no matter the cost.



Our Part

In the following pages we have provided you with details of a project that Carlingford Baptists can support.

In connection with the project we can provide Carlingford Baptist Church (to the extent you desire):

- A member of our church speaking team will happily attend a service in May to present the project and/or preach on lessons from the persecuted church.
- Further details on the aim of the project.
- Specific prayer points from the project at any time.
- Details on what the project has achieved to date.
- Project updates following May mission month.

Your Part:

Raise funds through May Mission Month to support the **Hope for the Middle East** Project and pray with the church in the Middle East.



Hope For The Middle East

Project Goal: \$8,000

“Open Doors has enabled us to feed thousands of families and therefore be the hands and feet of Jesus in our communities.”

– Local Pastor in Syria

-
- **Hope for the Middle East** is a seven year, global, integrated campaign for Christians in the Middle East.
 - This campaign aims to restore hope into the church in the Middle East so that they can be a source of light in their communities, their countries, and their region. We are strengthening the Christian presence so that it will continue to make a recognised, positive contribution to society in the Middle East.

Hope For The Middle East

We have chosen this project for partnership with Carlingford Baptist Church due to the deep impact this project is having in an immensely difficult part of the world. At the same time we are hearing many encouraging and challenging stories of faith in Syria and Iraq that we would love to share with Carlingford Baptist Church.

Members of the Open Doors Sydney Team have recently visited countries receiving Hope for the Middle East funds. As such we can speak intimately to the needs in Iraq and Syria and the benefits this project brings our brothers and sisters.



Hope For The Middle East

On 10 June 2014, Mosul was taken over by Islamic State (IS). One week later, IS issued a statement to local Christians to convert to Islam, pay a 'Christian tax' or be killed.

Christians fled Mosul, the Nineveh Plains and other IS held territories in their thousands. They became internally displaced people or refugees. One of our local partners said, 'the crisis came as a wake-up call to the church... the churches started to work together, and it really increased the unity in the church'.

As the years passed, Open Doors, through the Hope for the Middle East project has continued to partner with local Christians and evolve our support to meet their changing needs.

A Church leader in Iraq has said of the impacts of this project 'the worldwide church has been the hand that held the broken wings. Without their support, we wouldn't have been able to fly, to stand as strong as we do today'

Now local church leaders say "the church is strong. Despite the continued setbacks, the Christians are rebuilding their houses, schools and churches. Again, this couldn't have been done without the help of the worldwide church, but mostly this enthusiasm to rebuild wouldn't have been possible without the Almighty. He is the reason they kept hope throughout this ordeal, the reason they stayed together, the reason they kept hope alive"

In 2020 your partnership with this project will continue to assist Iraq and Syrian Christians to rebuild their lives and continue to promote salvation through Jesus Christ in areas of the world recently devastated by war.

N.B Carlingford's contribution to the Hope for the Middle East project is a component of a wider fundraising effort. As such the 'project goal' is an example only and can be amended to suit the goals of Carlingford Baptist Church.

Thank You

Thank you for considering a partnership with Open Doors. We hope that you're as excited as we are about enriching your community's understanding of and response to the persecution of Christians around the world.

For more details, or to chat about some of these options, please contact me:

Gabe Billich Neville
0478150674 | gabrielb@od.org.au