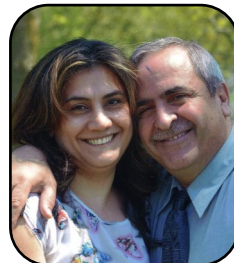


Get to know our missionaries who will be attending our Missions Conference.

Walid & Rima Bitar

Reaching Arabs for Christ
Middle East, North Africa & Canada
Central Missionary Clearinghouse
Part 1



Walid and Rima Bitar came to Canada for a visit and sensed God was calling them to ministry among the Arabic speaking community in Ottawa, Canada, the Nation's Capital. God used them to plant the first Arabic Evangelical Baptist Church in Ottawa and serve as a Missionary Pastor continuing raising his support through their Mission agency Central Missionary Clearinghouse, Houston, TX 77218-9228. Today this local church continues to grow, serve the Arabic speaking community as well receive and offer care to many refugees arriving from Syria.

Walid and Rima remain active in the Middle East and North Africa, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, equipping churches and leaders to reach the Arab world in this vast region. Two or three times each year he travels to the Middle East and North Africa, to conduct leadership conferences, seminars and facilitate care to the refugees in Lebanon

Testimony of Rima Bitar: My name is Rima, I came from a family of eight kids, and I was born in Lebanon, in a Maronite (Catholic) family.

I was never taught about salvation and being born again; all I knew was that I was automatically a Christian because I came from a Christian family and I was baptized. I was a Maronite which is a strong denomination in Lebanon, which taught that I should not commit a sin, so God won't get upset with me and punish me like choking me or killing me.

I was religious and followed all the rituals and church cultures, first because I had a thirst for God's love and for a relationship with Him. Second, because I wanted to earn His acceptance and go to heaven when I die. I ran to rituals to fill that gap and prayed to saints to intercede for me. I was always searching for something that was unknown. I used to visit all churches (Catholic, Orthodox and Maronite) trying to find what is missing. Nothing was satisfying.

One day, my family was invited to my cousin's wedding who was a believer. My dad refused to go because there was a refusal and persecution for attending an Evangelical church. My Uncle came to ask my dad if he was going to the wedding, but my dad refused. So, my uncle asked my dad if he would permit him to take the children, my dad accepted. So, my uncle asked who would like to go to the wedding, and I replied, "I will go". I always thank God for calling me and helping me to answer His call. Jesus still does miracles at weddings!

That Wedding was the first meeting with My Savior. It was the first time I heard the gospel clearly and heard how God is close to each one of us and cares about each one of us and about the details of our lives and how He came to give us life. A big and unspeakable joy filled my heart after leaving that wedding. But my blinded eyes didn't realize what is happening and I thought that it is normal to be happy being at a wedding. I thank God for His amazing grace, because He knows our inner needs and thirst of our hearts.

Two years later, I met someone who invited me to a Baptist church. I planned to go and check out that church as I was curious to know what it was and how they worshipped. When I went there, I met some girls and we became friends. So, my father noticed that these friends are different then my other friends, so he asked me where I know them from. I told him that I went to a Baptist church and I met them. He was so upset that he prohibited me to go outside the house for a week. He threatened me that if I go again, I would be greatly punished. So, I obeyed, and stopped going. I was so upset because I felt that I wanted to go and hear the Bible and learn more about God.

After awhile, in November 1988, God was still working. I received an invitation card for an outreach event at the Baptist church. I felt a big desire to go, but I was so scared and I didn't know what to do. I finally prayed and asked God to show me if my dad is right so I obey him, or if not, to help me and guide me to do what is right.

Then I asked God to show me His will. I decided to walk about 30 minutes to the church. When I arrived at the church, I had so much peace. We worshipped with songs and hymns. Then the pastor came up to introduce the speaker, who was the same pastor I saw at my cousin's wedding! God's call was so personal for me. I couldn't resist His love. I walked and searched for Him, He ran and opened His arms to overwhelm me with His unfailing love.

It is a tremendous comfort to know that Christ values us and welcomes us as a beloved child and wants us to live in his house forever. I surrendered to His love, and I was able to know Him as close as a best friend, my fear was gone. I prayed and accepted Him as my Lord and savior. And that is how a personal relationship with my Jesus Christ started.

My Lord took care of my father, and all my other needs. I experienced that He was and still all I need and all what satisfies my heart.

South Apalachin Baptist Church

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Welcome

September 10, 2023



South Apalachin Baptist Church

KNOW CHRIST | PROCLAIM CHRIST | SERVE CHRIST

Praise & Worship Service

September 10, 2023

Welcome to our Worship Service.
We are Glad you are Here!

Piano PreludeCarolyn Titus

Welcome & Announcements Darren Dodge

Praise and Worship Praise Team

Songs: **King of Love**

Gratitude

Come Thou Fount (Above All Else)

Children grades K - 4 are dismissed to the Fellowship Hall.

Scripture & Prayer: **James 1:13-18**..... Dan Johnson

Message: **The Temptations**..... Pastor Cory

Closing Song: **In Christ Alone** Praise Team

Closing Prayer..... Pastor Cory

Girls' Group

What: Teen Girls Bible Study

Leader: Becky DePriest

Who: Open to any 7th-12th grade girls who are interested.
There will likely be two groups, depending on interest:
7th- 9th, 10th- 12th

Where: Becky's House

When: Becky will figure out a day or evening that works best for all. Will meet every other week. Starting the week of September 17.

Purpose: A small group intended to dive deeper into God's word and how we can intentionally live that out, share how God is working, encourage one another, and how we can be praying for each other.

Theme: Steeped in Scripture - Done over tea & snacks each week.

Becky will have material/books ready for everyone.

There will be light reading/reflecting throughout the week and then discussion, thoughts, and prayer weekly when together.

Please let Becky DePriest know if you are interested.

Schedule of Events

Today September 10, 2023

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
12:15 pm Family Fellowship Dinner
4:00 pm The Loft Kick Off
6:00 pm Evening Service

This Week September 11-16, 2023

Tue 6:00 pm Sneaker Night Gym
7:00 pm Small Group Welch's
Wed 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting Fellowship Hall
12:45 pm Ladies' Prayer Group Marian Benthin's

Next Sunday September 17, 2023

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
5:45 pm The Loft
6:00 pm Evening Service

Looking Ahead Save the Date

Wed, Sep 20 Kids Klub Staff Kick-Off Meeting
Sep 29-Oct 1 Missions Conference (No Missions Prayer Service)
Wed, Oct 4 Kids Klub Start Up
Mon, Oct 16 Quarterly Business Meeting
Sat, Oct 28 Fall Festival

Announcements

KIDS KLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

If you would like to serve in Kids Klub, please see Hannah Smith.

KIDS KLUB STAFF KICK-OFF MEETING:

There will be a Kids Klub Staff Kick-Off meeting on Wednesday, September 20th at 7:00 pm.

BIRTHDAY LIST:

If you are new to our church, we would like to add you to our birthday list. Please fill out a card on the office door with your birthday and drop it in the tray or email Elaine at sabcny@sabcweb.org.

THAT YOUR
WAY MAY
BE KNOWN
ON EARTH,
AND YOUR
SALVATION
AMONG ALL
NATIONS,
PSALM 67:2



HEATHER
FOWLER

PENNY
WARNER

CEF

WALID &
RIMA BITAR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Fri, Sep 29 6:00 pm Harvest Dinner & Service
Heather Fowler
Sat, Sep 30 10:00 am Brunch - *Walid & Rima Bitar, Heather Fowler, Penny Warner*
Sun, Oct 1 9:45 am Kids' Sunday School - *Child Evangelism Fellowship*
9:45 am Adult Sunday School - *Walid & Rima Bitar*
11:00 am Morning Worship - *Walid & Rima Bitar*
11:30 am Children's Church - *Child Evangelism Fellowship*
6:00 pm Evening Service - *Penny Warner*

MEALS NEEDED:

Saturday Dinner Sep. 30 Walid & Rima Bitar
Dr. Heather Fowler
Sunday Lunch Oct. 1 Walid & Rima Bitar - Quick Lunch
Penny Warner
Dr. Heather Fowler
Sunday Dinner Oct. 1 Penny Warner

HOUSING NEEDED:

Friday Night Sep. 29 Walid & Rima Bitar
Saturday Night Sep. 30 Walid & Rima Bitar

SIGNUP TODAY:

Sign up for Missionary Meals and Housing, Saturday Brunch, and Harvest Dinner on the Bulletin Board. Please have food items for Harvest Dinner to church by Sunday, Sept. 24 (except pies) and food items for Brunch to church by Friday evening, Sept. 29.

WANTED - FALL CENTERPIECES:

If you have a fall centerpiece at home or you would be willing to make one to share for a table at our Harvest Dinner, please sign up on the bulletin board.