

Upcoming Events

Feb 20th Pizza and a Movie @ 6:00
The Chosen — Episode 1

April 2 Leon Burton Memorial Fish Fry
To Benefit St. Jude Hospital

Monthly Events

Believers First Tuesday @ 12:00pm
Bunco Second Tuesday @ 6:30pm
Crafty Ladies Third Tuesday @ 7:00pm
GEMS Third Saturday morning
The Brethren Every other Tuesday @ 6:30
Movie Night Every 3rd Sunday @ 5:30

Prayer Request

Jett Bobo
Frank Burton
Mary Ann Cooper
Carlyon Crook
Rosemary Pennington
Danette Smith
Rita Stewart

Emory Church

Tonight

We will be watching The Chosen Episode 1 (approx. length 1 hour)
6:00pm Pizza and a Movie Please Bring a Dessert
Fish Fry Planning Meeting @ 5:30

2022 Calendars

Available in Foyer

2021 Contribution Statements

If you have not received your 2021 Contribution Statement
Contact Robin Cox, Treasurer

Hearts & Hands

Needs non-perishable food/canned goods, winter clothing & coats.
Please help if you can.

Contact: hearts.hands2013@gmail.com or (662) 838-8899

Emory Independent Methodist Church

872 Watson Road
Byhalia, MS 38611
(662) 838-7878

Dr. Michael Johnson Sr. Pastor
(901) 606-8113

Robin Cox Home Ministry
(901) 351-7269

Sunday Service

Sunday School 10:00am
Worship Service 11:00am

Margie Thompson Believers
(901) 262-6747

www.emorychurchbyhalia.org



February 20, 2022

Algeria

What does persecution look like in Algeria?

While Christians make up a tiny percentage of the population of Algeria, they face increasing obstacles to religious freedom. Laws regulating non-Muslim worship ban anything that would “shake the faith of a Muslim” or be used as “a means of seduction intending to convert a Muslim to another religion.” A 2006 law repressing worship remains in place, despite a new constitution being introduced in November 2020.

During the past year, several Christians were prosecuted and imprisoned on blasphemy and proselytizing charges. Algerian authorities are also waging an ongoing, systematic campaign against the Protestant church: 13 churches that had previously been forcibly sealed remain closed, and another three were forced to shut down.

Most Christians in the country are converts from Islam and, as with most countries in North Africa, these believers face strong opposition from their family and community. This can involve harassment, beatings, threats and imprisonment, as well as pressure to adhere to Islamic norms and rites. The pressure and danger faced by Christians is particularly high in the Arab, rural and religiously more conservative parts of the country. In the 1990s, these regions acted as a stronghold for Islamist insurgents in the fight against the government.

What has changed this year?

Although no churches were closed in 2020, in 2021, three (in the Oran region) were forcibly shut down. Despite appeals from the Algerian church, no churches have been re-opened: the legacy of previous years of persecution remains high in the country.

Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

In the Arab part of the country, especially the south, life is particularly hard for Christians and the number of churches is very low. Violent Islamic extremists don't have a wide support base among the people, but Islam holds a firm grip over the country. The majority of Christians live in the Kabyle region in north Algeria. The Kabyle people are a Berber ethnic group, and believers here face discrimination from Algerian authorities for both their faith and their ethnicity.

Source: <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/>



Order of Worship

Prelude	Please be seated to prepare yourself for worship	
*Hymn	#231 Jesus Shall Reign	Congregation
Scripture Reading	Romans 1:1-7	
Prayer of Praise		
*Hymn	#2 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing	Congregation
*Affirmation of Faith		
Prayer for the Nations	Algeria	
*Hymn	#404 The Solid Rock	Congregation
Sermon	Michael Johnson	
Benediction		
Announcements		
Closing Prayer		

(*) indicates times when you are invited to stand as you are able

Emory Calendar for the Week of February 20

	Sunday School	10:00am
	Worship Service	11:00am
Sunday 2/20	Fish Fry Planning Meeting	5:30pm
	Pizza and a Movie Night	6:00pm FLC
	The Chosen Episode 1 (approx. length 1 hour)	
Tuesday 2/22	Explorers Bible Study - Women	9:30am
Wednesday 2/23	Explorers Bible Study - Men & Women	7:00pm
Thursday 2/24	TOPS	7:00pm