



# Friendships for Hope

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Dear Friends

The events of the past few days and weeks have reminded us of why we are here...to serve and love God's children who do not yet know about Him. Instead of becoming fearful, we need to become hopeful! What we are witnessing is the providential hand of God bringing us opportunities to share His love in real and tangible ways with those who have not yet learned of His love.

This statement written over 100 years ago caught my attention this week: "***God in His providence has brought men to our very doors, and thrust them, as it were, into our arms, that they might learn the truth, and be qualified to do a work we could not do in getting the light to men of other tongues***"—Ellen G. White, *Christian Service*, p. 200.

We need to see and understand the wonderful opportunity God is giving us to share His love with our Muslim brothers and sisters. These dear folk are children of God, and God wants to bring us all home together with Him. He cannot return until every nation tongue and people have had the opportunity to learn of Jesus and the unconditional love of God! We are not allowed to go to their countries and share, so God in His providence is bringing them to us so they in turn can take the good news of Jesus back to their homeland. Let's not miss this opportunity to share God's love!



I hope you have had the opportunity to see the article in *Huffington Post* by our own North American Division president, Elder Dan Jackson. If you have not, please click here to read it. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/daniel-jackson/adventists-respond-to-the\\_b\\_8758342.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/daniel-jackson/adventists-respond-to-the_b_8758342.html)

In this article Elder Jackson says, "*Fear is closing the golden door. The families, who seek refuge from war-torn countries in the Middle East, whether they are Christian or Muslim, are children of God created in His image. They are our brothers and sisters and we must provide them refuge without discrimination.*"

*"This nation, if it is to follow the principles upon which it was founded, needs to heed the call to not just welcome strangers, but to love them, care for them, and protect them.*"



*“We must stop the rhetoric of hate and fear.”*



We must not fall into the enemy’s trap of allowing fear to dictate how we live our life! I am extremely bothered by the attitude of many professed Christians who have gotten their eyes off of what God has called us to do, and are being trapped by fear. We have been told that we have nothing to fear for the future except when we, forget the way the Lord has led us in the past.

The need for our refugee ministry is growing bigger each day, and I must ask you to join us in supporting financially this ministry that God has

led us into. Please go to our web page and give today—[www.FriendshipsForHope.org](http://www.FriendshipsForHope.org). Click on “Donate,” and follow the instructions. You might want to consider clicking on the “Auto-Donation” link and setting up a monthly donation to assist our ministry to the refugee community.

Our video has just been updated by the Pacific Union with some new and pertinent information at the end. It is only 11 minutes long and is something you could share on your Facebook page for us.

<https://vimeo.com/churchapplied/pvcares>

I hope you enjoy watching this, but even more, I hope you will share this with all your email and Facebook friends! As I write this letter, I see that 21,944 people have viewed this video in the past week, but we need people to do more than view; we need you to sign in to our web page and donate today! [www.FriendshipsForHope.org](http://www.FriendshipsForHope.org) We need to get the word out about what God has called us to do, and make friends who will financially support us to keep this vital ministry going.



Thank you for your help this Christmas season! We have received \$4,200 on our web page, but we really need to raise more than \$10,000 by the end of the year. Won’t you consider helping keep this ministry going?

Even more important than money, however, are your prayers. They don’t cost you anything, but they do open the resources of heaven. Please pray daily for our ministry to the refugees living in San Diego.

Thank you, and have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely in Christian love,

Will James