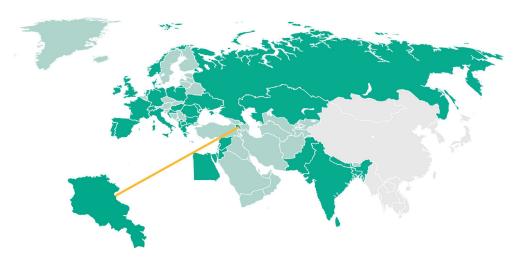
NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

10 January 2024

Eurasia Region



Armenia

Armenia, a country that claims to be the first state to formally adopt Christianity in the early 4th century, lies between Turkey, to the west, and Azerbaijan. It has had a long history of being overcome by various empires including the Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Persian, Ottoman, and Russian. This has meant its borders have often changed and the influences of every empire have had long-lasting impact upon its politics, social norms, economic strengths and weaknesses, and religious beliefs. It has declared its independence multiple times throughout its history, but most recently in 1991 from the former Soviet Union. While largely agricultural in its economy, much of its land has been negatively impacted by soil and air pollution from toxic chemicals and the ravages that often accompany invasion and abuse by foreign powers. This has meant that much of its working-age population has migrated out of Armenia. Because of its history, and as a result of the 1915 Armenian genocide, Armenia's diaspora grew around the world. Some estimates suggest between 5 and 9 million Armenians live outside Armenia, more than double the population living within its borders. The Church of the Nazarene established a presence in Armenia in 2002, introducing ministries of compassion and communitybuilding as foundations for its work here.



342 Members



4 Fully Organized Churches



2 District Licensed and4 Ordained Ministers on1 District

PRAYER



- Pray for Armenia as they have received a rush of refugees.
- Pray that the Lord to help these ladies in the story below will be a source of hope in their communities.

PRAISE



- Praise God for the move of the Holy Spirit in this conflict fatigued country.
- Praise the Lord for the attendance of these ladies, and for the encouragement they received in their first ever women's retreat.



The Armenia District held its first ever women's retreat!

The event center, surrounded by rolling hills and evergreen trees, was the ideal spot for hosting the Armenia districts first ever women's conference. Thirty-five attendees from all over the country joined together, representing five churches including one new start.

The two-day event covered such topics as the woman's role in the Bible and in today's church, managing resources, Christian parenting, and being the salt and light of the church.



A highlight of the event was the baptism of new believers. One of the leaders, began by saying "Baptism does not belong to any church or religion. It was given to us by God." Several ladies were baptized including 82-year-old Mariam.

The event planner shared, "I have a wonderful team who helped me to organize and implement this beautiful event. I dreamed and prayed for three years to have this women's gathering. Praise God for giving us this opportunity to come together! We are filled with the Holy Spirit to go back to our homes and serve better in our church and community."

The finale of the event was a joint communion service with the youth of the Armenia District who held a concurrent retreat.

Story originally featured in Eurasia Region Snapshots

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve in the developing areas of the Eurasia Region? For more information, click *here*.

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