



Justin and Stephanie Meyers - Oman

A glimpse at what your support made possible:

This fall we hosted a group of Imams, Priests, and Pastors from Nigeria. During some of the sessions, one of the Imams was most concerned with correcting errors and debating about religion. As the week went on, we had multiple discussions about dialogue and the need to understand where others were coming from before being able to talk about what he saw as errors in other religions or believers in his own. At the end of our time together, he told the group, "I now understand that dialogue and debate are different and that dialogue is more necessary than debate." He also was amazed that Christians at Al Amana Centre could create a space for Muslims to come to understand this.

Also this year, after 18 years of waiting, we have been given new land near our current Centre to expand our ministry. This was facilitated by the new Minister of Religious Affairs, whom Justin has known for 10 years and has built a relationship of trust and mutual respect. The new Minister of Religious Affairs also wants us to increase our interactions with local Omanis to help them understand the role of Christians in Oman. All this bodes very well for the future of our work in Oman.



Our challenges of 2022

After holding our own during COVID-19, we were finally hit with "COVID lag" as groups, especially from the Western countries, did not come to our Centre as they had in previous years and we had a budget shortfall. However, we are creating new channels both outside Oman and, for the first time, inside Oman, to meet these budgetary challenges. The new Minister of Religious Affairs said to me (Justin) "This can no longer be primarily a USA endeavor in Oman, we must be more fully part of it." We hope to become a leader in the world of Christians, who are in a minority, working well with Muslim hosts for peaceful interactions between people of different faiths.

Please Pray

- For the planning and development of new spaces for Al Amana Centre's work.
- For doors to open for increased staffing by both Christians and Omani Muslims at Al Amana as we engage in new ways in Oman.
- For me (Justin) as I grow into the role of Executive Director and have to learn a new skill set as Al Amana grows into something more visible in Oman than it has been since the hospitals and school closed in the 1980s. Also pray for Stephanie as she takes on an official role at Al Amana Center as Manager of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Data to help us continually improve what we do and how we communicate it.

