

SYRIA: A SURGE OF VIOLENCE AND A DWINDLING CHURCH

Syria has returned to the top 10 of the World Watch List with its highest score ever, jumping from 78 to 90 in a single year. This 12-point surge - one of the largest in history - follows the 2024 fall of the Assad regime and the rise of the jihadist group Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS). For the country's remaining Christians, the situation has shifted from 'drifting downward' to a state of extreme peril.

This year, Syria's violence score skyrocketed. From zero faith-related killings in the previous reporting period, at least 27 Christians were murdered for their faith this reporting period, including 22 killed in a devastating suicide attack at Mar Elias Greek Orthodox Church in Damascus. Across the nation, churches are being desecrated, graves destroyed, and Christian schools forced to close.

- In the aftermath of the fall of the Assad regime, many Christians live with constant uncertainty. Pray that believers would lean on God as their 'Rock eternal' (Isaiah 26:4).
- Pray for converts from Islam to find love and fellowship even when they encounter rejection by family and friends.
- Pray for the victims of the Damascus church attack to feel God's closeness as they live out their faith.

Pastor John is considering offering another **Parenting Course** but insufficient interest has been shown to date. If you are interested in being a part of this important discipleship opportunity, please speak to Pastor John or Marcie.

Committee Leaders – Your **reports** for the Annual Operations Meeting must be submitted to Marcie by January 29.

2026 "The Bible Project" Reading Plan

January 25	Exodus 25-27; Psalm 25; <u>Royal Priests of Eden</u>
January 26	Exodus 28-29; Psalm 26
January 27	Exodus 30-31; Psalm 27
January 28	Exodus 32-34; Psalm 28; <u>Exodus 34:6-7</u>
January 29	Exodus 35-40; Psalm 29; <u>Compassion Video</u>
January 30	Leviticus 1-4; Psalm 30; <u>Grace, Book Guide, Article</u>
January 31	Leviticus 5-7; Psalm 31; <u>Slow to Anger Video</u>

FOLLOWING THE SON



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Springfield Baptist Church exists

- to lift up the Lord by praise and adoration
- to build up the believers in Biblical faith
- to love the lost and lead them to faith in God
- to bind up the broken through social action, so that we can bring glory to God until Jesus Christ returns for His church

WELCOME TO SBC!

January 25, 2026

Pre-Service Prayer	9:15 am
Sunday School	9:45 am
Morning Worship	11:00 am

Nursery available for both services

Dismissal to Junior Church for JK to Grade 4

Intercession & Thanksgiving

Youth of the Week: Jackson Lake

Family of the Week: Neil & Kathy Sawatzky

Missionary of the Week: Open Doors (Syria)

- Praise God that Kevin Gough was able to get a lung transplant this week and was brought safely through the surgery. Please continue to pray for his recovery as it will be a long road ahead.
- Please continue to pray for Lorraine Davis with her continued recovery following her knee surgery. Praise God she is home now.
- Please pray that as the cold weather hits our area over the next week that people would be able to stay warm.
- Please pray for our Sunday School teachers as they manage classrooms and lead students through the Word of God week by week.

Upcoming at SBC

Sunday, January 25th

College Send Off for Jasmine Rozendaal.

Sunday School Teachers Lunch Meeting after the service.

Wednesday, January 28th

Women of the Word Bible Study at 9:30am and 7pm.

Prayer Meeting at the church at 7:30pm with John Burks.

Young Men's Bible Study at the Staats' home at 8pm.

Thursday, January 29th

Kids Club at Springfield Public School at 3:25pm.

Friday, January 30th

SAI Tobogganing at Steen Park in Aylmer at 6:30pm. SAI will be heading to the Staats' home for hot chocolate and teens should be picked up there at 9pm.

Saturday, January 31st

In the Harvest in Aylmer at 1:30pm.

Sunday, February 1st

Warm Up Your Winter begins – join us for a time of fellowship, muffins, and hot drinks beginning at 9:40am instead of Sunday School opening.

Missions Month begins with guest missions speaker from Open Doors and a **potluck** lunch to follow the service.

Discipleship Group at the Staats' home at 6:30pm. This is the first session of a study on Church Membership that will run until the end of April. There are a lot of misunderstandings and misgivings surrounding this topic. Maybe you are interested in being a member of our church and don't really know what it means. Maybe you are already a member of our church and don't really know what you are supposed to do now. Over the course of this study we are going to look at the biblical principles that shape our practice of church membership at SBC. The hope is that this study will help you understand what biblical church membership means for you and how you can function in as member at SBC.

Kids Club needs **25 pint mason jars** with lids for an upcoming craft. If you can provide one or more, please bring them to the church foyer.