

Charisma News – Norway Church Becomes Hot Spot for Spiritually Hungry Muslims

Roughly 500 Muslims have been baptized through the ministry of a 15-member Norway congregation known as The Wellspring Church. Many of the converts to Christianity have sought refuge in Norway from violence in Middle Eastern nations such as Afghanistan. Based in Aal, located about four hours from the capital, Oslo, Wellspring employs full-time Iranian evangelist Daniel Marandis, who said many Muslims are hurting and desire prayer from Christians. "We try to reach the refugees when they first arrive in the capital, before they are scattered all over the country," said Marandis, who is based in Oslo. "We invite them to our Disco Church, [where visitors can experience] cultural events with lots of ethnic foods, dancing to Middle East pop and prayer," he said. Wellspring pastor Helge Svanaasen said it is common for the Muslims who visit his church to encounter the Holy Spirit, a key reason that many of them come to salvation. Marandis added that many Muslims have fallen under the power of the Holy Spirit and received revelation while visiting the church. "They realized that the Holy Spirit does not go together with Islam," he said. "Helge is not baptizing them into his church. People are not interested in changing religions. They are interested in God."