



HAUSA

The Hausa people come from West Africa. They represent one of the largest ethnic groups in West Africa, originating primarily from Nigeria and Niger. The Hausa people have a reputation as a very relational, hospitable and gracious people. There are 38.8 million Hausa people across the globe, with a total of 2,200 living in North Carolina.

Most Hausa people practice a religion that mixes traditional animistic (superstitious) rituals with Islam. Less than 0.01 percent of them are evangelical. One of the largest populations of Hausa people in North America live in the Triad.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptist churches in the Triad will find avenues to meet the Hausa people living in their region.
- *Pray* that new believers will rise up from among this people group.

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January





January

WOLOF/ MANDINKA

The Wolof people come to us from the countries of Senegal, Gambia and Mauritania. There are over 6 million Wolof people worldwide. They practice a unique version of animistic (superstitious) Islam. Their demanding work schedules leave them with little time for inviting others into their community. In North Carolina, they struggle to integrate, even though many have lived here for more than 15 years.

There are 6.7 million Wolof and 1.9 million Mandinka throughout the globe, with 3,780 living in North Carolina. They live in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, the Triad, Greenville and Fayetteville.

- *Pray* that the church will find ways to reach out and serve the Wolof community.
- *Pray* that the Wolof people living in North Carolina will be transformed by the gospel.



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UKRAINIAN

Ukraine's population today is roughly 46 million, while about 355,000 and 5,900 Ukrainians now reside in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. The primary religion practiced by the Ukrainians is Orthodox Christianity.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has prompted nearly 8 million Ukrainians to flee their homes. The majority of these refugees have resettled in neighboring Russia, Poland and Germany, while estimates suggest 150,000 have landed in the United States. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte and Blue Ridge.

- *Pray* that Ukrainians amid fear and uncertainty would find ultimate hope in Christ.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptist churches will have opportunities to love Ukrainian refugees in their community, bringing them the hope of the gospel.



February



NC BAPTISTS

praying for the nations

February



RUSSIAN

Russia's population today is roughly 145 million, while about 852,000 and 5,600 Russians now reside in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. The majority of Russians claim Christian Orthodoxy or Judaism as their religion, although the majority of Orthodox Russians are nominally religious.

The majority of Russian people who immigrated to the United States came from the European region west of the Ural mountain range, specifically from the Russian metro areas of Moscow and St. Petersburg. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, Fayetteville, Blue Ridge and the Triad.

- *Pray* that God would use the Russo-Ukrainian War to draw Russians to himself.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will find ways to partner with evangelical Russian churches to advance the gospel among this people group.

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SOMALI

God brings the Somali people to us from the Horn of Africa, where they practice a form of Sunni Islam. There are 22 million Somali people worldwide, but only 0.01 percent are evangelical. As a people, Somalis have faced drought, famine and war for many years. Many Somalis come to North Carolina seeking asylum.

There are 21 million Somali across the globe, with nearly 200,000 in North America and 1,725 in North Carolina. They live in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte and the Triad.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will be drawn to engage the Somali people.
- *Pray* that the Somali people living in North Carolina would recognize the peace that comes through the gospel.

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March





March

BERBER OF MOROCCO

God brings the Berber people to us from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, North Africa. There are almost 19 million Berber people worldwide, with only 0.02 percent being evangelical believers. They loosely adhere to the Islamic faith and enjoy conversations about God.

In North Carolina, the Berbers love community. The men work as merchants or in the limo/taxi business. They live in Metro Charlotte and the Triangle.

- *Pray* that the light of Christ will shine into the darkness of the Moroccan people's hearts.
- *Pray* that a church will be started among the Berber people.



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ARAB-YEMENI

God brings the Arab-Yemeni people to us from the country of Yemen, from the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula. A hostile geopolitical divide exists between the northern Shiite Muslims and the southern Sunni Muslim peoples of Yemen.

There are over 7 million Arab-Yemeni people worldwide, but only a handful of believers. Many of the Arab-Yemeni men will come first to find a job at local convenience stores in more rural areas of North Carolina. They will work for years until they have enough money to bring the rest of their family to join them in their new lives here. They live in the Greenville and Fayetteville areas.

- *Pray* that Arab-Yemenis will hear the voice of the Lord through the witness of N.C. Baptist churches.
- *Pray* that our churches will use initiatives like ServeNC to bring the gospel to the Arab-Yemeni peoples.



April



NC BAPTISTS

praying for the nations

April



ARAB LEVANT

The Arab-Levant people are from the Fertile Crescent, a northward arc between the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea. The Levant includes parts of Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel and Palestine. There are over 69 million Arab-Levant people, with only 0.28 percent being evangelical believers. They practice Sunni Islam and show genuine hospitality to strangers.

Many of the Arab-Levant people have lived in North Carolina for 20 years or more and have well-established businesses. There are 16,636 Arab-Levant people living in North Carolina. They live in each of the major metro areas.

- *Ask* the Lord to call N.C. Baptists who are willing to reach out and share the love of Christ with the Arab-Levant people.
- *Ask* God to give Arab-Levant believers the opportunity and boldness to share with their family and friends.

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HAN CHINESE

The Han people of China are one of the largest people groups in China, with more than 900 million worldwide. It is estimated that about 6.86 percent of them are evangelical believers. They primarily speak the Mandarin Chinese language. Some practice Buddhism, but most are nonreligious.

In North Carolina, many of them run family-owned restaurants, working many hours a week. They live in all of the metro areas.

- *Ask* for God to bring believers who are willing to share the gospel into the restaurants and lives of the Han Chinese of North Carolina.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will partner with Asian-American churches to transform the Han Chinese community in North Carolina.

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May





May

JAPANESE

Racially, culturally and ethnically, the Japanese people are one of the most homogenous people groups in the world. Shinto is the native religion of Japan. However, Buddhism was introduced to Japan in the sixth century, and today, most Japanese people claim to follow both. There are almost 125 million Japanese people worldwide, with 0.48 percent claiming to be evangelical believers.

They live in Metro Charlotte, the Triangle, the Triad and the Wilmington area.

- *Ask* the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of the Japanese people toward Christians, that they will be receptive to the gospel.
- *Pray* that God will raise up teams of intercessors from N.C. Baptist churches to stand in the gap for these precious people.



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THAI

Thailand is a majority Buddhist country, and Thai people are considered to be some of the strongest adherents to Buddhism. There are over 68 million Thai people worldwide. Only 0.18 percent claim to be evangelical believers. They greatly value relationships, and they love to get together with others from the Thai community.

The Thai people in North Carolina live in many locations around cities; however, they typically build their relationships in the Triangle, Charlotte and Fayetteville, around Buddhist temples in the area. They live in all the metro areas.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will use projects like ServeNC to seek out Thai people, build true relationships with them and share the gospel with them.
 - *Pray* for visions and dreams of the one, true, high God.



June



 NC BAPTISTS

praying for the nations

June



HMONG

God brings the Hmong people to us from the country of Laos. The Hmong people first came to the United States following the rise of communism in China, Laos and Vietnam. When arriving in the United States, the Hmong people settled in established communities on both coasts, settling mainly in Los Angeles in the west and Hickory, N.C. in the east.

Worldwide, there are nearly 11.7 million Hmong people with 5.3 percent being evangelical believers. Some practice Buddhism, while others tend to be more nonreligious. The Hmong people live mainly in Unifour and Metro Charlotte.

- *Ask* for a church-planting movement among the Hmong people to begin here in North Carolina and spread to wherever Hmong people live.
- *Ask* for spiritual eyes to be opened to truth and for hearts to seek Him.

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KHMER

The Khmer people come to us mainly from Cambodia. Worldwide, there are nearly 16 million Khmer people, with 1.68 percent being evangelical believers. The Khmer Rouge ruled the country from 1975-1979, nearly destroying the country and killing 3 million of their own people. Many Khmer people fled their country. The majority are Buddhist, although relics of ethnic religions, such as ancestor worship (praying to deceased ancestors) and spirit worship are very important to them. They are in need of true inner peace.

They live in Blue Ridge, the Triangle and Fayetteville, with the largest groups in Metro Charlotte and the Triad.

- *Ask* that N.C. Baptist churches will adopt the Khmer people, develop strategic plans for engaging them with the gospel and plant reproducing churches.
- *Ask* God to call forth N.C. Baptist prayer teams who will begin breaking up the soil through intercession.

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July





July

TURKISH

Turkish is a language spoken by more than 75 million people worldwide. Turkish speakers are predominantly found in Turkey and Northern Cyprus, with smaller groups in Iraq, Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania. There are an estimated 55 million Turkish speakers worldwide, with about 130,000 and 1,500 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

Turkey is the only secular republic that has a majority Muslim population. Turkey is considered to be a “link” between the Middle East and the West, having a knowledge and mixture of both Eastern and Western cultures. Turkish speakers live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte and the Triad.

- *Pray* that God will give N.C. Baptists boldness to reach out to the Turkish community.
- *Pray* that God will use initiatives like ServeNC to bring the gospel to Turkish speakers in North Carolina.



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PERSIAN FARSI

Today, ethnic Persians are scattered across Central Asia, but most remain in Iran. Thousands of Persians fled their homeland of Iran after the revolution and the fall of the Shah in the late 1970s. Many fled to Europe and Canada, while others settled in the United States. There are an estimated 61 million Persian speakers worldwide, with about 355,000 and 5,500 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

Most Farsi speakers consider themselves Shiite Muslims, while some adhere to the Baha'i faith, Sufism and the pre-Islamic religion of Zoroastrianism. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte and the Triad.

- *Pray* that God would give N.C. Baptists an opportunity to interact with the Persian community through ServeNC.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists would be catalysts of a church planting movement among Persian peoples.



August



August



AFGHAN DARI

Dari or Dari Persian is the variety of the Persian language spoken in Afghanistan. Large numbers of Afghan refugees began arriving in the United States in 1980, in the wake of the Soviet invasion. Since Afghanistan fell to the Taliban in August 2021, the United States has continued to see a mass influx of Afghan refugees.

There are an estimated 12.5 million Dari Persian speakers worldwide, with about 155,000 and 2,000 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. The vast majority of Afghans in the United States adhere to Islam. They live primarily in the Triangle.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptist churches will catch a vision to embrace the Afghan people now in the United States.
- *Pray* for Christians to encounter Afghan people of peace, who will then become followers of Jesus Christ and in turn begin making disciples among their own people.

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MEXICAN

Mexico's population today is roughly 125 million, while about 11.7 million and 58,000 Mexicans now reside in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. Mexicans traditionally practice Roman Catholicism, while only about 6 percent of Mexico is considered to be evangelical Christian.

The United States is home to the second largest Mexican community in the world, second only to Mexico itself, and it makes up over 24 percent of the entire Mexican origin population of the world. Mexican people live in every North Carolina metro area.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists would partner with Hispanic churches to reach the Mexican community in North Carolina.
- *Pray* for workers to be raised up to reap the harvest among Mexican immigrants, who are more open to Christianity due to the changes in their lives.

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September





September

SALVADORAN

Salvadorans are a people of Hispanic origin. Some of the first Salvadorans to come to the United States in large numbers moved during the midst of the country's civil war, when 20-30 percent of the population fled.

El Salvador's population today is roughly 6.5 million, while about 942,000 and 15,000 Salvadorans now reside in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. Many have limited proficiency in English and have little formal education. They need help with English as a second language, as well as legal and medical services. They live in every North Carolina metro area.

- *Pray* for God to raise up believers from within the Salvadoran community who can be mobilized and trained to take the gospel to the unreached, unengaged peoples living all around them.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will be bold to take the gospel to their Salvadoran neighbors.



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HONDURAN

Hondurans who have immigrated from their Central American country are an integral part of many Hispanic communities in the United States. The majority of Hondurans who have entered the United States in the past 40 years seek better economic opportunities and to escape political turmoil or oppression in Honduras.

Honduras' population today is roughly 8 million, while about 258,000 and 12,000 Hondurans now reside in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. A majority of Hondurans are Catholic, although many immigrants in the United States are converting to Protestant Christianity.

They live in every North Carolina metro area.

- *Pray* for a strong partnership between N.C. Baptist and other Hispanic churches to reach this population with the gospel.
- *Pray* for more workers for the harvest, both for the Honduran people in the United States as well as for those in Central America.



October



 NC BAPTISTS

praying for the nations

October



HINDI

The Hindi people are a South Asian people from India who speak Hindi. Hindi is the most widely spoken official language of India. There are an estimated 180 million Hindi speakers worldwide, with 607,000 and 25,000 living in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

The majority of Hindi speakers profess Hinduism. Their Hinduism is as much a lifestyle as a religion. Hindu temples serve as a center of their social interaction with one another, reinforcing their people group identity. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, the Triad, Greenville and Fayetteville.

- *Pray* that Christians will answer God's call to live near the Hindi speakers and share Christ's love with them.
- *Pray* that evangelical churches will form prayer teams to intercede for the Hindi people, asking that their hearts and minds be receptive to a gospel witness.

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PUNJABI

The Punjab is a geographical region straddling the border between Pakistan and India. The Punjabi people are an Indo-Aryan ethnic group originating from the Punjab region. There are an estimated 141 million Punjabi speakers worldwide, with about 228,000 and 12,000 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

Traditional Punjab identity was primarily linguistic over religious affiliation or ethnic background. The Punjabi people cluster encompasses a wide range of ethnic and religious groups. Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism are all practiced by Punjabi people groups. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, Blue Ridge and the Triad.

- *Ask* God to encourage the small number of Punjabi Christians.
- *Ask* the Lord to raise up strong local churches among the Punjabi.

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November





November

GUJARATI

Gujarat is a state in western India, and Gujarati is a generic term for the migrants from Gujarat who went to different parts of the country for employment, business and trade. It is also the name of the Indo-Aryan language they speak. There are an estimated 47 million Gujaratis worldwide, with 355,000 and 14,000 living in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

Most of the Gujarati people (88 percent) are Hindus. The Muslim Gujarati make up 6.6 percent of the population. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, Blue Ridge, Greenville and Fayetteville.

- *Pray* that N.C. Baptist churches would develop intentional church-planting strategies specifically focusing on the Gujarati speakers.
- *Pray* for Christians who live and work among Gujarati people to begin loving friendships with them.



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TELUGU

The Telugu are a Dravidian ethnic group of India, native to the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, but with a significant presence in other neighboring states. They speak the Telugu language, the third most commonly spoken language in India after Hindi and Bengali.

There are an estimated 97 million Telugu speakers worldwide, with about 200,000 and 7,200 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively. Most Telugu people are Hindus, but a few Telugu subgroups follow either Christianity or Islam. They live primarily in the Triangle and Metro Charlotte.

- *Ask* God to work in the lives and hearts of Telugu people to bring them to Christ.
- *Pray* that N.C. Baptists will be able to find access points into the Telugu community.



December



December



URDU

Urdu speakers are historically associated with the Muslims of South Asia. Urdu is the national language of Pakistan and an official language of six Indian states. There are an estimated 137 million Urdu speakers worldwide, with about 263,000 and 6,300 in the United States and North Carolina, respectively.

The majority of Urdu speakers adhere to Islam. The number of Islamic mosques being built by Urdu speakers will attest to the growing population of Urdu people in the metro areas. They live primarily in the Triangle, Metro Charlotte, the Triad, Fayetteville and Unifour.

- *Pray* for churches to develop intentional strategies specifically focusing on the Urdu speakers.
- *Pray* for Christians who live and serve among Urdu people in North Carolina to begin loving friendships with them.

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