

Dear Friends,

It has been nearly fourteen years since I last visited Tajikistan. After that last trip, I was unable to travel there due to a couple of job changes followed by the Tajik government getting more restrictive on our visits; I thought it likely I would never return. However, a door has opened, and I have been asked to return to Tajikistan for an eighth visit. I have been invited to be there from September 29<sup>th</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup>.

During this trip, I will be visiting with several friends from my previous trips, and I hope to see firsthand some of the work that has been taking place with food distribution to Afghan refugees. Since the U.S. pulled out of Afghanistan two years ago, countless Afghans have fled their country, with many making their way to Tajikistan. Those who found their way to Tajikistan were often told to contact Ruslan to help them upon their arrival. Ruslan has served as our translator in the past and is central to coordinating food distribution to Afghan refugees through local churches. God has been moving among these refugees, with over 75 baptisms since this time last year. I hope to spend some time with these new Afghan disciples to encourage them in the faith.

I am writing to ask your support in prayer as I complete my preparations for this trip, and for my time there when I hope to come alongside some of these young Afghan believers. Ruslan is arranging times with those who would like to meet with me.

Prayer requests:

- Quick adjustment to the 10-hour time difference;
- God would quickly reveal where it is most important to invest my time;
- I would not get in the way of anything that God wants to accomplish through me on this trip;
- Things would be quiet at home while I am away.

Donations will be used to help cover airfare, lodging, and “second-suitcase” supplies that I will be taking along. Any excess funds received will be passed on to Feed the Hungry, who has provided the food distributed to the refugees.

To read some recent stories of the work with Afghans in Tajikistan, and to read Paul’s journals from his earlier trips, please visit <https://hypkisgoodquotes.wordpress.com/tajikistan/> or scan this QR code.



If you would like to be involved in this trip financially, you can send a check to me at 1534 Butternut Ridge, Oconomowoc, WI 53066. If you would like your gift to be tax deductible, you can give online at [MercyHill.org](https://www.mercyhill.org) (choose Missions Support: Tajikistan) or send a check with Tajikistan in the note area to: Mercy Hill Church | 2842 S. 5th Ct. | Milwaukee, WI 53207