

Dear Friends,

Although challenging in many ways, 2021 showcased the resilience of Christian communities to adapt and to bear faithful witness to the transformational gospel of Jesus Christ. At the National Association of Evangelicals, it is our utmost privilege to partner with you to provide resources, connections and influence that help evangelicals foster thriving communities and navigate complexity with biblical clarity and gospel charity. Your generous support makes it possible for the NAE to serve the evangelical movement in the United States as:

## CONVENER

We bring together denominations and organizations from across the evangelical spectrum to promote unity and foster relationships.

## COLLABORATOR

We participate in coalitions and other partnerships with faith-based and secular groups to pursue the common good.

## CURATOR

We curate strategic resources that feature a range of perspectives, all of which contribute to a thoughtful, winsome gospel witness.

## CHAMPION

We represent evangelicals by advocating for a balanced, nonpartisan and comprehensive platform of biblical values and policy convictions.

***Every gift matters. Your support makes special things happen.  
Keep reading to learn how.***

## Equipping Leaders

The NAE equips leaders representing a wide range of evangelical denominations, colleges/universities and nonprofit organizations. One example is our work with a particular group of 100 leaders and influencers. We bring these women and men together twice annually to be encouraged, equipped and inspired to strengthen ties within the evangelical movement and to empower our collective witness. The NAE facilitates cutting-edge research and cultural analysis for these leaders that is uniquely curated for the evangelical community. Themes in 2021 included power and abuse in Christian communities and the promise and peril of American evangelicalism.

With your help, the **Evangelical Chaplains Commission (ECC)** continues to flourish in its mission to connect and convene the chaplain ministries of 37 denominations and networks, representing over 3,000 chaplains — making it the largest representative body of chaplains in the United States. In 2021, the ECC launched a new internship program for seminary students. The internship serves as an initial introduction to chaplaincy in areas such as health care, law enforcement, fire departments, disaster relief and corporations.

Because of you, the NAE is able to empower the next generation of Christian leaders through the annual **Christian**

**Student Leadership Conference.** For the first time in its 67-year history, this event was offered in a virtual format, due to COVID restrictions. The theme of the 2021 conference was “Healing a Divided America,” and the event featured 22 speakers and was attended by **250 college students** and faculty from 65 colleges and universities.

**“I remember thinking to myself that this was the arena where big change can happen. [At CSLC], we talked about how we can better advocate for issues we are passionate about and not being afraid to challenge the system, in the pursuit of a more fair society.”**

**Diba Dominguez** (*pictured right*)  
past CSLC participant and graduate of Bethel University



## ***Strengthening Churches and Denominations***

In 2020, the NAE launched Bless Your Pastor, an initiative to mobilize churches throughout the country with creative ideas and financial resources to appreciate, encourage and bless their pastors. This is a “hands on” program that facilitates active involvement from congregations. Because of you, we were able to build on the success of 2020 with another tremendous year of impact. In 2021, Bless Your Pastor hit the road with a nationwide tour that included:

- 17,000 miles in 120 days
- 80 cities in 30 states
- 44 radio/TV interviews
- 20 events

Over the past two years the impact of your support has been transformational, in which:

- 3,000+ pastors received grants, gift cards and offerings as part of this initiative;
- 1,500+ pastors/spouses and leaders completed a financial health online training course;
- 200,000+ people received the 50 Ways to Bless Your Pastor list.



## Resourcing and Educating Evangelicals for Thoughtful Action

**Podcasts** — James Choung, Vice President of Strategy and Innovation for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, joined the NAE podcast to share critical insights about what different generations value and the implications for how we engage in gospel outreach to people of different generations based on those distinct values. To listen, go to [NAE.org/choungpodcast](https://nae.org/choungpodcast).

**Website** — We launched a new website in October 2021! It features a robust resource hub that includes thousands of articles, podcasts, videos, statements and more to help leaders navigate complex issues with biblical clarity. We have also added specific opportunities for individuals to get involved with the NAE, including a new advocacy center in which evangelicals can take action on issues of importance to them.

“I received our quantity of the [Evangelicals] magazine today and did my usual quick skimming of a copy, making note of articles I would return to read later. However, once I began inspecting, I could not stop until I finished every article and news piece. There was something of particularly distinctive impact with this issue. Not only was it filled with valuable news and information. Not only did it include pieces to stimulate thought. This issue has such a continuity of encouragement and resource throughout it! Beyond cerebral value, it connects with the heart. Each article invites the reader to continue on with the next one.”

Denominational Executive

## Transforming Social and Political Engagement

Because of you, the NAE was able to make significant advances in our advocacy work last year. One example of the impact of your support was in the area of **religious freedom** on death row. John Henry Ramirez, a prisoner who has been sentenced to death in Texas, requested that his pastor be present with him in the death chamber to pray with him and lay hands on him before his execution. Texas refused his request. The NAE joined an amicus brief in *Ramirez v. Collier*, urging the Supreme Court to overturn the Texas rulings, and in March 2022, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Ramirez. Religious freedom is a right that God has extended to all people, including death row prisoners. Audible prayer and laying on of hands are well established religious practices that must be respected by the state.

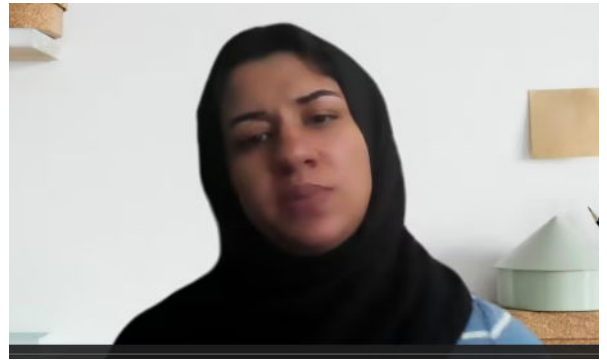
A significant portion of our work in 2021 centered on two critical issues: **empowering vulnerable families** and **immigration reform**. This work included conversations with more than 800 national and regional denominational leaders, Christian college administrators and nonprofit leaders around the country. In addition, the NAE hosted 23 events with more than 900 participants, and held more than 60 meetings with lawmakers on the Hill and in the administration. Finally, the NAE recruited volunteer advocates in 10 states to help grow the NAE’s network of advocates and to mobilize evangelical leaders to communicate with their members of Congress, write op-eds, and equip congregations and organizations to tackle complex issues with biblical clarity.



One of the key outcomes of our work on these issues is the creation of a video series called “I Am Your Immigrant Neighbor.” This NAE video series draws evangelicals toward the biblical call to aid immigrants and refugees. The short vignettes reframe the immigration conversation with empathy and compassion. Individuals share their unique stories of how they came to the United States and the importance of showing God’s love to every neighbor. Be sure to check them out at [NAE.org/immigrantneighbor](https://nae.org/immigrantneighbor). Finally, we are excited to share our new advocacy center, which your support has made possible! Check it out at [NAE.org/take-action](https://nae.org/take-action).

## Uniting for Global Impact

Your support enabled us to host a webinar in September 2021 to provide a well-rounded understanding of the crisis in Afghanistan and how the church can play a meaningful role by responding in the name of Jesus with hospitality and compassion toward Afghan refugees fleeing their country. Over 200 people attended the webinar. You can find the full recording at [NAE.org/afghanrefugeewebinar](https://nae.org/afghanrefugeewebinar).



## Spiritual Care

At the NAE, we are always cognizant that apart from Christ, we can do nothing that has lasting, eternal value. To further solidify that conviction, and with the generous help of several NAE supporters, the NAE created a new position — the Director of Spiritual Care — whose function is to nurture the spiritual health of NAE staff, board and other constituents. We want to prioritize dependence on the Holy Spirit for all that we do at the NAE, and we are grateful to God for providing Toni Kim to serve in this capacity.

***Because of you, we are seeing the Body of Christ unite in faithful witness to the transformational gospel. Thank you! Your investment makes all the difference. We truly could not do this work without your loving support.***

Together in Christ,



*Walter Kim*

Walter Kim

John K. Jenkins, Sr.

Jo Anne Lyon

President



*John K. Jenkins Sr.*

Board Chair



*Jo Anne Lyon*

Board Vice Chair

**P.S. We hope you'll join us on October 4–5, 2022 in Nashville, TN, for Flourish, a new conference of the NAE. Learn more at [NAE.org/flourish](https://nae.org/flourish).**

***Our mission:*** To honor God by connecting and representing evangelical Christians.

***Our vision:*** A thriving evangelical community that is equipped to navigate complexity with biblical clarity.