

# The ACC Bulletin

Monthly Publication of the Armenian Congregational Church



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*“Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives, and from your father’s house to the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; ...”*  
(Genesis 12:1-3 NASB)

The verses quoted above are God’s call to Abram (Abram is the original name of Abraham). This call comes in the form of a command with a promise attached to it. God commands Abram to live his homeland and head towards a new place that God will show Him. The promise attached to the command is that God was going to bless Abram and make him into a great nation, and He was going to use him to bless all the other people of the earth. Abram had to trust and obey God in order to receive the promise, which he did (v.4 ff).

2007 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian Congregational Church of greater Detroit. This church was started and continued its ministry over the years through Armenians who had left their countries of origin, their homes, their families and relatives and came to settle in this land. They came here for different reasons: some because of the Armenian massacres, others looking for a better place to live and raise a family, and still others because of better employment opportunities.

They did not come here because God clearly and specifically asked them to do that, like He did with Abram, (even though some might have said that God led them here). Yet I believe that just like Abram, God had a plan for each one’s life. As they settled here, God led them to start the Armenian Congregational Church. He blessed them, and over the years, made them a blessing to others through the ministry of the church.

Today, as we celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church, we remember the past but our eyes are set on the future. What does God have for this church in His future plans? I believe that God wants us to go forth, not to a new land but to new horizons of ministry that He will open before us. He will provide us with new opportunities to serve Him, to be used by Him for His causes in the world, and most importantly to be witnesses of His risen Son, Jesus Christ. As a church we are God’s representative body and ambassadors on earth. As we obey Him, He will bless us and make us into a blessing to others.

Friends, let us continue to serve the Lord of the church with obedience and faithfulness until He comes back. And let us continue making this church a bright light and a source of blessing to all people.

Have a great year serving the Lord,

Pastor Makarios Darawi

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## A Brief History Of A.C.C

The Armenian Congregational Church of Detroit was started in 1913, when Armenian survivors of the Turkish persecution first began to settle in the Detroit area. The Armenian Congregational Church was born, thanks, in large part to the pioneering efforts of several clergymen. These volunteers, mainly pastors and teachers, conducted Armenian Evangelical services in Detroit, and it was in 1917 that regular Sunday Worship services started.

In 1922, the Armenian Congregational Church was formed and incorporated in the city of Detroit with 42 Charter members.

In 1925 the church building on the corner of Hamilton and Collingwood Avenue was purchased with the adjacent lot and parish house.

In 1931 the Sunday school was organized both with a children's department and an adult class. The "Church Bulletin" (in Armenian) was also started at this time. In 1945 the Christian Endeavor was re-organized, and the Young Adults group was formed.

As the church grew, its Hamilton building became inadequate for the needs of the congregation. This led to the purchase of the church edifice at Twelfth and Davison in 1951. The parking lot adjacent to the church was acquired in 1953, and in 1959 the Sunday School Extension was completed.

Soon times changed again, as did the needs of the congregation with the great movement of Armenians to the suburbs. It became evident that the church needed to move again, and in 1967 the groundbreaking ceremonies of the present church building at Twelve Mile Road, in Southfield, were held and the building of the church was started.

In the early 1970s the Christian Education needs of the congregation led to the conversion of one third of the fellowship hall into Sunday school classrooms, and the remaining hall was later expanded with stage and new kitchen facilities.

Early in 1997, the Armenian Christian Education Center was completed and dedicated, and the "Marderus Kadian Educational Fund" was established.

In the many years of this church's existence, many changes have taken place but one thing has never changed, and that is the Lord and Savior of this church, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever.

## 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events & Projects

### Revival Meetings

To start our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the A.C.C Board of Deacons has invited Rev. Daniel Albarian, pastor of Christian Outreach for Armenians Church of Burbank, California for two nights of preaching. Friday March 23, (Armenian); Saturday March 24, (English), starting at 7:00 p.m.

### Daniel Decker Concert

The second major event of the year will be a concert by singer Daniel Decker. The A.C.C Women's Fellowship would like to invite you all for a night of spiritual music and testimony on Saturday June 2, at 7:30 p.m.

### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet

The final celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church will be a special banquet at end of the 2007 year. Details to follow.

### ACC Website

For some time, the church has been considering creating a website that will help us post all the necessary information about our church on the Internet. Well, the work has already started and we do have a Website that is under construction, [www.accgd.org](http://www.accgd.org) Check it out.

### Capital Improvement Fund

The Board of Trustees has established a church Capital Improvement Fund and is starting a fundraising campaign. Some of the projects being considered are: the church roof, replacing old windows, renovating the rest rooms, adding a handicap ramp, etc. This is going to be an ongoing campaign until all projects are completed. You can contribute to this fund by writing checks to ACC, earmarked "Capital Improvement Fund."

We ask that you pray, and consider how you can participate and contribute to these events and projects, and may everything that we do be done for God's glory and honor, and for the spiritual growth of our community.

# CHURCH CALENDAR

# Family Night

## Weekly

**Choir Practice**, Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
**Worship Service**, Sunday 11:00 a.m.  
**Sunday School**, Sunday 11:00 a.m.  
**Adult Bible Study**, Every other Wednesday  
7:00 p.m.  
**Youth Bible Study**, Every other Friday 6:00  
p.m.  
**Children's Library**, Every Sunday 12:15 to  
1:00 p.m.

## Monthly

**Children's Message**, (First Sunday of the  
month. Parents bring your children into the  
worship service).  
**ACC Women's Fellowship**, (Second Sunday  
of the month, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.).  
**ACC Men's Ministries**, (Second Sunday of  
the month, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.).  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**, (Third  
Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.).  
**Prayer Meeting**, (Third Sunday of the  
month following the worship service).  
**Board of Deacons Meeting**, (Last Sunday  
of the month, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Dedication/Baptism**

**James Allan Darawi**, son of pastor  
Makarios and Jennifer Darawi, grandson of  
Allan and Norine Duck, and Josephine  
Darawi, was dedicated on Sunday, December  
24, 2006.

**Taleen Judith Avakian**, daughter of Sima  
Avakian, and granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs.  
Moses and Maggie Avakian, was baptized on  
Sunday, December 24, 2006.

Congratulations to all the parents and  
grandparents.

Mark your calendar for the next family  
night, February 9, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. All ages  
are welcome. Donations are \$10.00 for adults;  
\$5.00 for children 6-12 years old; no charge for  
children under 6 years. Come enjoy a delicious  
Armenian menu, fun and games. Please write  
your names on the sign-up sheet on the church  
bulletin board, or call the church office for  
reservations.

## **Membership and Confirmation Class**

A membership and confirmation class will be  
offered on Sunday, March 11, 2006. From 1:30  
p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Christian Education  
room. The class will cover the doctrine of  
salvation, the doctrine of the church, the  
history of the Armenian Evangelical Church,  
and the history of ACC.

This class is recommended for all youth age 16  
and over, and adults who are either interested  
in becoming communicant members or  
transferring their membership from another  
church to A.C.C.

Communicant members are born-again  
believers who have full voting privileges. The  
process of membership includes: (1) complete  
an application, (2) attend the class, (3)  
complete an Intention to Become a Member  
Form, (4) be approved by the Board of  
Deacons, and (5) confirmed by the  
congregation.

Anyone else who would like to come for the  
purpose of learning, refreshing his or her  
memory or simply for general knowledge are  
welcome to attend. Please speak to Pastor  
Mak if you are interested in attending the  
class.

## **Church Directory 2007-2008**

The new ACC Directory is ready to be printed.  
If anyone would like to add their mobile  
number or their e-mail address to the  
directory please call the church office before  
February 28.

## Christmas Donations

The Pastor and the A.C.C. Missions committee would like to thank all those who donated to our Christmas Fund. Your donations make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate in our community and in our homeland of Armenia. We thank God for your generosity and kindness.

## 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church

This is the latest book by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian. This book is composed of three parts, (1) 26 English and Armenian articles and lectures by the author. (2) 14 lectures written by Armenian Evangelical ministers and lay leaders. (3) A brief report on the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations held in Armenia in September 2006.

This book can be obtained by writing to:  
Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian  
3922 Yorba Linda Blvd.  
Royal Oak, MI 48073-6455

## SIMON JAVIZIAN

FUNERAL DIRECTORS



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## CHALDEAN

Food & Bakery

Owner: Steve Kas Mikha

26313 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48034  
(Between Northwestern & Telegraph)

Armenian Congregational Church  
90th Anniversary Celebration

## REVIVAL MEETINGS

Bring family and friends to hear the good news of hope  
and salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Friday, March 23, 2007 (Armenian)

Saturday, March 24, 2007 (English)

7:00 p.m.

Guest speaker

**Rev. Daniel Albarian**

Pastor of Christian Outreach for Armenians Church in

Burbank, California

26210 W. Twelve Mile Road

Southfield, MI 48037

## Scholarship Application

A.C.C. provides scholarship through its Marderus Kadian Educational Fund for full-time college and university students of the church community. For application please call the church office.

## Edward Korkoian Funeral Home

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