

# The ACC Bulletin

Monthly Publication of the Armenian Congregational Church



Vol. 37, No 7

April 2012

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time...”*

*(see 1 Peter 1:3-9)*

We are close to 2000 years since Jesus died and resurrected. 2000 years and Jesus has yet to come again. For some, this long wait would cause discouragement, doubt, or loss of interest, resulting in indifference. But what should we do? And how should we as Christians handle these things as we approach yet another Easter celebration? Peter, writing to the Christians in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) who were under heavy persecution, has a word of encouragement, he tells them not to give up hope, but to keep hope alive.

In verse 3, Peter states the **Origin and Foundation of Hope**. All real hope is derived from God and his promises. It is a gift of his mercy. This hope is a result of our salvation. We were born again into a living hope. “God is the source of this salvation. His great mercy is its cause. The new birth is the nature of it” (BBC). The foundation is the work and ministry of Jesus Christ. The truth of the resurrection of Jesus is particularly crucial in the formation of genuine hope. It makes all the difference. In verse 4 he states the **Durability of Hope**. It is incorruptible. It can never crack or decay. It can be defiled. It is in perfect condition. It is unfading. It can never change in value, glory, or beauty. In verses 6-7 he states the **Power of Hope**. Genuine hope helps us to face our trials with courage and even joy. In the famous words of William Saroyan, “...Send them into the desert without bread and water. Burn their homes and churches. Then see if they will not laugh, sing, and pray again. And when two of them meet anywhere in the world, see if they will not create a new Armenia.” The Christians joy is not dependent on earthly circumstances, but on the risen, exalted Christ at God’s right hand. In verses 8-9 he states the **Wonder of Hope**. Genuine hope concerns our greatest need – salvation. Jesus in John 20:29 said to Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” So, we need to keep hope alive.

Friends, hope is a powerful concept. Without hope in the future, we have no power in the present, without hope there is no reason to live. It has been said, “Life without Christ is a hopeless end, but life with Christ is an endless hope.” May God grant us the strength to persevere and the faith to remain faithful under all circumstances to the resurrected Jesus, who is our hope and salvation until He comes again in glory.

Have a blessed Easter! Come worship with us on Easter Sunday, April 8 and every Sunday.

Pastor Makarios Darawi

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## Holy Week

The week that begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter Sunday is called Holy Week. We are planning to have the following worship services.

**Palm Sunday, April 1,** the Sunday School students will participate in the morning worship service.

**Maundy Thursday Service, April 5,** Choir Concert, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m.

**Resurrection Sunday, April 8,** The Easter morning worship service is a family service. The Sunday school students will begin worship with the parents in the Sanctuary, and be dismissed for a special Easter lesson.

**Easter Breakfast, Sunday April 8,** The annual Easter Breakfast sponsored by the ACC youth group (ACYF), will be held on Easter morning, April 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. tickets may be purchased at the door: \$6.00 for young and old alike.

## Scholarship Application

- *A.C.C.* Provides scholarship through its Educational Fund for fulltime college and university students of the church community. For an application please call the church office.
- *Detroit Armenian Women's Club* is offering \$1,500 scholarship in memory of Hranoush Dabanian, to college students for the fall 2012. For more information and to request an application form please contact Carole Basmadjian at [DAWC07@AOL.COM](mailto:DAWC07@AOL.COM).
- *Dr. George And Isabelle Elanjian Scholarship* is open to students who are Armenian descent and enrolled full-time at UM-Dearborn or who wish to transfer from another accredited two-year or four-year college or university. For more information or to request a scholarship application, contact: Cecile Aitchison at 313-593-5409, Email [cecilea@umd.umich.edu](mailto:cecilea@umd.umich.edu).

## Easter Flowers



Those wishing to arrange for an Easter flower to place in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please call the church office. The deadline for placing an order is Wednesday, April 4th. The lilies are \$16.00 each, and the tulips are \$13.00 each.

## E.A.C.H (2012)

- **April 1<sup>st</sup>** Prayer Rally- Multi-site at Woodside Bible Church in Troy, Evangel Ministries in Detroit, New Hope Assembly in Taylor at 6 p.m.
- **April 9<sup>th</sup> – May 18<sup>th</sup>** – 40 Days of Good Deeds/Good News.
- **April 28<sup>th</sup>** (Saturday) – Prayer Walk – Starting at Comerica Park, Detroit @ 9 a.m.
- **May 19<sup>th</sup>** – 2 Word Story Resource Fair and Festival at Wayne State University Athletic Center-All Day.
- **June 7<sup>th</sup>** – EACH Pastors Encouragement Conference with Jim Cymbala and Tony Evans at the Fillmore Theater in Detroit. For more info go to: [www.eachtoday.com](http://www.eachtoday.com)

Important  
DATE!

## Important Dates

<b>April 1</b>	Palm Sunday
<b>April 5</b>	Maundy Thursday
<b>April 6</b>	Good Friday
<b>April 8</b>	Easter Sunday
<b>April 8</b>	ACYF Easter Breakfast
<b>April 24</b>	Armenian Genocide
<b>April 28</b>	EACH Prayer Walk
<b>May 13</b>	Mother's Day Banquet
<b>June 17</b>	Father's Day Luncheon

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Weekly

**Choir Practice**, Sunday 10:00 a.m.

**Worship Service**, Sunday 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday School**, Sunday 11:00 a.m.

**Children's Library**, Every Sunday

**Youth Group**, Friday, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### Monthly

**Children's Message**, (First Sunday of the month. Parents bring your children into the worship service.)

**Community Groups**, (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m.)

**Adult Bible Study**, (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.)

**ACC Women's Fellowship**, (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.)

**Board of Deacons Meeting**, (Last Sunday of the month, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.)

**Prayer Meeting**, (Third Sunday of the month following the worship service).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Community Groups & Mid-Week Bible Studies**

The next Community Groups Bible study will be held on Wednesday, March 28 at the Darawi home and Friday, March 30 at the Arslanian home at 7:30 pm.

The Darawi home group will be holding its final gathering for this year. We will end it with our 8<sup>th</sup> and final study of Dr. Tim Keller's Gospel in Life series. For the rest of the year we will meet at church on Wednesdays @ 7:00.

The next Mid-Week Bible study at church will be on Wednesday, April 18. This will be a special presentation of a movie called, "The Secrets of Jonathan Sperry." Thereafter, starting on Wednesday, May 2, we will meet for six sessions to study and have discussions around Max Lucado's DVD-based series "Fearless."

## **A Special Movie Event**

Come join the Mid-Week Bible group on Wednesday, April 18, for a special presentation of "The Secrets of Jonathan Sperry." This is a wonderful and inspiring movie that the whole family will enjoy. We will even provide the Popcorn and Pepsi. Hope to see many of you there!!!

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

On Thursday, April 5th, at 7:00 p.m. we will remember our Lord's last hours on earth through a special worship service that will include special music by the ACC Choir, and celebration of the Lord's Table. The evening will start with a special reflective supper in the Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian Fellowship Hall.

### **ACC Youth Group News**

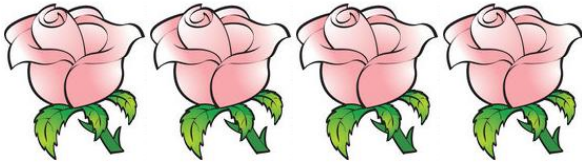
The annual Easter Breakfast sponsored by the ACC youth group (ACYF), will be held on Easter morning, April 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. tickets may be purchased at the door: \$6.00 for young and old alike.

### **97th Anniversary Of The Armenian Genocide**

This year, as every year, a special church service will be held on Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church in Dearborn to commemorate the 97<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The church service will be followed with a special program. All are invited.

### **Reminders!**

Is your anniversary, birthday or graduation approaching? Why not share your celebration with the church family by sponsoring the Fellowship Hour. Please sign-up on the bulletin board or call the church office.



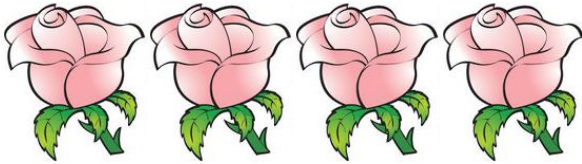
## Annual Mother's Day Banquet

Sunday May 13, 2012  
5:00 p.m.

at

The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian  
Fellowship Hall  
26210 W. Twelve Mile Road  
Southfield, MI 48034  
248-352-0680

Tickets: Adults \$25  
Children ages 6-15 \$10  
Under 6 Free



## A.E.U.N.A

### 21<sup>st</sup> AEUNA Biennial Conference 18<sup>th</sup> AEYF Biennial Conference

which will take place in the Sheraton Airport hotel in Montreal, from Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 1 July 2012. This year, the theme of the conference is:

### “The Power of the Cross, Our Passion for Christ”

To require additional information please call 514-832-0220 or send an email to [biennial2012@hotmail.com](mailto:biennial2012@hotmail.com). Those who would like to register online please go to [www.hayavedmontreal.com/biennial](http://www.hayavedmontreal.com/biennial).

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