

The Armenian Congregational Church
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The month of June brings us the official start of Summer, swimming pools and Bar-B-Qs and Seniors everywhere begin their countdown to Graduation and a few months of freedom away from school. Nestled in all these summer happenings, somewhere in the month of June, we find Father's Day. Sales of ties and bath robes go through the roof. When asked what the definition of Father's day was, one boy replied, "Well, it's just like Mother's Day, only you don't spend so much."

Well Father's don't seem to mind sharing their special day with the Graduates, or the fact that the gifts they receive aren't as elaborate as those given to Mom just a month ago. Someone said, "A father is someone who carries pictures of his children where his money used to be." And the phone company tells us that calls on Father's Day are not as high in number as calls on Mother's Day, and most of them are collect calls. I imagine many Father's might feel like the Comedian, Rodney Dangerfield when he says, "I get no respect!"

Although Father's might appear to not get the respect they deserve by these worldly standards, the Bible values Fathers and recognizes the strong impact they have on their families. So often in the scriptures, God chooses to reveal himself as a Father, He is God the Father as we know Him as part of the Trinity. He describes Himself as the "Father to the fatherless" in the Psalms and reminds us of the love our fathers have for us when we read "As a father has compassion on his children, so the

LORD has compassion on those who fear him" (Psalm 103:13). Through their integrity, discipline and love for their children our earthly fathers reflect our Heavenly Father.

I'm always reminded of the Father in the parable of the Prodigal Son as told by Jesus in Luke 15. The Father continues to love the son, though he has left the family and wants nothing to do with them. The Father waits patiently and keeps a watch for his sons return, and when he finally does return he is overjoyed, showers him with gifts and celebrates his son's return. This is an image of the Gospel for us, of how God responds to our repentance when we finally turn back home. It shows us the steadfastness of the Father's love. One day a man from Spain who was estranged from his son for years wanted to reconcile. Not knowing where his son was, he took out an add in a major newspaper in Madrid which read: "DEAR PACO, MEET ME IN FRONT OF THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE AT NOON, ALL IS FORGIVEN. I LOVE YOU. YOUR FATHER." The next day at noon in front of the newspaper office, 800 "Pacos" showed up!

Many are seeking a Father's love and I pray this Father's Day we let our dads know just how much their love means to us. That steadfast love of our earthly fathers give us a glimpse of the love our Heavenly Father provides.

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone),
Rev. Shant Barsoumian

President of Haigazian University Visits ACC



On May 7th 2013, the President of Haigazian University in Beirut, Lebanon, the Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian visited the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit. We had a special gathering that evening to greet Dr. Haidostian and we were privileged to have him address our group for the evening on a number of topics.

Dr. Haidostian was greeted by our Pastor Rev. Shant Barsoumian, as well as our Minister Emeritus Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootkian, along with members of our congregation, visitors from the larger Armenian community of Detroit including a few local Haigazian University alumni who were in attendance. He spoke to us about a number of topics including the latest happenings and events at Haigazian including Art exhibitions, academic conferences, as well as a recent visit from the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan. We saw many pictures of these events in a special presentation, as well as pictures of the students of Haigazian from the Commencement ceremony to general campus life.

Dr. Haidostian shared with us how the University is growing and thriving not only in the Armenian Community in Beirut, but also among non-Armenian students who are looking for a unique University experience. The University is continually ranked high in many areas despite its smaller size in comparison to other local colleges. We were also treated to a movie trailer of the documentary “The Lebanese Rocket Society” which traces the development

of the first Rocket developed in the Middle East in the early 60s which started at Haigazian University led by one of its professors Manoug Manougian. Dr. Haidostian also shared his thoughts concerning the situation of Armenians in Syria during this current conflict and how the community in Lebanon is responding to those in need as well as what we as the Diaspora Armenians can do to help those effected by the conflict.

Mother’s Day Banquet

--Mrs. Sima Baylerian

Armenian Congregational Church celebrated Mother’s Day on Sunday, May 12, 2013. The Banquet was very successful and served over 100 guests. The dinner and program was appreciated and complimented by many attendees. Our program consisted of piano music by Emma Bagdasarian, violin music by Lucy Bolerjack accompanied on the piano by her mother Susan Gasparian Bolerjack, Armenian poetry by Sonia Terterian, Pastor Shant recited his Poem “My First Gift”, and Sunday School children gave a heartfelt “Thank You” to their mothers.

With everyone’s effort in the committee and volunteers, the evening was one to remember. A special thank you to Dr. Edward and Ann Bayleran for donating the beautiful centerpieces. Also thank you to all who assisted in making the ACC Mother’s Day Banquet a successful one.

Reminders!

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

Bibles Given To ACC Sunday School Students

The Armenian Congregational Church acknowledged the following Sunday School students who received Bibles on Sunday, June 9, 2013.

- Michael Banerian
- Lucy Bolerjack
- Aaron Keteyian

Book of Life

Born: *Sohpia Maggie Rodgers*, Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Houri (Avakian) Rogers are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia Maggie on Thursday, April 25, 2013 in Novi, Michigan. The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Moses and Maggie Avakian.

ACC Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Donations Received

Hrant and Alidz Agbabian – Hymnal
Hrant and Alidz Agbabian – Heritage
Dr./Mrs. Vahagn Agbabian - Mother's Day Donation
Vahe, Flora and Taleen Barsoumian - in honor of Rev. Shant Barsoumian's Installation
Jack Garbooshian - In honor of Rev. Vahan Tootikian
Rodney and Barbara Keteyian - Mother's Day Donation
Rodney and Barbara Keteyian - in honor of Rev. Shant Barsoumian's Installation
Frances Kumjian - Mother's Day Donation
Arsen and Shoghig Terjimanian- in honor of Rev. Vahan Tootikian
Emma Sogoian - Mother's Day Donation
Sonia Terterian – Mother's Day Donation
Rev. and Mrs. Vahan and Rosette Tootikian – Mother's Day Donation
Robert Yazejian – in honor of Rev. Shant Barsoumian's Installation

Special Thank You

ACC extends its heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Sirarpi Hagopian for donating her valuable time by knitting beautiful hats. AMAA will be delivering the hats this fall to the Orphan children of Armenia.



Annual Father's Day Luncheon

Sunday June 16, 2013
12:00 p.m.

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

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

Menu: Kebob, Rice Pilaf, Humus, Salad, Watermelon, and Soft drink.

Missions To Armenia

-- Dr. Robert Kachadourian

It's been known for years that many in Armenia require eyeglasses. An eye surgeon has gone to Armenia, under the auspices of the North Carolina Baptist Convention, for a decade and has taken hundreds of all types of eyeglasses with him over the years.

Reading glasses, glasses with prescriptions, etc., were always part of the physician's visits every year. Now this service is no longer being continued.

Therefore, please consider bringing in your used eyeglasses. We'll announce a designated place to collect them in the ACC and send them to the North Carolina Baptist Men's group.

They go every year to Armenia to build homes, renovate others and have summer camps for children. They'll just take the glasses with them for distribution.

I look forward to your participation in this worthwhile endeavor. Details will be forthcoming as we aid our brothers and sisters in this vital work.

Congratulations and God's Blessing to All of the A.C.C. Graduates of 2013

LUCY R. BOLERJACK graduated on Sunday, June 2 from Wylie E Groves High School in Beverly Hills, MI. Lucy will be attending Michigan State University in the fall where she plans to major in pre-med, she is the daughter of Stephen and Susan Gasparian Bolerjack, and granddaughter of Isabelle Gasparian.

MICHAEL BANERIAN will graduate from Lahser High School, Bloomfield Hills on Sunday June 9th. In the fall he will be attending Oakland University where he will study political science. Michael is the son of Kirk and Leslie Banerian and the grandson of Alice and the late Dr. George Kadian and Angela and the late Carl Banerian.

MATTHEW CHARLES son of Glenn and Kathryn Charles, grandson of Dr. Richard Marburger, graduates in June with high honors from North Farmington High School. He will be attending the Lyman Briggs College at Michigan State University. Within MSU he has been invited to be a member of the Honors College and has been offered a Professorial Assistantship research position. His declared major will be Chemistry with a pre-med focus.

BRIAN ARA JANIGIAN will graduate from O.E. Dunckel Middle School in June 2013. He will be attending Harrison High School in Farmington Hills. Proud parents are Tony John and (Late) Lori Susan Janigian.

AARON ROBERT KETELYAN is graduating from The Roeper School on Sunday, June 9. Aaron is the son of Rodney and Barbara Keteyian and brother of Rachel Keteyian. He is the grandson of Freda and Robert

ROSEMARIE MOUSIGIAN graduated on Saturday, May 4 from University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, with Bachelor of Science in Education. She is the daughter of Michael and Susan Mousigian.

ANDREW ZAVEN PAULSEN graduated from Michigan State University, Eli Broad College of Business, and Honors College, with Bachelor of Arts, Supply Chain Management, with Honor. Andrew is the son of Jeffery and Diane Margosian Paulsen, grandson of Gladys Margosian.

STEPHAN POPE graduated on Sunday, April 28 from University of Michigan – Dearborn, with double degree in Mechanical Engineering. Stephan will attend U of M - Dearborn in the fall for his Masters. He is the son of Henry Pope and Souzanne Pope.

TALAR TAKESSIAN graduated on Sunday, June 9, 2013 from Salem High School, Plymouth, Michigan. Talar will be attending Madonna University in the fall for nursing. She is the daughter of Garo and Anahid Takesian, niece of Souzanne Pope, and Moses and Maggie Avakian,

AARON TRAUB graduated on Saturday, May 18, 2013 from Jacobs High School, West Dundee, Illinois. Aaron will be attending Arizona State University this fall. He is the son of Richard and Jill Arabian Traub, and grandson of Haigh and Sue Arabian.

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Moses Avakian
Banquet Manager

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