

The Armenian Congregational Church
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Rev. Shant Barsoumian, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

Or Current Resident

The ACC Bulletin

Monthly Publication of the Armenian Congregational Church

Vol. 40, No. 9

June 2015

Moms, Dads and Grads

As the Summer months quickly approach we have reasons to celebrate in quick succession. We move from Mother's Day, to Father's Day to Graduations and it might feel like a culmination. In May, Mothers get the spotlight for their unfailing love, care and devotion. In June, Fathers have their day where we celebrate their wisdom, compassion and leadership. Scattered throughout these months, many students reach milestones and graduate at various levels of education. Whether it's a High School graduation, Bachelor or Masters degree from a University, or even a Kindergarten graduation each holds a special place and is a crucial step not only for the Graduate but also their parents. I'm sure the most satisfying feeling for a parent is to see all their hard work and sacrifice pay off for their children, especially in their academic and career accomplishments.

These accolades and honors are significant but are not the ultimate goal. I can be sure that the goal of most parents isn't to just raise intelligent students and accomplished professionals but to raise good people. The two are not disconnected: Academic, professional and relational success flow primarily from character and maturity. And as Christians, we know that character and maturity flow most readily from God. Keeping Him at the source of our life, having Jesus as the master of our hearts, forms us into mature believers to impact His Kingdom. We want to develop young men and women of godly character who can face life's joys and struggles standing firmly on the Rock of Christ. Paul reminds us of the sanctifying work of the Holy

Spirit to form us to be more Christ like when he says, *"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."* (Romans 5:3-5)

Raising children to be faithful Christian adults has never been easy. Like everyone, children's hearts need to be transformed by the Holy Spirit, and we as the church (the extended spiritual family) have a role to play. Along with parents, pastors, teachers and mentors we must seek to be God's instruments in this process. And no matter how many graduations are attended, degrees received, or promotions earned, the process continues as we grow and change into Christ followers. King David reminds us of this important task at hand when he says, *"Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth."* (Psalm 127:4) What a powerful saying! Just like an arrow pulled back, ready to strike, in a warrior's hand so are children in the hands of their parents. Filled with such potential, aimed in the right direction and sent on the right trajectory they will accomplish much. The only thing the warrior, and parent, needs to do in order to make that potential a reality is to let go and let the arrow fly.

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

Annual Father's Day Luncheon

Sunday June 21, 2015

12:00 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

Fellowship Hall

26210 W. Twelve Mile Road

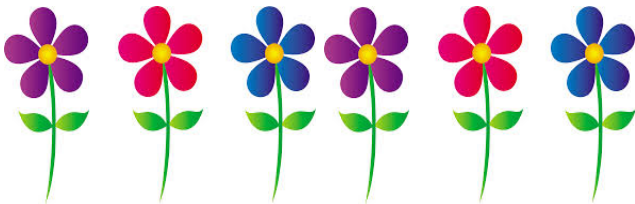
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Tickets: Adults \$15

Children ages 6-15 \$10

Under 5 Free



ACC Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations

A.C.C. Women's Fellowship- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Moses & Maggie Avakian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Stephen & Susan Gasparian Bolerjack- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Archie and Susan Gopigian- Easter Donation

Archie and Susan Gopigian- Donation in honor of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Vahan and Rosette Tootikian.

Taline Hagopian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Aram & Alice Kakousian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Rodney & Barbara Keteyian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Frances Kumjian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Emma Sogioian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Rev. and Mrs. Vahan and Rosette Tootikian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Mark & Ann Zartarian- Mother's Day Banquet Donation

Book Of Life

Entered his rest. Mr. George Basmadjian on Monday, May 18, 2015. The funeral service was held on Friday, May 22 at Armenian Congregational Church. The service was officiated by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian and Rev. Shant Barsoumian. May the peace, grace and comfort of our Lord be with the Basmadjian family, their relatives and friends.

Entered her rest. Mrs. Sonia Terterian on Sunday, May 24, 2015. The funeral service was held on Thursday, June 11 at St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church. May the peace, grace and comfort of our Lord be with the Terterian and Kulha family, their relatives and friends.

A.C.C. CONGRATULATES and welcomes Ms. Lucy Bolerjack as the new member of the Armenian Congregational Church on Sunday, May 24, 2015. She is the daughter of proud parents Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Susan (Gasparian) Bolerjack.

AMAA Scholarship

Once again AMAA is offering scholarship to full-time undergraduate students of Armenian descent. Student that is interested in applying for scholarship should personally request the form by calling 201-265-2607 or by email sponsorship@amaa.org.

Fellowship Hour and Altar Flowers

Is your anniversary, birthday or graduation approaching? Why not share your celebration with the church family by sponsoring the Fellowship Hour and Altar Flowers.

Important Dates

June 14 - Graduation Sunday

Last day of Sunday School Year

June 21 - Father's Day

**THE ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF GREATER DETROIT CONGRATULATES AND
WISHES THE VERY BEST TO ALL THE
GRADUATES OF 2015**

NATALIE ARSLANIAN, daughter of Rouben and Hasmik Arslanian graduated from A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School. In the fall she will be attending the University of Michigan Dearborn to study biology to become a PA.

NATTA BASMADJIAN, daughter of Chris and Shannon Basmadjian, and proud granddaughter of George and Carole Basmadjian graduated from Berkley High School on Thursday, June 4th honored as a member of the National Honor Society. In the fall she will be attending Grand Valley State University to major in Nursing.

ANTHONY BRUNER, son of Lara Koundakjian, and grandson of proud grandparents Hovsep and Karine Koundakjian graduated Kindergarten on Thursday, June 4th from A.G.B.U Alex and Marie Manoogian School.

KARINE EURDEKIAN, daughter of Raffi and Arda Eurdekian, and proud granddaughter of Harout and Sona Eurdekian. Karine graduated from Walled Lake Central high school on May 31st 2015. She is going to pursue Law with hopes of becoming a Judge and moving into politics. Her accomplishments include involvement and leadership in the Armenian Community, Vice President of the German Club, Tennis Team, Arax Dance Company, Model United Nations, Feminist Club, and Walled Lake Central Orchestra.

NICOLAS JOHN JANIGIAN, graduated from Farmington Hills Harrison High School. Nicolas has been accepted to play college baseball at Henry Ford College in Dearborn, Michigan. Nico has been playing baseball from the time he was 3 years old. He plays 1st base, pitcher, outfield and catcher. Nico's goal is to obtain a degree in physical therapy. His proud parents are John Tony and the late Lori Michaelian Janigian. He is the grandson of Anahid Michaelian and the late Ara Michaelian, and the late John Dean and Rose Janigian.

DANIELLE JERNUKIAN, daughter of Michael and Christy Jernukian, granddaughter of Pat Jernukian and the late Herbert and Arlene Jernukian, has graduated Oakland University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. Everyone is so proud.

RACHEL KETHEYIAN, daughter of Rodney and Barbara Keteyian graduated from The Roeper School, in Birmingham, MI on Sunday, June 7. In the fall she will be attending New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, BFA in Musical Theatre program.

GARO KOUNDAKJIAN, graduated from Basic Combat Training on January 23, 2015 in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and on Wednesday, May 20 he graduated from AIT in Fort Gordon, GA. Garo is the son of Hovsep and Karine Koundakjian.

BRIAN MARGOSIAN, graduated from University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) School of Engineering Bachelor of Science – Computer Engineer, Brian is the son of Michele and Thomas Margosian, and grandson of Gladys and the late Zaven Margosian.

MARIANNE ANOUSH MOUSIGIAN, daughter of proud parents Michael and Susan Mousigian and granddaughter of proud grandmother Anahid Haroutunian and Clara Mousigian, is a 2015 graduate from the Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Mousigian will be doing her first year of residency at Oakwood Hospital. She'll complete her last three years of residency at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor specializing in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She also plans on seeking a fellowship in Pediatric Rehabilitation at the end of her residency.

AMANDA PAULSEN, graduated from University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) with Honors, Amanda is the daughter of Diane and Jeffrey Paulsen, and granddaughter of Gladys and the late Zaven Margosian.

CHRISTINA RILEY, daughter of Alice Riley and Bill Riley, and granddaughter of proud grandparents Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Vahan and Rosette Tootikian, graduated from Berkley High School on Thursday, June 4th. She plans on attending College this fall to study Business.

NICHOLAS SEGIO ROSA, son of Lori and Todd Rosa, grandson of Sue and Haig Arabian graduated from Brother Rice High School with Honors. His plans are to play Junior A. Hockey in Texas this fall to pursue his desire to play College Hockey.

TAMARA TACHIAN, daughter of Ardag and Salpi Tachian graduated from Northville High School on May 31st. She will be attending Michigan State University this Fall. She plans to study marketing.

Mother's Day Banquet Honors Five Exemplary Moms

Our annual Mother's Day Banquet was held on the evening of Sunday, May 10th at the Vahan H. Tootikian Fellowship Hall. With around 100 people in attendance for this special event we had the privilege to celebrate and honor five special Mothers from our church who exemplified love and devotion not only to their families but to their church family as well, becoming mother figures for us all. Our honorees were Anahid Haroutunian, Susan (Shoushanig) Kadian Gopigian, Siroon Karapetoff, Margaret Paulian Benian, and Sirarpie Bezirgian Hagopian.



Many individuals shared their wonderful memories of these talented and exemplary ladies and their impact on many lives as they were honored for the evening. The program also included a beautiful Armenian poetry recitation by Dr. Taline Hagopian honoring her mother Sirarpie. Dr. Hagopian also gave a generous donation to the church in honor of her mother, saying that it was the most fitting gift to give her mother on Mother's Day.

Our program continued with a wonderful musical performance by Mr. Harry Kezelian III on his Oud, playing and singing traditional Armenian folk songs. We were also treated to a special message for the evening given to us by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian about his recent trip to Armenia, his experience and impressions, particularly about the many Armenian refugees who had fled Syria and settled in Armenia due to the fighting there. Rev. Tootikian also shared the importance of mothers in our Armenian and Christian Heritage.

Special thanks to our co-Chairs, Mrs. Sima Baylerian and Mrs. Ann Zartarian, for all their hard work and a job well done. For the delicious meal prepared for the evening by our own caterers Mr. and Mrs. Moses and Maggie Avakian, and to Mrs. Rosette Tootikian for helping put the program together.

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