

## Missions

### Operation Christmas Child

The Sunday School is participating again this year in Operation Christmas Child, a ministry started by Franklin Graham that reaches out to poor and under-privileged children around the world with the good news of the gospel through gifts packed in shoe boxes. If you would like to participate, pick-up a form from the church foyer and return completed boxes no later than Sunday, November 15.

### 2015 Stewardship

As the end of the year is approaching, we kindly ask that if you have not submitted your 2015 pledge, please do so. It is with your help and donations that the church will be able to continue its ministry.

## Missions

### Christmas Joy Package To Armenia

Every Christmas the AMAA's Christmas Joy Program brings many smiles and fun celebrations to thousands of children and their families in over 42 towns and villages throughout Armenia and Karabagh. For as little as \$10 you will help the AMAA continue bringing the spirit of Christmas directly to the children in Armenia and Karabagh. This is an opportunity for all to share God's love and spread the joy of Christmas. You can make checks payable to ACC. Or you may mail the check directly to AMAA. The forms are available in the hallway.

The Armenian Congregational Church  
26210 West Twelve Mile Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48034

Phone: 248-352-0680  
Fax: 248-352-5568  
Email: accgd@comcast.net

Rev. Shant Barsoumian, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

Or Current Resident

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# The ACC Bulletin

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### Trick or Treat! It's Martin Luther

**“But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: ‘God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.’ Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.” –James 4:6-8**

It was October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg. He wanted to debate the sale of indulgences with his fellow university professors. He wrote in Latin, but a nameless visionary translated the theses into German, carried them to the printing press, and enabled their dispersion far and wide.

Luther ended up with more than he bargained for, but he proved to be no coward in defending the discoveries he was making in Scripture. Of course Luther wasn't trick-or-treating when he approached the church in Wittenberg, but it's likely no accident he picked October 31. There's another angle on Halloween that many are unaware of some 500 years later.

Halloween's history is shrouded in some of the same mystery and confusion the holiday is known for celebrating. Some historians claim the origin is really in pre-Christian harvest festivals among pagans, and that the occasion was later Christianized. One thing that is clear is where the name comes from – and that is Christian. The English *Halloween* is short for “All Hallow's Eve,” the night before the November 1 Christian feast of All Saints (Hallows) Day.

As for trick-or-treating, some claim that marking All Hallow's Eve may have originated as just such an occasion to “trick” Satan, the most prideful of all creatures, by giving him what is most offensive to his arrogance: mockery. As Luther would say, “The best way to drive out the devil, if he will not yield to texts of Scripture, is to jeer and flout him for he cannot bear scorn.” That prideful devil!

In “Concerning Halloween” James Jordan explains the thinking behind it, “to drive Satan from us we ridicule him. This is why the custom arose of portraying Satan in a ridiculous red suit with horns and a tail...the idea is to ridicule him because he has lost the battle with Jesus and he no longer has power over us.” It was with this in mind that Luther chose All Hallow's Eve to post his Theses, to mock Satan and proclaim the triumph of the Gospel over all his tricks to try and trip up the church.

Because of God's grace in and through Luther, All Hallow's Eve is now both an occasion to call to mind Jesus' triumph over Satan and his minions with a bloody cross and an empty tomb, as well as a day to thank God especially for the Scriptures and the reforms launched by imperfect saints like Luther, Calvin, Zwingli and many more.

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

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### ACC BANQUET HALL

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Banquet Manager

Wedding & All Other Occasions

26210 W. Twelve Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48034

Telephone: 248-352-7399 Cell: 248-722-9100

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## Fall Back on November 1st



On Sunday, November 1, at 2:00 a.m., you may regain the hour you lost last spring by turning your clocks back to 1:00 a.m. You can turn back your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night, October 31, or get up at 2:00 a.m. in the morning to do it. Please don't forget the time change.

## Family Night



Are you ready for some wholesome fun? Don't miss out on our annual Harvest Party! Please reserve the following night, Friday, November 6 starting at 5:30 p.m., dinner serving at 6:00 p.m. The Armenian Congregational Church Children's Ministry is organizing a special evening of delicious food, fun and games for the whole family.

All ages are welcome. Children ages 3 and under are free, children ages 4 to 10 are \$5, Adults and children 11 and older are \$10. Please RSVP church office 248-352-0680 or email Leslie at Kbanerian@comcast.net.

## Congregational Meeting

The fall congregational meeting will be held on Sunday December 6, 2015 following the church service. The two agenda items for the meeting are:

1. Electing new board members to serve for the term 2016– 2019.
2. Approve the 2016 Budget.

## Stewardship Sunday

Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22, is also our Stewardship Sunday, an opportunity to make our financial pledges for the year 2016. Our church, like any other voluntary organization, depends on the support and involvement of its members. Thus, members and friends of our fellowship are urged to make their pledges to this purpose.

### Armenian Congregational Church Annual Thanksgiving Banquet



Sunday, November 22, 2015

Dinner 5:00 PM

Entertainment 6:30 PM

The Rev. Dr. Vahan H Tootikian Hall  
26210 West Twelve Mile Road  
Southfield, MI 48034

Guest Speaker, Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikain  
Musical Guests, Dana Lentini, Soprano  
and  
James Lentini, Classical Guitarist

*Tickets: \$25.00 in advance by November 19th for adults and \$10.00 for children, \$30.00 after November 19th for adults and \$15.00 for children.*

R.S.V.P: 248-352-0680 with the Church Office.



## Women's Group Bible Study

We invite all the ladies of the Armenian Congregational Church to attend bible study held every Friday morning from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon led by our own deacon Salpi Tachian. We are currently studying the book of Daniel through a teaching series by Beth Moore.

## A.C.C. Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations

A.C.C. Women's Fellowship-Missions  
Mr. Robert Arabian- Building Fund  
Mrs. Araxi Ashekian  
Dr. & Mrs. Kirk & Leslie Banerian-Missions  
Mrs. Carole Basmadjian-Missions  
Dr. & Mrs. Ed & Ann Bayleran-Missions  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen & Susan (Gasparian) Bolerjack-Missions  
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Mr. & Mrs. Ralph & Frances Garabedian-Missions  
Mr. & Mrs. Jan & Carol Janigian-Missions  
Mrs. Alice Kadian-Missions  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Tamar Kadian- In memory  
Mr. & Mrs. Aram & Alice Kakousian-Missions  
Mr. Richard Keteyian- Building Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Rodney & Barbara Keteyian-Missions  
Ms. Taline Khorchidian-Missions  
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Mr. & Mrs. William & Araxie Terian-Missions  
Rev. & Mrs. Vahan & Rosette Tootikian-Missions  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Asdhig Tutelian- Building Fund

## Book of Life

### In Christian Sympathy.

- Entered her rest Mrs. Gayaneh Kachadourian on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. The funeral services were held on Wednesday, October 21 in California. May the peace, grace and comfort of our Lord be with the Kachadourian and Khanbabaian families, their relatives and friends.
- Entered his rest Mr. Archie Gopigian on Saturday, October 17, 2015. May the peace, grace and comfort of our Lord be with the Gopigian, Kadian, Banerian families, their relatives and friends.

## Mailing List

We are updating our current mailing list. If you know someone that would enjoy receiving the ACC Monthly Bulletin, please submit their name and mailing address to the church office. If you would like to be added to our church email list, please email us at accgd@comcast.net. or inform our office by calling 248-352-0680.

## 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. Please sign-up on the bulletin board.

## Important Dates

**November 6** Family Night  
**November 22** Thanksgiving Banquet  
**December 20** Christmas Sunday  
**December 20** Sunday School Christmas Program  
**December 24** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service