



The Armenian Congregational Church
 26210 West Twelve Mile Road
 Southfield, Michigan 48034-1772

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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Dear Members and Friends:

Easter is upon us. It is the greatest festival in the Christian Church. It is the anniversary of the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Resurrection is not just a story about a dead man who got up and walked away. It is the story of a mystery so compelling that has changed and challenged minds ever since. It is the story of a new way of life, a way of life so demanding which culminated in a martyrdom of many of those who have taken the Risen Lord seriously.

More than four thousand years ago Job asked, "If a man dies shall he live again?" Two thousand years ago, as the stone rolled away and Jesus walked out of the tomb, Jesus answered with a resounding "Yes!"

The entire drama of Lent builds up, not to Good Friday, but to an Easter Sunday. Jesus died not as a tragic hero, resisting his enemies to the end, but as a determined Savior Whose death was to save the world from sin and death. He shattered the power of sin forever and gave death itself a decisive blow. His resurrection on the third day was a soaring climax. The glorious clue that exploded upon the earth to give all life its meaning. Because He lives, we too shall live!

As humans we all will die, but there will be a resurrection. We will live again. Thus, Easter is God's gift of Christ to us. It is God's gift of life eternal.

Easter is much more than a past event and a future hope. It puts all of life in focus. The resurrection of Christ speaks to us of a purposeful universe, of a God who eternally follows through on what He begins, and of human life that is forever with meaning.

Yes, Easter is not only a remembrance of what happened twenty centuries ago, but also a celebration that in Christ there is a triumphant victory available every present moment. Faith and commitment to the Risen Christ fill people's lives with peace, purpose and power, because they are followers of him who has conquered death and the grave.

Thus, Easter is an invitation time, for we are invited to begin to live the eternal life now - life, here and now, transformed by the Risen Christ.

Christos Haryav Ee Merelotz; Orhnyal Eh Haroutyunen Christosi.

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian
 Minister Emeritus, Armenian
 Congregational Church

Rev. Shant Barsoumian Resigns

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Church Council, I wish to inform you that effective Wednesday, February 21, 2018, Pastor Shant Barsoumian has resigned as Senior Pastor of the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit.

We thank Pastor Shant for his service to the Church. Please keep Pastor Shant in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to serve the Lord.

Respectfully yours,
 Mark Kadian, Chairman
 Board of Trustees of the A.C.C

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Holy Week

The week which begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter is called *Holy Week*. We are planning to have the following Worship Services:

Palm Sunday, March 25. Besides the commemoration of our *Lord's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem*. The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered. Those who want their children to be baptized or wish to join our church, please contact the Minister.

Maundy Thursday Service will be held on Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Communion will be administered. Following the service, there will be a slide presentation on the Holy Land by Deacon David Terzibashian.

Easter Sunday, April 1. The Easter Service is a family service. The Sunday school students will worship with their parents in the Sanctuary.

On The 103rd Anniversary Of the Armenian Genocide

April 24, 2018 is the 103rd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Once again fundamental questions arise as to why we continue to observe, and how should we commemorate this blackest time in Armenian history?

We must commemorate in order to keep the memory alive for generations to pay tribute to the one and a half million Armenians who died. It also reminds mankind that genocide is a crime against all humanity, not just the people who lost their lives in this spectacle of one group's merciless treatment of another. The lessons of history can be easily forgotten unless there are those who will cry out against the injustices of the past.

We must also remember the past in order to "escape from it," to learn the lessons of history so that future generations will not repeat them. Genocide does not occur in a vacuum; it is the awful fruit of a gradually deteriorating disregard of human life.

Each generation must teach the next the total history of the Armenian people, including the genocide history. We must, also, remain vigilant to keep the historical records of the genocide

intact, because there are forces at work to deny the facts; we must fight against their efforts to rewrite history.

We must continue to search justice for the Armenian people so that their martyred ancestors will not have died in vain. Only if and when this is achieved, will the world be truly honoring the living as well as paying tribute to those who perished!

AMAA Centennial Banquet

A special AMAA Centennial Banquet will be held in the Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian Hall, on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 7:00p.m. Guest speaker: Mr. Zaven Khanjian, AMAA Executive Director/CEO. Guest soloist Mrs. Arpi Aintablian from Los Angeles, CA. Ticket donation \$30.00. Checks are payable to: Armenian Missionary Association of America.

Palm Sunday Cheoreg Bake Sale

The ladies of the Women's Christian Fellowship will come together on Saturday, March 24th, to make cheoreg which will be sold the following day, Palm Sunday. We hope you will take advantage of serving this delicious bread to your family and friends this Easter!

Just Past ACC's Family Night!

The ACC Women's Christian Fellowship Family Valentine's Night was held on Friday, February 24. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a delicious dinner and an evening of fun and fellowship with their church family. Many thanks to all those devoted ladies who helped in making this evening a success.

Important Dates

March 25	Palm Sunday
March 29	Maundy Thursday
April 1	Easter Sunday
April 24	Armenian Genocide
May 13	Mother's Day Banquet
June 17	Father's Day Luncheon

ACC Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Donations

Roger & Nancy Berschbach - Building Fund
Stephen & Susan Bolerjack - Building Fund
Marvin Chacker - Donation
Dr. & Mrs. Chahé Chahbazian-Armenian Heritage
Kevin & Pam Czartoryski - Building Fund
Dr. Arthur Hamparian - In memory of Mrs. Albes Mahlebashian
Knights of Vartan, Inc.- Vartanants Commemoration
Stephen Philibosian Foundation - Heritage
Craig & Loraine Tashjian - Missions
David Terzibashian - Building Fund
Keri Topouzian - In memory of Mrs. Hourig Jacobs
Robert Vinetz, Nancy Kezlarian - Donation

Rev. Jirair Sogomian Entered His Rest

It is with deep sorrow that we share the sad news of Rev. Jirair Sogomian, our former minister, who passed away on March 11, 2018 in Huntington Beach, CA. His memorial service will be held on Friday, April 13, 2018 at the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church, Downey, California with Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian officiating.

Rev. Sogomian served the ACCGD from 1970-1975. During his term of ministry, the second phase of our Fellowship Hall was completed and the \$90,000 balance of the church's mortgage was paid off. In October 1971, a special constitutional convention was held for our church after which AEU Eastern States and California were merged and became one Union: Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA).

Rev. Sogomian also served the following churches and institutions: United Armenian Calvary Church in Troy, New York, Wapping United Church of Christ, South Windsor, Ct., Chaplain of Haigazian University, Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church in Los Angeles, CA, Executive Director of the AMAA, and as interim Minister Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church in Downey, CA

Our condolences to his wife Lorraine, their children Mark Sogomian (Daria), Sharon Mequet (Brian), Michael Deovlet (Carol), Sheri Olson (Scott), Allison Vamvas (Sterling), grandchildren, sister Marie Galustian & Rev. Vigen Galustian and extended family and friends.

AEUNA Biennial Assembly

The Holy Trinity Armenian Church and St. Nareg Armenian Church is hosting the AEUNA's 24th Biennial Convention of all Armenian Evangelicals Throughout North America, and congregations from South America, June 28 to July 1, 2018, in Burbank, California. Please join and register now to attend the gathering, "Revival Through Missions." Register at aeuna2018.com.

Armenian Martyrs' Commemoration

The four Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit will be commemorating the Armenian Martyrs' Day at St. John Armenian Apostolic Church, on Tuesday April 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Weekly

Worship Service, Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Church School, Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Children's Library, Every Sunday

Monthly

ACC Women's Fellowship, (Second Sunday of the month, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.)
Board of Trustees Meeting, (Third Sunday of the month, 12:30 p.m.)
Board of Deacons Meeting, (First Sunday of the month, 12:30 p.m.)
Women's Bible Study. (Every Friday, 10:00 to 12:00 p.m.)

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.