

The ACC Bulletin

Monthly Publication of the Armenian Congregational Church



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May 2012

“...Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain...”

(see Philippians 2:12-18)

The apostle Paul, having discussed Christ's humble self-emptying and exaltation in 2:1-10, now applies it specifically to the Philippians. First, in verses 12-13, he discusses the proper response. Paul urges the Philippians to obey as Christ obeyed, and presumably this means to work for unity by avoiding the kind of selfish ambition that leads to dissension. God has given us eternal life as a free gift. We are to live it out by lives of practical holiness. Here again we have the wonderful merging of the divine and human. In one sense, we are called on to work out our salvation. In another sense, it is only God who can enable us to do it. We must do our part, and God will do His. Second, in verse 14, the apostle discusses the proper reaction. “Do everything without complaining.” “Complaining was used to describe the rebellious murmurings of the children of Israel on their journey to the Promised Land. This requires the positive outlook the apostle described elsewhere in this letter (2:1-4; 4:1-9). Complaining comes from ingratitude. “Do everything without arguing.” Arguing stems from a selfish desire to prove that we are right, it is a human tendency, but not for the Christian. In Ephesians 4:29-31 we are told to put aside all bickering because it is of the old nature and not the new person of those who have been renewed by Christ. It is possible to disagree without being disagreeable. The proper reaction is to avoid arguments. Third, in verses 15-16, the apostle discusses the proper result. To be blameless and pure children of God – that is our goal. Our reputation is to be pure. Christian purity is blameless in the world's eyes, sincere in the person's own eyes, fit to stand the scrutiny of God. When this occurs, we shine like lights or stars in the universe. Our crooked and depraved world takes note of those whose lives are consistent with the faith they profess. Stars stand out (are obvious), sparkle (give beauty to the world), and shine (pointing the way, offering direction). Christians are to shine like stars in a dark world.

Friends, how can we become shining stars? By obeying the teachings of the Word of God, by continuing to be sanctified (growing in our faith), by living in peaceful unity with each other as a family of God (without complaining, and arguing with each other), by being pure and blameless, (be honest, sincere and consistent in our lives outside the church, before the watching eyes of the world).

Let me take this opportunity to invite you to come join us on Sunday, May 13 at 11:00 am as we worship our Lord, and than later at 5:00 pm as we honor our mothers at our Mother's Day Dinner.

Have a wonderful Mother's Day,
Pastor Makarios Darawi

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Scholarship Application

- *A.C.C.* Provides scholarships through its Educational Fund for full-time 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.
- *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.
- *Armenian Renaissance Association* Sophia Chapter of Greater Detroit will award five \$2000 education scholarships in September 2012. Applications are available by electronic mail. Send requests to ARASOPHIA@AOL.COM. Provide name, permanent address and phone number when requesting an application.

E.A.C.H (2012)


- **May 19th** – 2 Word Story Resource Fair and Festival at Wayne State University Athletic Center- All Day.
- **June 7th** – EACH Pastors Encouragement Conference with Jim Cymbala and Tony Evans at the Fillmore Theater in Detroit. For more info go to: www.eachtoday.com

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. On the other hand, if you wish to stop receiving this publication, please inform our office by calling 248-352-0680.

Thank You

The A.C.C. would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the church members and friends for their generous donations to the Easter Missions.



Important Dates

May 13	Mother's Day Banquet
May 19	ACC Council Meeting
May 20	Sunday School Graduation
June 2	Spring Clean-up
June 17	Father's Day Luncheon

Joys and Concerns of the Church

In Christian Sympathy

Mr. Toros Takessian, father of Suzan Pope, Maggie (Moses) Avakian passed away on Thursday, March 22, 2012.

May the peace, grace and comfort of our Lord be with the Takessian, Pope, Avakian and Amerkhanian families, their relatives and friends.

Birth

Arevik Angelina Kachadourian, Mr. and Mrs. Ara and Anahit Kachadourian are happy to announce the birth of their daughter Arevik Angelina on Saturday, April 14, 2012 in Glendale, CA. The proud grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. Bob and Gayaneh Kachadourian.

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.

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
Adult Bible Study, (Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.)
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.)
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

ACC Council Meeting

All Deacons, Trustees and leaders of other ministries are required to attend the ACC Council planning meeting on Saturday, May 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please pray for this important planning meeting.

Spring Clean-up Day

On Saturday, June 2, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. we would like to invite you to join us in sprucing up the ACC grounds, having lunch, and enjoying some great fellowship. Helpers of all ages are welcome.

We need help in the following areas:

- Pruning Trees, Shrubs and Planting Flowers.
- Cleaning Church grounds, Balcony, Classrooms, and the Parking Lot..

Graduates of 2012

ACC would like to honor our graduates by publishing their names and degrees in the monthly and weekly bulletins and at the church on Sunday, June 10. Please submit names of your loved ones graduating this year from Elementary School, Middle School, High School, College, Graduate or post Graduate School. Deadline for submission is May 31.

The Annual Father's Day Luncheon

Please join us on Sunday, June 17th for the Father's Day luncheon following the morning worship service. Invite family and friends to join us for a fun day at the ACC to honor all the fathers. For more information please contact the church office. Lunch cost: \$15.00 adult, \$10.00 for children 6-15 years old, free under 6 years. Menu: Kebob, Rice Pilav, Humus, Salad, Watermelon & pop.

Mid-Week Bible Study

The Mid-Week Bible Study group is starting a new six-week DVD based series called "Fearless" by Max Lucado on Wednesday, May 2, at 7:00 pm. Come join us as we learn to trust more and fear less.

Annual Mother's Day Banquet



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

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



Annual Father's Day Luncheon

Sunday June 17, 2012
12:15 p.m.

at

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

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

A.E.U.N.A

21st AEUNA Biennial Conference 18th AEYF Biennial Conference

which will take place in the Sheraton Airport hotel in Montreal, from Thursday 27th 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. Those who would like to register online please go to www.hayavedmontreal.com/biennial.

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Moses Avakian
Banquet Manager

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