

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.

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.



Rally Sunday – September 13, 2015

Come join us starting at 9:30 a.m. as we kick off the 2015/2016 Sunday School year with a complimentary breakfast served by the A.C.C. Youth Group. Children's registration, and worship at 11:00 a.m.

Important Dates

September 13 Rally Sunday
 October 4 World Communion Sunday
 November 6 Family Night
 November 22 Thanksgiving Banquet
 December 20 Christmas Sunday
 December 20 Sunday School Christmas Program
 December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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

Or Current Resident

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Summer 2015

Summer is a Gospel Reminder

*"If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on the earth."
 (Colossians 3:1-2)*

Every season is God's season, but summer has its special power. Tragically for too many Christians, summer is the season of spiritual drift. With days off of school for the kids, summer vacation plans with the whole family, our daily and weekly routines loosen up for the duration of the summer. As the days get longer and hotter we are tempted towards spiritual laziness. Church no longer becomes a priority, our Bibles go unread, and prayer time is diminished. This is why we cannot take a season off from making every effort to grow in godliness.

But is this God's intention for us during the summer? Is it a constant battle between leisure time and time with God? Are the two mutually exclusive?

I believe God does some new things in the summer. We should wonder and ask why God does these things. When we see things in a new perspective we can see that every season belongs to God and how He can use it for our benefit and His glory.

1) **He makes the daylight longer. Why?** Some of it has to do with crops and birds and photosynthesis. But it also has to do with spending more time outdoors and hanging out where you might be able to talk to people who in the winter were hidden away in their homes. Long days show the glory of a God "who is light, and in whom there is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5)

2) **He makes the temperature warmer. Why?** Well this too has to do with flowers and trees and crops, because he loves us. But there are other reasons. He does it so that we will spend time outside and meet people in the neighborhood and at the park that we would not meet in the cold of winter. He also does it so that we will go outside after dark, in the cool of the evening where he has his glory on display in the stars. "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands." (Psalm 19:1)

3) **Schools are closed for the summer. Why?** One reason is to reduce stress on kids and families. It also gives families opportunities to travel and see God's handiwork in another place whether it is 15 or 1500 miles away. Mountains, lakes, rivers, plains, oceans and even cities reveal the works of God. The opening up of our summer schedules should allow us to get out of our comfort zone and enjoy God's creation.

Summer is for seeing and sharing God. Don't let the thought that summer is a spiritual void overtake you. That is not how God views things. He is displaying glories to be seen and worshiped. His summer "kindness is meant to lead to repentance" (Romans 2:4). So let's join God in his love for people in the summer and make it a fresh meeting with Him in the light of His love.

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

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A.C.C. Choir

If you were singing with our choir, or if you have considered joining, please meet with us at 6:00pm on the first Wednesday of each month and on most Sundays at 12:30pm in the sanctuary to rehearse songs. Choir is an excellent ministry, a way of encouraging and uplifting the church!

A.C.C Women's Christian Fellowship

A.C.C Women's Christian Fellowship holds their meeting every second Sunday of the month, starting September 20. We would like to encourage our ACC women to join us; the purpose of our fellowship is to support our church, our missions, projects, and the fellowship gatherings.

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.

Father's Day Luncheon

We celebrated our fathers with a special Kebob luncheon after the Worship Service on Sunday, June 21, to thank them for all their hard work, love and support. We showered our fathers with thanks and enjoyed a special meal together as a church family. Thank you to co-chairs Mr. Ken Basmadjian and Mr. Bill Terian for putting this event together, and thank you to all those who donated sweets, desserts, and a big thank you to those who served the food, helped in the kitchen and stayed late to clean-up.

Church School News

Armenian Congregational Church will embark upon a new Sunday School year (2015-2016) on Rally Sunday, September 13, with excitement and promise. With strong support from teachers, a loving and serving congregation, plus an opportunity to grow and learn what God has in store for us, the possibilities are endless.

There are few things of higher priority among Christians than the nurture of children in the faith. And the Sunday School is one of the major ways of doing just that.

The Sunday School meets each Sunday morning from 11:00 to 12:00 noon. The classes are held simultaneously with the morning Worship hour in order that families may take advantage of the teaching, which leads into creative and inspired Worship in the House of God.

Our Sunday School staff looks forward to working with our children, helping them to gain an understanding of Christ and become a community of young Christians with a life to share.

Capital Fund and New Roof

The work on the replacement of the flat roofs of our building and the rooftop heating and cooling units is progressing successfully. As approved at the Congregational Meeting, the Church has borrowed \$100,000 from the Armenian Missionary Association of America to fund the work. The loan is to be repaid in five years and the Church was granted very reasonable terms. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the AMAA for making this possible.

We have identified a general contractor, Arman & Sons, that has agreed to perform the work for about \$95,000 (projects of this size almost always involve additional unexpected costs). We are very fortunate one of our trustees contacted the owner, with whom he has previously worked, and received this very favorable pricing. The other bids we received were substantially higher. We expect the contractor will start work in October and complete the work in about two weeks.

The Church has received contributions to the Capital Fund of over \$34,000. We will be continuing our fund-raising work. We appreciate the generosity of those who have already contributed, and will be relying on their pledges for future contributions. We ask that those who have not yet contributed make a contribution very soon as part of a five year pledge commitment, and be as generous as they can.

Book of Life

Entered his rest. **Mr. Robert Yazejian** on Saturday, August 15, 2015. The funeral service was held on Thursday, August 20 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 Yazejian family, their relatives and friends.

Have You Considered Joining The Church?

Sunday, October 4, is World Communion Sunday, a very inviting occasion for joining the church. Our church extends its hand to everyone to come and join its fellowship. Our church presents Jesus Christ as Savior. One who comes to our church is constantly challenged and pleaded with this Savior. Your joining the church means that you need that love, wish to be touched by it, and to learn to express it in your life.

We offer you fellowship with Jesus Christ, and with men and women who love Him. If interested, please contact the minister.

Camp Arevelk 2015

Once again, as the summer draws to a close, we got to spend a final week together praising God, building friendships and having fun at Camp Arevelk. This year we had almost 100 campers in attendance ranging from ages 10-16. The leaders and staff were excited and ready to see what God had in store for us during our week at Camp Arevelk.

Our week was filled with Bible studies, and team games, from quiet times to wonderfully loud worship sessions. Our speaker for the week, Pastor Mike Penza, challenged us with God's word and taught us how to live a life of obedience to God. Through the Biblical stories of Adam & Eve, Aaron, Gideon, Ruth and Malachi, we learned to turn to God for forgiveness, choose to be on His side, Trust Him even if we don't know the future, commit to serve others out of love, and to never forget the love with which God has loved us.

We thank all the staff and volunteers who made our week at Camp Arevelk such a blessing. We look forward to next year and hope others can join us and see first-hand the amazing work of grace that God is doing through this ministry.