

How will you honor your mother on Mother's Day?

My mom beat Earl Garcia, and I want everyone to know it! If, indeed, I am able to run the Boston Marathon, I'm going to have a little sign pinned on my back announcing that my mother beat Earl Garcia! She's already warned me that I better not! And with all due respect to Earl Garcia, whom I've never met, it's nothing personal and certainly not an insult.

Here's the story: my mother was quite the athlete at University Colony Elementary School. Apparently working on the farm and walking one and a half miles each way to school (not uphill in the snow!) in the 1930's got her in pretty good shape. So, when it came time for the boys and girls to race, my mother out-sprinted the fastest boy in school—Earl Garcia!

Growing up, we heard this story almost every week during track season. Whenever my older sister, Susan, and I got ready for our track meets, mom would tell us how she beat Earl Garcia. It was almost as if she was convincing us that we had a genetic advantage, that we were eugenically superior to any potential opponents. Pity the poor fouls who would try to compete, our mother beat Earl Garcia!

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."
Ephesians 6:1-3

When God speaks of "honoring" in His word, it has to do with "adding weight to someone". Of course, He's not talking about gaining weight! With my background in track, I can best think of "honoring" as laying a medal around someone's neck on the victory stand. Wearing all those gold medals must have weighed down Usain Bolt in Brazil last summer. Imagine the honor reflected by all of Michael Phelps's medals over four Olympic Games!

Mom never got a medal for beating Earl, but, Lord willing, I'll be honoring her crossing the finish line on Boylston Street someday. Honestly, my father, brother and sisters, and I want to honor her for *everything* she's done over the years! Not only did she raise us well (with a little help from dad), but she's been a stellar example of woman of God who's sought to teach God's word to others and to disciple women to follow Christ more fully. At Pilgrim she led a Young Mothers' Discipleship Group and here at FAPC she taught a Women's Sunday School class and became like a mother to many in the class.

When we point out the impact that our mothers have had on us and others, we honor them. It's like we're placing a medal around their neck. Our praise honors them and gives them weight in the family and the community.

Of course, no mother is perfect—none of us are! How about we accentuate the positive and honorable things our mothers have done and highlight their honorable character qualities. Let's reverse the role they've always had of bragging about us, their children & grandchildren; let's honor them so much that people get tired of us talking about them! Wouldn't that be great!

Honor your mothers (living or not) as frequently as you can, not just on Mother's Day. Let's make it our goal to add weight to their reputations. Let's communicate to them just how grateful we are toward them! And if you visit my mother, be sure to let her know that you know she beat Earl Garcia! I'll be in trouble, but the laughter that will follow will be worth it!!!

I hope you'll all be joining in on our **Joint Memorial Day Picnic** with Pilgrim Church on Memorial Day Monday! I'm so excited that we'll be doing this together. Please see Paul Koligian to see how you can help out!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

IMPORTANT NEWS:

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 14!

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL: JUNE 12!

YOUTH SUNDAY: JUNE 12

Kids Quest (Ages 4-7) during the worship service

Nursery: (Ages 1-3) (9:30AM-12:30PM)

YOUTH GROUP & SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Junior High and Senior High Youth Group (Sundays after church)

When I think about our junior high and high school aged youth, I think: "these young people have so much going on in their lives!" I hate to sound cliché, but 35 years ago the opportunities and busyness that our youth face today simply didn't exist. Today the youth are loaded down with tremendous amounts of homework starting from junior high. There are numerous sports that can be signed up for, school clubs, extracurricular activities, plus the "normal" home responsibilities that are expected by their parents. To make things even worse; our students today are even more so bombarded by the things of this world: pressure to use drugs, pressure to be open to same gender relationships, pressure to engage in a physical relationship and pressure to remain silent about Christ. To put the "cherry" on top of this less than Christ like atmosphere that our children face every day; the smart phone. Whether we like it or not, technology has become an inseparable part of their bodies. If you observe most youth, you will see a cell phone surgically attached to their hand at all times. It is so much a part of their lives that they are more likely to leave the house without putting on pants than to forget their cell phones.

In college these same worldly pressures continue with the addition of college selection/career selection and more academic stress. In the minds of many young people today it is not good enough to simply get a college degree, it must be from a prestigious university. Unfortunately, for most, the process of college selection and career selection is driven by this question: "what degree and what school will offer me the most money and fame upon graduation?" Now it

might not be that blatantly stated, but the underlying thought is; "I want to be great in the eyes of others, how can I make that happen?"

So what does our youth need? Weekly at our youth group meetings and college bible studies I ask for prayer requests. Typically the students want prayer for school, tests, homework, finals, and difficult teachers. Sometimes the requests will include relationships and family issues but for the most part they are 80% school related prayer requests. My personal opinion, without a doubt is that our youth need prayer above anything else.

The question is what should we pray about concerning them? I have come up with a list of 4 things that you can faithfully pray for our students: 1) Salvation (that each student would be able to call Jesus both Lord and Savior), 2) Protection (that God would shield them from so many of the pitfalls of Satan), 3) Christ would be #1 in their lives (that Jesus would be their primary passion, concern, love, and ambition above all other attractions in this world), and 4) That all of their dreams and pursuits would be done to bring glory to God and not themselves.

So what do our youth need? They need our prayers! Please join me in daily lifting up our young people to the Lord.

●●●●● Badveli Phil



SUMMER 2017 stayin' alive

JOHN 1:3-4

DATES

JUNIORS (3rd-5th grades) July 9 – 15

JUNIOR HIGH (6th-8th grades) July 16 – 22

HIGH SCHOOL (9th-12th grades) July 23 – 29

COLLEGE and CAREER August 4 – 6

CLOSING CEREMONIES and KEBAB PICNICS

SATURDAY 11am – 4pm

[parents plan to pick up campers at picnic]

FOR MORE INFORMATION and REGISTRATION

Call 818.507.0922 or Visit www.camparev.org

Attention all graduates

For kindergarten, 6th and 8th grade promotions, please submit your names. All other graduates, please submit name, picture, institution graduating from, degree, activities, favorite scripture, and future plans, to the church office administration at fapc3@fapc.net. Deadline to submit is Sun May 28 and Graduation Sunday is June 11.



"Rejoicing in the Lord" (Phil. 4:4) is the theme of the 15th Biennial Conference of the Armenian Evangelical Women's Fellowship. The Conference will take place October 6-8, 2017 at the Visalia Marriott and Convention Center. Stephanie Schwartz, Director of Women's Ministries at Compass

Bible Church in Aliso Viejo, will be the Keynote Speaker. For Reservations information, please call Roseann Saliba at (559) 960-4100, Registrar Lena Garabedian at (626) 533-2531, or visit www.aeuna.org

The Fresno Art Institute is presenting Churches and Manuscripts, an art exhibit created by local children in remembrance of the Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. The works are on display through May 31 in the Exhibition Halls of the Armenian Museum of Fresno, 550 East Shaw Avenue, between Fresno and Angus Streets. For days and times of operation, please contact Art Institute Director *Sona Atoian* at (559) 575-3183 or the Museum Office at (559) 224-1001.



The Friday Men's Bible Study Lunch group recently completed a Lenten Season study of Psalm 23 under the guidance of Senior Pastor Gregory Haroutunian. Please contact Pastor Greg at badveli@fapc.net if you were unable to attend and would copies of the weekly study guides. The weekly luncheon and study of the Scriptures resumes in May with a study in **Growth: Training vs. Trying**. The study is open to members and friends of FAPC and takes place from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. in the Fireside Room. E-mail fapc3@fapc.net or call (559) 237-6638 to be placed on the E-list for the study group.

The Deacons Column

Armenian Home Ministry



The first Sunday of every month Armenian Home ministry is led by FAPC pastors, joined by deacons, and some members of the congregation. It is such a privilege to bring the word of God to those who are physically unable to attend regular church service. The ministry conducts a devotional service to the residents. The service consists of singing hymns, reading the scripture, prayer

and delivering God's holy word. It is beautiful to see how eagerly the residents wait to hear God's word. You can hear their beautiful voices echoing down the corridor, as they sing the great hymns of faith.

Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them--not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve. 1 Peter 5:2

●●●● Sela Ghazarian

"God's Servant Family: Following the Master. Serving the Other" (Mark 8: 43-45) is the theme of the 2017 Summer Internship Program to Armenia of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). The AMAA program will take place July 17-31, 2017. More information is available by contacting Reverend Jeremy Tovmassian at (847) 758-7188 or office.aecc@gmail.com or by visiting www.amaa.org.



The Fresno Bee published the Armenian Genocide message of Silva Emerian in the April 24 Valley Voices column. Silva's essay is entitled, "Armenian Christians: We don't forget, but to forgive is to heal."



Joy Rubio, daughter of *Fernando* and *Elaine Rubio*, earned Second Place honors in the category of Religion/Philosophy for her presentation at the Annual Alpha Chi National College Honor Society Convention. The Convention took place in Louisville, Kentucky on April 6-8, 2017. Joy's presentation was entitled: "Overcoming Our Past, Forgiving Our Future: Armenian and Turkish Reconciliation." Joy is a graduating Senior at Fresno Pacific University and a member of Alpha Chi California Zeta Chapter 285.

Elaine Rubio has been elected to the Board of Directors of Armenian Theological Students' Aid, Inc. The election took place during the ministry's 73rd Annual Scholarship Luncheon on Sunday, March 19, at FAPC. Harut Khachatryan, Youth Pastor at United Armenian Congregational Church of Los Angeles, was the guest speaker that day and the organization paid tribute to longtime Treasurer Hrant Darakjian for his devoted service. Elaine is Chair of the Business Department at Golden West High School in the Visalia Unified School District.



Congratulations to *Morgan Marashian* and her classmates at Clovis North High School for their awards at the recent World Strides Festival in Anaheim, California. Morgan is a member of the CNHS Women's Chorale, which received a first place plaque and an adjudication award. Morgan is also a member of the CNHS Chamber Choir, which received a first place plaque, an adjudication award, and Outstanding High School Choir and Overall Outstanding Choir honors. Morgan is the daughter of Steven and Sandra Marashian and a member of the FAPC Chancel Choir.



On Good Friday, Sona Atoian led a workshop on acrylic painting on wooden eggs. The Mommy & Me group which meets on Friday mornings had a social of dyeing eggs for Easter breakfast. It was eggstastic!





Jayson & Silva Emerian and family, along with Shad Shelton prepared a wonderful breakfast for our church family to enjoy on Easter morning. The children then got go hunting for eggs!

Our Condolences:



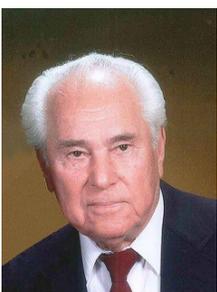
Roxie (Mooradian) Moradian, dear friend of FAPC, passed away in Fresno on March 3, 2017 at the age of 103. A native of Selma and graduate of Heald 4C's College, Roxie met and married Yeprad Frank Moradian, a child of our Church, and the couple purchased and operated the venerable Penny-Newman Grain Company of Fresno from 1943 to 1988. Roxie was active in Central California civic life, co-sponsored the French Gallery at the Fresno Art Museum, and was a founding member of the San Joaquin Valley Town Hall. She is survived by many dear nieces, nephews, and cousins.



Gertrude (Geghanoosh Bedrosian) Kazarian passed away in Fresno on April 2, 2017 at the age of 103. A native of Boston, Gertrude grew up in Kingsburg and Fresno, where she was a member of the first graduating class of Theodore Roosevelt High School. She met and married Genocide Survivor Peter Kazarian in 1937 and they owned and operated Kay Trucking Company in Southern California and Circle K Ranch in Fowler. She is survived by her sons, Ronald and his wife Jane; Melvin and his wife Deborah; grandsons, Kalem and wife Jonelle, Khoren, Karnig, Andrew and his wife Gia, and Charles Kazarian; and granddaughter, Lauren Hallaian and her husband Christian. In addition, she is survived by seven great-grandchildren, Judith Grace, Peter John, and Frank Jacob Kazarian; Luke Andrew and Austin George Kazarian; and Harrison John and James Raymond Hallaian.



Emma Bozmagian, mother of Sharon Soghmonian, passed away in Clovis on April 6, 2017 at the age of 95. Emma was born in Istanbul while her parents, Ohannes and Varsenig Atashkarian, were traveling from Yerevan to make a new life in the United States. A graduate of Fresno Technical High School, Emma spent her early years in Michigan, rural Fresno County, and San Francisco. She is survived by her brother, George Atashkarian and his wife Mary; her two daughters, Sharon Soghmonian and her husband George, and Georgette Bozmagian; her granddaughters, Genna Frantz and fiancée Ronson Root; Andrea Heinricy and her husband Matthew; Ryan Fluharty and her husband Jeff; her grandson, Justin Wallace and his wife Samantha; and nine great-grandchildren.



Hovhannes John Megrdochian passed away in Fresno on April 18, 2017 at the age of 91. A native of Petrovsky, Russia, John was a welder for Vendo Manufacturing in Pinedale for 34 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gregor and Mariam (Lukianov) Gabrielian. John is survived by his dear wife, Mariam Megrdochian of Fresno; his daughter, Rosie Bedosian and her husband Bryan of Fowler; his siblings, Sima Liege of Bakersfield, Sarkis Gabrielian of Fresno, Vickie Gabrielian-Bansal of Fresno, and Michael Garbrielian of Fresno; one grandson, Armen Bedrosian, M.D. and his wife, Stephanie; and two great granddaughters, Lillian Bedrosian and Vivian Bedrosian.

What's been on my mind?

I often get into these pensive, nostalgic, “what have I accomplished” moods right around my birthday. There was some white space left in this issue, so I figured why not share with Mosaix subscribers some things that I've learned, experiencing, or navigating through from year 36 to 37 of my life.

Being a husband to a wonderful wife (Tamar). In a couple of weeks it will be Mother's Day. Tamar and I have known each other for over 10 years. At this stage of our lives, seeing her as a mother, who nurtures, loves, and often disciplines Emelia, is beautiful.

Being a dad to a wonderful daughter (Emi). If you have children, we all would say our children are the best. They make us crazy, but I have to tell you in three years of being her father, I've learned to appreciate more of my earthly father, Ohanes, and our heavenly Father. Numerous times I've smiled in moments of frustration with Emi, and recognized how much patience, love, and discipline both my dad and Heavenly Father have exhibited to me in my disobedience.

This is a verse I'm reciting daily: “Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” (Psalm 51:12) There's 4 parts to this

verse that I'm trying to soak in like a dry sponge: restoration, the joy of His salvation, having a willing spirit to sustain and endure whatever comes.

I'm leaning heavy on this word: reframe. It's very easy to get stuck or dwelling on negative events in our lives. I'm very critical on myself, and so I'm learning and navigating through not being critical. So, again (emphasis) on trying to reframe situations and ask the question, what's God trying to teach me? Reframing is often hard because it requires a lot of humility.

I had quoted this in a recent sermon, Dr. Ajith Fernando says, “Christians avoid inconvenience for the gospel and resent it when they are inconvenienced.” This quote cut deep. I was realizing how often I feel inconvenienced to serve God. Serving God becomes a chore or an obligation, rather than a joy or privilege. God gives us moments in our days to serve Him with a conversation with a colleague, a good deed we can do for someone, or a sacrifice from our lifestyle that points to Jesus.

What's been on your mind? Come and share with me. Please take a look at the Save the Date section below and join us for some great things coming up!

●●●●● Badveli Mgo

SAVE THE DATE

First Friday Worship Nights: Dinner, Worship, and Prayer 5:30PM: Every First Friday of the month, essentially that's what we will do as a CHURCH Family, eat, pray, and worship together. Mark these dates down!

May 5

June 2

July 7

August 4

May 29 (10:30AM-3PM): Memorial Day, we will join Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church and have a JOINT picnic, at PACC. Good food, good games, and some good fellowship!

June 16-18: Adult Seminar “Loving Refugees & Reaching Muslims” led by Rev. Stephen Kelly. Friday night, Saturday morning, and Sunday Worship. More details to come.



ALL-CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

August 18-20, 2017

Our speakers this year are, *Drs. Paul and Virginia Friesen* were married in 1976 and have three young adult daughters and two Godly sons-in-law. They both have Doctorates in Marriage and Family Therapy from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and are the lead resource couple at Home Improvement Ministries. The Friesens regularly speak at marriage, men's, and women's conferences in the US and internationally, are frequently invited to give family and parenting seminars, and have an ongoing ministry with professional athletes.



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Upcoming Special Events

First Friday Worship & Prayer	May 5
NO Sunday School	May 14
Joint Memorial Day Picnic with Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church @PACC	May 29
First Friday Worship & Prayer	Jun 2
Youth Sunday & Last Sunday of Sunday School	Jun 11
VBS 9:30AM-11:30AM@FAPC	Jun 12-15
Adult Seminar weekend with Rev. Stephen Kelley	Jun 16-18
First Friday Worship & Prayer	Jul 7
First Friday Worship & Prayer	Aug 4
All-Church Family Camp	Aug 18-20
Rally Sunday	Sept 10

Church Office:
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
(M - F)
P: 559.237.6638
F: 559.237.9526
E: fapc@fapc.net

***Mosaix submissions
are due by the
15th of the month.
Please e-mail
information to
fapc3@fapc.net.***

Staff:
Suzy Artemyan, Church Administrator
Jesse Dunbar, Interim Music Ministry Director
Vera Darakjian, Armenian Ministries Pianist
Marisa Bagato, Administrative Assistant &
Nursery Attendant
Marine Frznlyan, Nursery Attendant
Susan Ruiz, Custodian

Teaching Elders: Rev. Greg Haroutunian, Senior Pastor (badveli@fapc.net)
Rev. Mgo Mekredijian, Associate Pastor of Young Families' Ministries (associate@fapc.net)
Rev. Phil Garo, Jr., Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries (pgaro@fapc.net)

Ruling Elders: Hagop Afarian, Kenneth Bedrosian, Ed Esajian, Krikor Kalayjian,
Paul Koligian, Fernando Rubio, Dennis Shamlan, Ron Statler

Deacons: Vera Darakjian, Silva Esajian, Maryvonne Gagliardi, Sela Ghazarian,
Sossy Haroutunian, Keith Harrison, Maria Kalayjian, Kohar Kojayan,
Bob Mangasarian, Anto Sakayan, Rita Shamlan, Varvara Sivas

