



“We wish you a Merry Christmas! We wish you a Merry Christmas! We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!”

You were singing, weren't you? When you read those lines above, you couldn't help singing, could you? There's something about Christmas that demands that we don't just exchange Christmas greetings, we don't just send holiday cards; we have to sing it out!

I wish you all could have seen the faces of our Precious members at home when a group of us went caroling last Saturday morning. (See some of the pictures inside Mosaix.) Their joy was not simply being remembered by their church during Christmas time. It wasn't just having a group of adults and children there to encourage them. Our caroling brought joy and deep emotion because each song celebrates the love God has for each one of us, His sacrificial love expressed in the sending of His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. “Good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” Luke 2:10

Our study in Ephesians has opened my eyes to a new possibility—especially relevant at Christmas time: we sing and make music to the Lord with deep gratitude when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. When we give Him the freedom to lead, empower, and influence our lives, the Apostle Paul says that we speak to one another with songs and our hearts sing out to the Lord! Those redeemed by the precious blood of Christ are given hearts and voices to sing out praise.

... Be filled with the Spirit; speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music with your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of Christ.
Ephesians 5:18b-21

In Eternity we will join the four living creatures, twenty-four elders, thousands of angels and every creature singing out “Worthy is the Lamb, who has slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!” Revelation 5:12

Singing praise is the birthright of every believer in Jesus Christ!

Like me, you may feel a little more self-conscious and challenged to sing out because others' voices are so much more beautiful. No worries! I take my cue from Psalm 100: **Make a joyful NOISE to the Lord!** Even I can do that! Won't you join in?

In addition to our Sunday School Children leading us in song on Sunday, December 17 @ 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, each of our Advent Worship Services will be filled with Christmas Carols and songs of praise. While we won't have an afternoon Christmas Eve Service since we will have gathered in the morning, I hope you'll plan on joining us each Sunday so you can let your heart free to sing out His praise! You can also plan to join our youth after Church on Sunday, January 7, 2018 when we celebrate Armenian Christmas with the residents of the California Armenian Home. As we sing praise, their hearts are lifted too!

As we close out 2017, set your hearts to offer Jesus Christ praise and glory for His first coming, for His humility to become a human being like us (without sin though) and for His loving and courageous sacrifice on the cross to pay the debt our sin deserved. Praise Him for His resurrection and receive His promise of being constantly filled with the Holy Spirit! Luke 11:13 is changing my Christmas gift this year: If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! I am asking Him to fill me more fully with His Spirit! And I don't think I'll stop on December 25! Won't you join me?

Have a blessed Christmas celebration! May the resurrected, living Christ fill you with His Spirit and bring you comfort and joy throughout all your celebrations! Praying that His presence will envelope you in His love and give you grace and peace as we say good-bye to 2017.



Alexander Tavlian passed the July Bar Examination and will be admitted to the State Bar of California in early December 2017. Alex is a graduate of the University of California, Davis, and the California Western School of Law in

San Diego. He is the son of Philip and Linda Tavlian and the grandson of the late Ernest and Neva Tavlian and the late Samuel and Rose Alexander.



I would like to thank my church family for their caring heart by praying for me, and for calling me and encouraging me. By your prayers and phone calls, I have been touched deeply by your compassion. Through my pain and my aches you have helped me go through this healing process. Please still continue to pray for me! Thank you!

In Christ Love,
Liz Shirinian



SAVE THE DATE!

January 21
Appreciation luncheon
for Badveli Phil
February 23-25
Men's Retreat

Deacon's Corner



GENUINE APPRECIATION!

FAPC is blessed with incredibly hardworking and faithful people who selflessly serve with all of their hearts. Thank you to all who serve our church whether it be in Christian education, being an elder or deacon, working in Sunday school, donating time in the kitchen making yummy pilaf or choreg, ushering, greeting, or serving communion on a Sunday morning. When we serve our church we serve our Lord Jesus Christ. We are able to serve our church with special talents because we are truly blessed.

Know that the deacons are praying for you!

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving
Colossians 3:23-24

●●●●○ Sela Ghazarian



These women have so much to be grateful for as they joined in a gratitude gathering held at Nelda Baker's house this last month.

Merchant's Lunch 2017



Not Goodbye, But See You Later

As my tenure serving as the Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries comes to an end at FAPC; it has brought on much reflection and contemplation. With the leaving of any position there is always a flood of emotions that elicits various responses, but with the youth position it is entirely different for me. I have attended FAPC with my family since I was hatched from my shell. I had moved away from Fresno many times for work or school, each time saying “see you later” but in my mind it was not farewell since I was intimately connected with the church and the people of the church. My departure from paid pastoral ministry now feels the same; I won’t be saying farewell to FAPC since my family and I will continue to faithfully love and serve Christ as we attend church. But, I will intensely miss the following three areas.

I will miss the close relationships with the youth that have been built up in the past 6 plus years. Last night I met with the college students for our final Bible study. One of the students made the statement that I had spiritually raised them since they had begun attending youth group at around the age of 13 and now they are 20 years old. They reminded me that this was a significant portion of their lives. I will miss the personal impact of not only instructing and leading them but the fruit of what God does in their lives. 2 weeks ago I was reflecting with one of the fathers of a former youth group member. Needless to say, 3 years ago his student wasn’t the poster child for a thriving youth walking with the Lord. Today is a different story because there has been a radical transformation in his life that is displaying Christ living in him. As this dad and I reminisced, I thought to myself, “Man, I’m going to miss this intimate vantage point watching God transform the lives of our students!” The wonderful thing is that this account is not an isolated example, I could list student after student that has had his or her life radically transformed by Christ here at our church and I was blessed to be a part of it.

I will miss the close working/discipleship relationships that I have with the students’ parents. Over the past 6 years I have been blessed by coming to know the parents of the FAPC youth in a very different way. Many of our relationships began as superficial or even strained, but God has taken those and has created transparent trusting relationships where I am now free to give Godly counsel and

receive it as well. I have witnessed the families share in wonderful spiritual and emotional victories, the end result being that the body of Christ has been supernaturally built up.

Lastly, I will miss summer and winter camps. I know, this might sound crazy since the first thing that we all imagine about camp is being dirty, sleep deprivation and not having a private bathroom. To be honest, those things are all very true and I will not miss them at all. But what I will miss is the wonderful ministry opportunity that camp affords. Most of my closest relationships have either begun or been taken to the next level based on camp. Why is this? Well, camp is a place where all the facades are removed where you and the campers are able to relate to one another without any pretense. In that setting, God’s word can be taught and is consumed by students thirsting for answers in their life. I can’t tell you how many spiritual interactions have taken place at camp and how they have impacted the students.

My desire for you is twofold. First please keep the youth of FAPC in your prayers, God is doing a mighty work in their lives. Second, it is my desire for you all to experience ministry as I have for the past 6 years. Now I’m not saying that you should quit your jobs and become youth pastors. But I am saying that each one of us needs to be an integral part of a weekly ministry here at FAPC. God designed followers of Christ to serve for His glory but very importantly for our pleasure. Please take this opportunity to step into an area of ministry and experience the joy that only service to the Lord can bring.

See you around,
Pastor Phil



YOUTH GROUP NEWS & EVENTS

Youth Group Christmas Party & Gift Exchange

When: December 12th

What time: 6:00-9:30pm

Where: The Statler Residence

**Followed by a walk down Christmas Tree Lane!*

Any questions, contact Badveli Phill!

There will be NO Youth Group on 12/17, 12/24, & 12/31!



CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS

Join us for our Sunday School Christmas Program on December 17th at 4PM followed by a lite dinner in the Fellowship Hall!

Just a reminder: NO Sunday School December 24th & 31st!



Silas’ Sunday School Spotlight

Student Spotlight #1:

James Emerian

Age: 9-1/2

Grade: 4th

What is your favorite thing about Sunday School?

“I get to learn about God.”

What is your favorite Bible story/character/verse?

“David & Goliath.”

What is something we may not know about you?

“I play the piano.”

Student Spotlight #2:

Hannah Haroutunian

Class: 3/4 Year Olds

What is your favorite thing about Sunday School? “Cookies and memory verses.”



What is your favorite Bible story/character/verse? “Jesus dying on the cross.”

What is something we may not know about you? “I like to play games with my Mom.”

Class Spotlight: Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Teacher(s):
Adrine Tokatian and
Sosie Catchatoorian

Average # of students each week:
12

What are you studying this month?
“Jesus’s birth.”

What’s your favorite thing about this class?
“You never know what’s coming next!”



Hunger Project 2017



Caroling for our Precious In-Home Members



Thank you to all of our volunteers for coming and a very special thanks to *Aris Howsepian* for playing the violin while caroling. It added a very special touch and we are thankful for your gift of music!

WINTER CAMP 2018

CAMP AREV

ABOVE AND BEYOND

EPHESIANS 3: 14 - 21

WEEKEND DATES

- COLLEGE/CAREER = JANUARY 26 - 28
- JUNIORS = FEBRUARY 2 - 4
- JUNIOR HIGH = FEBRUARY 9 - 11
- HIGH SCHOOL = FEBRUARY 16 - 18

FOR REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.CAMPAREV.ORG/YOUTH - CAMPS/WINTER

OR CALL US
 818.507.0922 X2



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Upcoming Special Events

Angel Tree 11AM-1PM	Dec 9
Congregational Meeting	Dec 10
Youth Group Christmas Party	Dec 12
Young Families Christmas Party	Dec 15
Sunday School Christmas Program, 4pm	Dec 17
Christmas Sunday (No Christmas Eve Service)	Dec 24
Administrative Office Closed	Dec 25-26 Jan 1 & 5
Armenian Christmas	Jan 6
Christmas caroling at the Armenian Home	Jan 7
Appreciation Luncheon for Rev. Phil	Jan 21

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 Garza, 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)

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

