

mosaix

A publication of
First Armenian Presbyterian Church



Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples.

Oct 2018 Vol. 4:10

Snowflakes. Fingerprints. Each one is unique.

Did you know that your ears are also unique? The curvature and ridges are formed in the womb and while they grow in size, the details remain uniquely intact. The same is true for your tongue, the iris in your eye, and your DNA too. Each one is particular to each human being.

While we have similarities to one another, we are never a perfect match. Each one of us is unique from birth and I believe that God adds another layer to this uniqueness when He rescues us from the domain of darkness and brings us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. We each are His unique masterpiece, His work of priceless art, His handiwork.

Each one of us who is born again by the Spirit of God is given “good works” to do. God prepares them ahead of time for us to do during our stay on planet earth. Isn’t that exciting?! God has already prepared special assignments for each of His children. That’s worth getting out of bed in the morning! Don’t you want to discover what the Lord has in place for you during your lifetime?

You are unique and while I believe that God is good and He’s going to get His way, I wonder how many of these “good works” are left undone every day. I wonder how many of the “good works”—deeds that God’s has prepared for us to do—remain incomplete because we ignored or were ignorant of His call. He invites us to be “co-creators” with Him in our world. His strength, power and adequacy expressed through our personalities. God expresses His character through us!

What are some of *your* good works that He prepped for you?

Ask the Lord to show you what some of them have been. The ask Him about what some of them are for the rest of the year, so you can do them! Remember,

He prepared them for you to do. I’m convinced He’ll let us know. And let us know about them!

Don’t worry we won’t embarrass you by reprinting your stories without your permission. But I do wonder if hearing about each other’s stories would encourage us and change our mindset. I think it just might!

I wonder what dreams the Lord has for each one of us!

I also wonder whether God has “good works” and dreams prepared beforehand for churches. Have you ever wondered what God’s unique call is for the life of our church?

For we are God’s masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

I’m convinced that God has a dream for FAPC, maybe many! And I don’t want to miss them! How about you?

In early September a team of twelve FAPC men and women recruited by the Session met to seek God for His vision for our church. Working with Auxano *God Dreams* Chief Navigator, Mike Gammill, we began the process of discerning what the Lord may have on His heart for us over the next five to seven years.

We’re still in process and have a lot of work to do, but I’m so excited and fully anticipate God revealing His dreams for us! We’ll be sharing our discoveries as we begin to identify them and articulate them! Please pray for the *Dream Team*!

May His kingdom come and His will be done in each one of us and through our church!

●●●●● Badveli Greg

Annie S. Rubio, daughter of *Fernando and Elaine Rubio*, has been named 2018-2019 Editor of *Hye Sharzhoom*, ethnic supplement to The Daily Collegian newspaper of California State University, Fresno. Annie succeeds *Michael Rettig* in the Editor's chair.

Visitors to the Big Fresno Fair are encouraged to stop by the Fresno County Historical Museum near the Paul Paul Theatre to see the newly updated exhibit highlighting the Armenian-American Community of Central California. The Big Fresno Fair will take place from October 3-14, 2018.

Hoops in the Hall, the intramural basketball ministry of FAPC, has kicked off its 2018-2019 season. Join fellow basketballers in the Fellowship Hall each Monday and Wednesday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for full-court action with a devotional at halftime. Those who prefer milder exercise are welcome to dress out in comfortable athletic clothing for stretching exercises and walks around the perimeter of the court. For more details and up-to-the-minute scheduling, please contact *Jay Khushigian* at jmkhush@comcast.net.



Cynthia Afarian has been appointed Vice Principal of Vinland Elementary School in the Fresno Unified School District. Congratulations, Cindy!

Our Condolences:

Arthur Kaitangian, Jr. passed away on August 28, 2018 at the age of 83. Affectionately known as "Mickey," he



was the descendant of an early-day FAPC Sexton. Mickey was a 29-year veteran of the Fresno Fire Department, a longtime member of Firefighters for Christ, and a tireless community volunteer. Mickey is survived by his wife, Betty; sons Kelly and Raymond; and six grandchildren.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS & EVENTS

From Badveli Greg: regarding FAPC youth group for the school year 2018-2019, I'm excited to tell you that the Session has decided to hire Tim Nightingale as an "Interim, Part-time Youth Director" beginning October 1st, lasting until June 2019 or until our new, permanent Director of Youth Ministry arrives, whichever comes first.



Here is a note he's written to you:

Dear Youth and Parents,

The Elders and Pastors have worked very hard to prioritize the Youth Ministry at FAPC and accordingly have adopted an exciting vision on behalf of the Youth.

I look forward to seeing how Christ will meet us through Worship, how our faith will grow through Learning, and what we learn about God's love through Service.

As we dive into a new school year and everything that is to come I invite you to consider three dates in particular.

Youth, we will have a time of prayer and discussion on Wednesday, Oct. 3 from 6:00-7:30 pm in the new youth room.

Parents, I am very excited to invite you and your youth to a conversation about Youth Ministries on Thursday Oct. 4 from 6:00-7:30 pm in the new youth room.

Youth and Parents, you are invited to a day of Service, Worship, and Planning on Oct. 20, 2018. For this activity, we will partner with Saturday Sports in the morning and then have a lunch, prayer, and planning afterward. (more details to come)

Please let me know if you are available to attend. (Also, I realize that this may be a short turn around time for some of your schedules, if that is the case for you, please let me know in your e-mail when you RSVP).

With excitement and enthusiasm,

Tim Nightingale (tim.nightingaledc@gmail.com)



Arman and Lilit Asatryan, Regional Directors of Young Life Armenia and Georgia, were special speakers during the Rally Sunday Worship Service on September 9. The Young Life Christian Ministry provides safe places for Armenian

youth to meet and learn about Jesus, scholarships and camp experiences, mentoring, athletic programs, and interim housing for newly released orphans. For more information about their ministry, please visit formersovietunion.younglife.org.



Deacons' Note

Our Lord Jesus Christ is always close and is always listening to our prayers. Isn't it great that we can talk to the Lord anytime and anyplace? The Lord is always near us and will never leave us. Let's delight in the Lord and start each day by worshipping with thanksgiving, obeying and staying in his word. When we ask the Lord for the desires of our hearts, we have to believe that he will answer us according to his will.

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalm 34:17-18

●●●● Sela Ghazarian

Maturing Men Breakfasts will continue into the fourth quarter of 2018. Men of all ages are welcomed to attend the Saturday morning gatherings in the Christian Education Building Fireside Room. Future breakfasts will take place from 7 to 8:30 a.m. on October 27, November 17, and December 29. For more information, please e-mail Associate Pastor Mgo Mekredijian at mmekredijian@fapc.net or call (559) 237-6638.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Sunday School started again with Rally Sunday breakfast on September 9. Dr. Chris and Cheryl Shamlian planned and decorated all the details to this wonderful event that had over 100 in



attendance. Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:37am with JAM time and then children from ages 1-99 go to their respective classrooms. Join us!

Also during the church worship hour, KidsQuest has two groups for ages 3-7. They meet in the Christian Education building, are in constantly need of volunteers, please contact Rev. Mgo to help volunteer in this ministry.

Our Christian Education building has also been remodeled and we're truly grateful for the team of: Maryvonne Gagliardi, Sue Garabedian, Kay Garabedian, and Kazarian Custom Homes (Kalem Kazarian's Contruction Company)! To turn around a project like this in 3-4 weeks is unheard of, yet they did it and it looks great!



Palo Alto Educator **Nanor Balabanian** delivered the September 23 Children's Message on FAPC's new Advent Missions Project, Operation Christmas Child. A project of Reverend Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse ministry,

Operation Christmas Child collects shoebox gifts—filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items—and delivers them to children in need around the world -- including the Armenian communities of the Near East -- to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received. More details to follow.

"The most important thing that a child could ever learn about is the existence, character, and plan of God. If you know this fact, it will alter the way you understand and interpret every other fact in your life." *Parenting*, Paul David Tripp, p. 30

There's laundry to do.

Clean the house.

Worry about who they will be.

PACK THEIR LUNCHES.

Changing diapers.

Worry if they will get married.

Put bandaids on.

Disciplining them.

Take them to soccer, ballet, art class.

Constantly feeding them.

Wait up worrying why they're not home yet.

Getting them dressed.

Burping them.

HELP THEM MOVE INTO COLLEGE.

WALKING THEM DOWN THE AISLE.

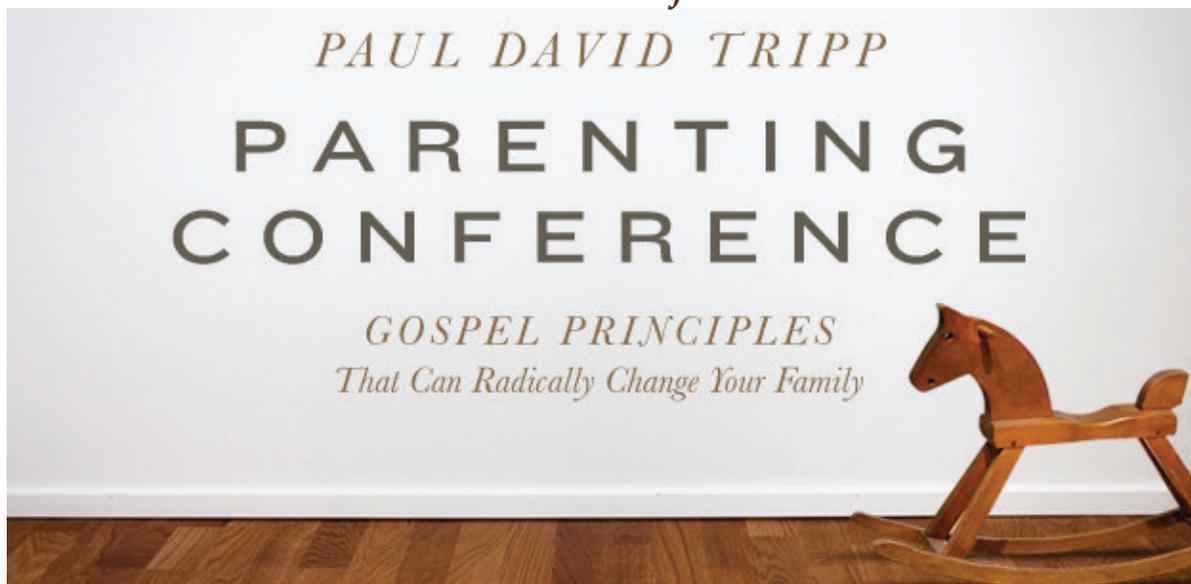
Parenting often seems exhausting.

Nov. 2-3

Friday eve and Saturday mid-day mini conference, hosted at FAPC.

Join us for a JOINT Pilgrim and FAPC adventure as we listen to Dr. Paul David Tripp expound on 4 Gospel principles from his recent book called "Parenting."

More details to follow.



THE
GATHERING

**GENERATIONS COMING
TOGETHER AROUND CHRIST**

Join us for Brunch

Saturday, October 13th

10:30am

**First Armenian
Presbyterian Church**

**Come find out about what
The Gathering is, be
encouraged, and have fun
with other women.**

Ladies ages 12+ are invited.

Bring Friends!

RSVP to Noelle Nightingale

(559)-355-4111

Noelle.A.Nightingale@gmail.com



First Armenian Presbyterian Church

Annual Merchant's Lunch

Thursday, November 8, 2018

11AM - 2PM

100 Years & Still Cooking

*Beef Filet Kebab or
Garlic Chicken Kebab*

Each Meal Includes:

Rice Pilaf

Cheese Boureg

Green Salad

Peda Bread

Paklava

\$15



*Country Store with Delicious
Homemade Goodies and Authentic
Armenian Favorites*

Dine in – Take Out – Drive Thru

For Further Information

Call: 559-237-6638

Fax: 559-237-9526

Email: administration@fapc.net

430 S. First Street, Fresno 93702

Cross Streets

First & Huntington

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

MERCHANT'S LUNCH WORKSHOPS



What a joy it would be to have you come join us:

- Oct 6:** Choreg (9:00am-3:00pm)
- Oct 20:** Choreg (9:00am-3:00pm)
- Oct 27:** Cheese boreg (9:00am-3:00pm)

- Nov 3:** Paklava (9:00am-12pm)
- Nov 6:** Simit (10am-1pm)
- Nov 7:** Country store set up (9am)
- Nov 8:** Merchants' lunch

If you will be helping at any of these workshops, please contact Jonelle Kazarian, (559-289-4226).

Thankful to all the servants to make this event possible.



It's All About Relationships



Camping ministry is unique. Campers live together for a time, learn about each other, and get to know each other's personalities. As they build horizontal relationships with one other, they also get to know Jesus, and how much He loves them and cares for them, and they build a vertical, life-changing relationship with their Creator. *Camping ministry is all about building relationships.*



When I witness such relationship building at our Armenian Evangelical camps, it brings joy to my heart. I witness campers singing together in worship, opening their Bibles to get to know God better, praying and asking God to change their lives. They argue with each other about rules and if the water balloon actually hit them and later bond as they laugh about it. They ride the zip line for the first time as their friends cheer them on. They are sitting alone and some cabin mates come to sit with them. *It's all about relationships.* It is a joy to watch leaders and counselors pour out love and care for campers. Some are hurting, lonely, or coming from broken backgrounds. At camp they realize that God can heal, He will restore and He will never leave them or forsake them. It's all about relationships.



I've participated in camp ministry since I was a camper myself, but Summer 2018 was unique for me. God gave me the opportunity to be part of three different Armenian Evangelical camps.

Camp AREV:

The ministry of Camp AREV started in the late 1970s. Since 1992 the AEUNA has owned its current 45-acre property in Frazier Park. God has transformed the lives of succeeding generations at Camp AREV. This summer, we sold out Junior High and High School camps with close to 120 campers each week. This ministry, which I serve full-time, continues to thrive and achieve new goals. We seek your continued prayers for our campers so that they continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and

wisdom; finding spiritual fellowship and community in one of our local churches. *It's all about relationships.*



Camp Arevelk:

Camp Arevelk was started in 2000 by some faithful servants who saw the need for a camping ministry for our eastern region AEUNA churches. God has blessed this ministry tremendously. Many have come to know Jesus through Camp Arevelk's ministry and are now

active members and servants in their local churches and youth groups. After the passing of our dear brother and Camp Arevelk leader, Rev. Dr. Ara Jizmejian, I received



an invitation to go this August to lead their Bible lessons and to help with leadership, specifically working with counselors and staff. This was an absolute privilege. It was a time for reflection and healing for a community that had just lost its pastor. We had great moments of tears and joy around the campfire as campers were able to share their memories of how Rev. Ara had pastored them, loved them, and cared for them. When they needed money for snack shop, he would pay for them; when they wanted a partner to play foosball, he would jump in and be a partner. The relationships that were built were priceless. God was active. The Holy Spirit was moving the hearts and minds of all the campers. Continue to pray for healing and restoration in that community. *It's all about relationships.*

Camp Kchag - Lebanon:

In February, God opened the door for me to go overseas to be the guest speaker at Kchag Youth Camp in Lebanon. This opportunity was exciting, but it was also challenging because my wife and I are expecting our 4th child. Was the timing right? What if something unexpected happened while I was overseas? We prayed and asked the Lord for direction and peace of mind. God answered and we agreed that I would go. I was blessed. As I arrived, the level of hospitality was amazing. For the first few days, I was able to visit our Armenian Evangelical churches and schools, and traverse the Bourj Hammoud neighborhoods. As we made our way



to camp, I was told it had been previously occupied by the Syrian Army after the Lebanese civil war. I realized there was a lot of pain and suffering in the hearts of people there. Many had lived through the civil war. But it was all about the relationships. The week at Camp Khchag opened my eyes, and my heart was full. The campers loved being there. They enjoyed being with



one another. They loved the games, even with lack of water. When the electricity went out, they continued to sing and praise God. They were energetic, and they loved to worship. The relationships that began there will last a lifetime. I praise God for this opportunity. To witness camping ministries thrive is cause to praise God for His faithfulness. To be part of the relationships created through our camping ministries allows us to be connected in ways that otherwise would not be possible. All of this is based on our personal relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord. *It's all about relationships.*

For His Glory,
Rev. Razmig Minassian
Executive Director - Camp AREV





**First
Armenian
Presbyterian
Church**

430 S. 1st St Fresno, CA 93702
Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Fresno, CA
Permit No. 398

Upcoming Special Events

Armenian Home Visit	Oct 7
The Gathering, a Women's Ministries Event	Oct 13
Appreciation Luncheon for Jane Bedrosian	Oct 28
Joint Series with Pilgrim: Video Series	
“Parenting” by Dr. Paul David Tripp	Nov 2-3
AMAA Sunday	Nov 4
Armenian Home Visit	Nov 4
Merchant's Lunch	Nov 8
Armenian Home Visit	Dec 1
Congregational Meeting	Dec 9
Joint with PACC, Apologetics Seminar	Jan 11-13, 2019

Church Office:
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
(M - F)
P: 559.237.6638
F: 559.237.9526
E: fapc3@fapc.net

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

Staff:

Suzy Artemyan, (Maternity leave)
Church Administrator
Jesse Dunbar, Interim Music Ministry Director
Vera Darakjian, Armenian Ministries Pianist
Marine Frznlyan, Administrator Assistant,
Nursery Attendant
Tim Nightingale, Interim Part-time Youth Director
Ani Sargsyan, 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: Dr. Hagop Afarian, Ed Esajian, Krikor Kalayjian, Paul Koligian, Fernando Rubio, Dr. Dennis Shamlan, Ron Statler

Deacons: Vera Darakjian, Silva Esajian, Kim Garo, Sela Ghazarian, Keith Harrison, Maria Kalayjian, Arpi Keledjian, Kohar Kojayan, Bob Mangasarian, Karine Martirosyan, Rita Shamlan, Varvara Sivas

