A publication of First Armenian Presbyterian Church

June 2022 Vol. 8:5

Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples.

"31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.' 1 Corinthians 10:31(NIV2011)

What is it going to take to see a change in our nation? What is it going to take to see a change in our world? Are you heartbroken by another school shooting? Does your heart ache for the economic, social and personal chaos in Lebanon? What about the war in Ukraine? It's so easy to get numb and look away, to distract ourselves from the anguish all around us.

We cannot ignore the pain and suffering that surrounds us. Every single tear that falls matters to the Lord. I love the quote from Abraham Kuyper, the Dutch statesmen, in 1880, at the opening of the Free University in Amsterdam, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

Do you believe that Christ is Lord of all? Not just over our personal lives, or the church, but every dimension of society! Do we recognize that Jesus is Lord over our children's education—not only in Christian Schools or Home Schools—but in all schools and universities? Really? It doesn't look like it. When we look at our government—pick your party—it would be hard to convince anyone that Jesus would even want to claim it! In all professions, all work, all relationships, all service

of any kind, anywhere, Jesus says, "Mine!" This is His agenda: to express His character, His presence, His truth and His compassion everywhere on planet earth.

Are you on board with this? To be a disciple of Jesus Christ means being available to fulfill His will whenever and wherever He calls.

I love the poem of Frances Schaeffer. It's a prayer, really.

To eat, to breathe to beget *Is this all there is* Chance configuration of atom against atom of god against god I cannot believe it. Come. Christian Triune God who lives. Here am I Shake the world again.

As we head into summer, let's not forget our calling. Whether we're on vacation or working our normal routine, let's pray this prayer daily. May He indeed shake the world again. May He shake me!

Because He lives,









Family Life News

CONGRATULATIONS

All 2022 Graduates, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Graduation booklets will be passed out on Youth Sunday, June 12th. If interested in additional copies please contact the church office at 559-237-6638.



PAST EVENTS...

Senior Pastor Gregory Haroutunian and Very Reverend Father Ashod Khachadourian of Holy Trinity Armenian Church appeared before the Clovis City Council on April 18 to receive the City's "Proclamation of April 24, 2022 as Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day." Badveli Greg also participated in the raising of the Armenian Flag at Fresno City Hall on April 22, and Armenian Genocide Commemorative Ceremony at the Genocide Monument at the Campus of CSU Fresno on Sunday afternoon, April 24.

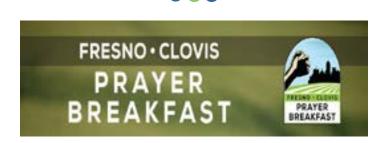


[Photo courtesy of J.T. Gomez/Clovis Roundup Newspaper



A delegation of men from the FAPC Family attended the All In Men's Conference at Peoples Church on Saturday, April 30, 2022. Featured speakers included Ken Harrison, Sammy Rodriguez, A.J. Nunez, Dr. Jim Cecy, Kenton Rahn, Colonel Todd Riddle, and Mitchell Shaw. The Conference was a ministry event of the Mighty Men Movement, a prayer-driven California network of ministry to men emphasizing the values of prayer, purity, marriage, fatherhood, mentoring and holiness, among others.

The Session and Congregation reviewed the 2021 Annual Report at a breakfast meeting before worship on Sunday, May 1. The printed report included summaries of 2021 ministries and missions from 20 components of our church life. If you were unable to attend the breakfast meeting or did not receive a report, please contact the Church Office at (559) 237-6638 or administration@fapc.net.



Members and friends of FAPC attended the 2022 Fresno-Clovis Prayer Breakfast. The Breakfast took place on the morning of May 11 at Chukchansi Park, Downtown Home of the Fresno Grizzlies Baseball Team, Class A affiliate of the MLB Colorado Rockies. Jonathan Evans, former NFL fullback, Chaplain of the Dallas Cowboys football team, and Co-Chaplain of the Dallas Mavericks NBA basketball team, was the keynote speaker. Visit his website at jonathanblakeevans.com.

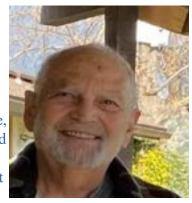


On May 30th, we had our second Memorial Day Picnic at Hillcrest Tree Farms. This year we had over 600 people in attendance, and enjoyed shishkebab along with plenty of rice pilaf, hot dogs, and salad. The steam train was a big hit again, running from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., taking trips around the Tree Farm. There was face painting, bounce houses, a water slide, corn hole, and a small pool for the children to enjoy. Richard Hagopian and his band came and played music, there was dancing both by those in attendance and the Armenian Dance Group of Fresno. The picnic was a great success, and many who may not have met those in our church before got a great chance to meet and interact with our church family. Thank you to all the volunteers, in the months leading up to the picnic, the set-up on Sunday, and the set-up and clean-up day of, we could not have done it without you!



Our Condolences...

Theodore Diran "Tedd" Lyons II, beloved Associate Pastor and Youth Director of First Armenian Presbyterian Church in the 1970s, passed away in his Clovis home on Good Friday, April 15, 2022. The son of an equally-beloved Youth Leader at our church from the post-World War II era, Tedd was educated at Coalinga High School, West Hills College, then-Whitworth College in Spokane, and Fuller Theological Seminary. The Presbytery of San Joaquin ordained Tedd a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in 1973, and he served as Youth Pastor at North Hollywood Presbyterian Church before joining our church as Assistant and Associate Pastor. His favorite Scriptures were found in Mark 12: 29-31.



During his tenure, Tedd was known for his outreach to the young, visiting students at their respective high school and college campuses and teaching the Gospel message through theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer's 1939 work, "Life Together." Tedd also actively participated in the groundbreaking and dedication of the present-day Sanctuary Building in 1975 and 1976. After departing our church in 1978, Tedd served at Dinuba Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Orange Cove, and concluded his active ministry as Associate Pastor of University Presbyterian Church of Fresno (1994-2013). At UPC, Tedd led multiple high school mission trips to Mexico as well as locations in Central California. He continued to preach in Central Valley pulpits in his retirement years. Away from the pulpit, Tedd was a gifted artist, gardener, chef, and host and an avid fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team. Tedd was preceded in death by his parents, Reverend Theodore Diran and Dorothy (Erysian) Lyons; his grandparents, Hagop and Eunice (Chorbajian) Arslanian/Lyons and Jack and Alice (Zerahian) Erysian; his aunts and uncles, Dorothy Arslanian; John and Elizabeth Lyons; Reverend Doctor Paul and Grace G. Avazian; Armand and Ruth Erysian; Irv and Ruth Marks; and John and Margaret Sivas; and his cousin, James Newton Lyons of Parlier. Tedd is survived by his sisters, Jacqueline Miramontes and Candace Goins; his widow, Dione; and his children, Autumn Biedermann and her husband, Jay; Diran Lyons; James Lyons and his wife, Deborah; Alysia Lyons; and Zeke Lyons and his wife, Taryn; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. A public memorial service will be held for Badveli Tedd at 10 a.m. on June 25 at University Presbyterian Church, 1776 East Roberts Avenue, just east of Cedar Avenue in Fresno.

Prayer List

We want to pray for you. What are specific ways we can be praying for you, or praising God with you? Each Sunday we pray during the worship service, and if you send in a request we will include it in the service. If it is a private request, there is a place to mark that, so that we can still be praying for you as a staff team, but will not share your request.

Please use the link www.fapc.net/prayers





On Saturday, May 14, 2022, the Gathering Event: "Discipling and Mentoring" was held at AJ's Restaurant Patio. We were blessed with three presenters: Jane Bedrosian, Morgan Marashian, and Sossy Haroutunian.

Jane and Morgan shared their experiences as Mentor and Mentee. Jane expressed she was drawn by the Lord in a heartfelt way to Morgan when she was still a young child. Jane felt an immediate connection and believes God had something to do with their growing relationship. She shared that it began by consistently making a point to see each other every Sunday during church. Jane began to connect in other ways with Morgan too, and soon they forged a loving bond. She said their relationship grew out of love, kindness, their mutual interests and faithfulness to our Lord Jesus. Though Jane's intention was to simply share love and encouragement to young Morgan, she realized this was God's hand in revealing this mentoring relationship. Jane emphasized that the mentoring journey begins with love and encouragement whether you realize it or not.

Jane shared that mentoring, even just one person, takes time, commitment, patience, and being a steadfast listener! Their relationship grew within the church as she discovered Morgan's appreciation for music and choir. Jane shared that if we believe in Christ as our Savior and seek to follow all His teachings, we will spread His word. She indicated it's all about building relationships one person at a time. She and Morgan found connections because they were both open to expressing their feelings and sharing daily activities. Jane could see a growing maturity and faithfulness which became even more evident in the ensuing years. She finds it is crucial to spend time with each other, and to really get to know each other. Psalm 46 and Philippians 2:1-5 have encouraged her: the Lord is with us and He will empower us to care for others.

Morgan shared that she found herself receptive and open to Jane's intentional ways to connect. Whether an appreciation of similar interests or events they attend. Morgan conveyed that Jane took an interest in her and her friends too. Jane would find an opportunity and then seek out Morgan to participate and/or attend. It became evident to Jane that Morgan's choral interest was a connection for them that continued to grow in the church.

Morgan emphasized that Jane's interest in her life had a great impact. They began to learn about one another and soon built a trusted relationship and friendship. Morgan

shared that Jane was inclusive and frequently encouraged her to bring friends along. Morgan expressed that with Jane, she could talk in a relevant way. Morgan conveyed that Jane connected with her inwardly which led to a bond from a spiritual foundation. She was a trusted source from which to receive faith and encouragment. This continues in their friendship today.

Sossy shared that she seeks to have a prayerful and abiding heart, asking God to reveal with whom a discipling relationship might open up. Her heart remains open and whether through an incidental conversation or a simple interaction, God has led her into several discipling relationships. She shared that this has become a passion of her heart. She wants to build into those whom God surfaces. She emphasized she remains open and honest about her own life with these women and shares her thoughts and experiences over the difficult time. Through her prayerful heart, the Lord has led Sossy to several women in our church. She utilizes the book "Essential Guide to Becoming a Disciple" by Greg Ogden.

Sossy regards this book as a vital component when beginning the discipling relationship. A Covenant of Commitment is an important element of the book: to pledge with your peer(s) when beginning this book to go through an eight session journey together. She indicated that it is ideal to go through this book with one or two other persons but would limit it to no more than three. Each guest was invited to take a book home and to prayerfully consider the opportunity to disciple and mentor. Sossy emphasized that each of us may have one or two people whom we could pray for and wait to see how God will lead. For Sossy, her deep desire is to be available and to be in prayer to see to whom God will lead her.

Sossy shared some thoughts from those whom she has had a discipling relationship with and how their relationship has evolved mutually. It was a wonderful time of inspiration and encouragement.

In closing, Sossy steadfastly encouraged us to be open and prayerfully seek out those in our lives who may be waiting for us to ask and invite to this opportunity of discipling and mentoring.

Sandy Marashian





The Gathering







FAPC Youth: Summer Missions

This month we feature two of our young people who will be serving in ministry this summer in Armenia. Ani Haroutunian and Peter Kazarian will be interns at Altar Coffee and Books in Yerevan for six weeks. Altar Coffee and Books is the only Christian bookstore in Yerevan and serves American-influenced coffee connected with Fresno's very own Kuppa Joy Coffee. During that time, they will not only be serving coffee, but will also be spending time in the Prayer Room, leading worship, and sharing the gospel throughout Armenia along with other members of the Altar Internship team.

Currently, Ani is a sophomore at Fresno State University, majoring in Communicative Sciences, Speech Pathology. Peter will be an incoming freshman at Hillsdale College, majoring in Political Science.

We asked Ani and Peter a few questions to give us insight on their hopes for this trip as well as how we can best support them as their church family.

What led you to pursue this ministry opportunity?

Ani: When Peter and Shushan Telian came to our church this last fall, I loved hearing about their new ministry, Altar. I was going to ask Peter if there were any serving opportunities at Altar Coffee and Books this summer and before I even asked, he wrote to me and asked if I would be interested in applying to be a part of the Altar internship. I was amazed by God's perfect timing in this and from there, pursued the opportunity. I am excited and looking forward to being a part of the Altar ministry.

Peter: My family lived in Armenia in 2008. Ever since then, I have wanted to go back. After hearing about Altar and the ministry that they do, I was encouraged and compelled to do something. This ministry provides an opportunity to serve other people and build my personal relationship with God. In Isaiah 6:8, the Lord asks, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" Through this trip, I want to echo Isaiah's response, "Here I am. Send me."

Is this your first experience in the mission field?

Ani and Peter: Yes, this is our first experience (as young adults), and we are so excited for what God has in store at Altar Coffee and Books.

How do you hope to use this experience to impact your ministry back in the States?

Ani and Peter:

- For boldness in sharing our faith
- To grow closer with God
- To apply what we learned into the college environment/life in general
- To get a better grasp of the Armenian language and culture

How can our church family pray for you?

- For safe travels
- For listening to the Lord's direction
- That God would open the door to share the
- We will keep you posted on future prayer requests through FAPC 24/7 prayer and on Instagram @ani.in.armenia

Let's join together in prayer for Ani and Peter! If anyone would like to support their endeavors through financial support, visit

aplos.com/aws/give/ARCInternational *AltarInternship*

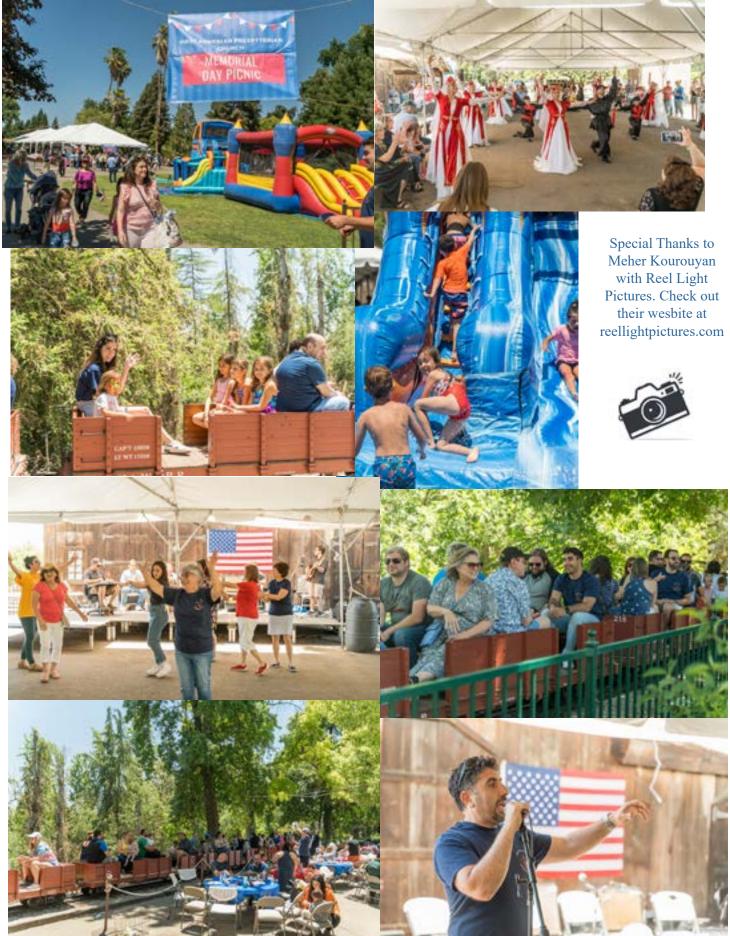
In the "Note" box, include the name of the individual(s) you wish to support through your donation.

Matthew 28:19a – "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations . . . "



Memorial Day Picnic







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Upcoming Special Events

June 12th - Youth Sunday

June 17th - 24/7 Prayer Day

June 23rd -26th - AEUNA/AEYF Biennial

July 10th - 16th - Junior High Camp @ Camp AREV

July 17th - 23rd - High School Camp @ Camp AREV

July 24th - 30th - Juniors Camp @ Camp AREV

August 26th - 28th - Family Camp @ Camp AREV



Starting next month we will be sending out the Mosaix digitally. If you would like to recieve a paper copy, please contact the church office at 559-237-6638.

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Unsolicitated submissions are welcome.

All submissions are subject to editorial revisions.

Please email to kelsey@fapc.net

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Ruling Elders: Dr. Hagop Afarian, Paul Bedrosian, Paul Haroutunian,

Kalem Kazarian, Rev. Razmig Minassian

Deacons: Sandra Marashian, Noelle Nightingale, Maral Afarian, Steven Baker,

Rita Barsamian, Grace Chavoor, Simon Kalebjian, Karine Martirosyan,

Ando Sivas, Kinsey Sivas