

## Tiffany and Jesse Dunbar's Testimonies: A Journey of Faith and Redemption

by: Ara Catchatoorian

Story on Pg 3



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Scan to Register for Church Events & Ministries

SCAN ME

*“I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.”*

Ephesians 1:16-19 (NIV2011)



“How good is God?!” That was my question. As we move toward Thanksgiving, I encourage you to answer it. How have you experienced God’s goodness?

I had just run into an old professor from seminary. It was the first time in nearly thirty-five years that I had seen him. A close friend of my brother Paul’s, he welcomed me back to campus, and we reconnected instantly.

“How good is God?!” That’s what I texted Paul with the picture of us together.

“How good is God?!” Where have you seen His goodness in your life?

This has been my question all week as I have co-taught a Doctor of Ministry course here at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School on The Challenges and Opportunities of the Immigrant Church to ten outstanding pastors. Two of the three Chinese pastors are from Australia (one on Zoom). One of the three Korean pastors is from Flushing, NY, home to possibly more first-generation immigrants than any other city in the United States. Another is from Chicagoland and leads three 6:30 a.m. prayer meetings every week. The other one pastors a predominantly Filipino church. We also have two Nigerian pastors from Chicago and an Armenian Pentecostal pastor from Sacramento. The immigrant church is alive and well!

### “How good is God?!”

He is doing amazing things! People are coming to faith in Christ. Pastors are leading their churches to become disciple-making communities. Some are joining their members on mission trips back to their original towns & villages. They are zealous to see the next generation maintain their culture and language and, at the same time, embrace their new home, our great nation!

As more and more immigrants leave their countries and choose to settle in the United States, they have the opportunity to see Christ be their foundation & anchor in their new community. It may be the faith of the newer immigrants that positively impact our country as we become less and less influenced by the Gospel.

Are you seeing God’s goodness in your life? Sometimes, no doubt, it’s difficult. As we approach the official day of giving thanks, let’s practice daily! Ask the Lord to open the eyes of your heart to see His abundant goodness!

Because He lives

**Prayer Requests?**  
Submit your requests online at [fapc.net](http://fapc.net) or via ChurchCenter app.

# Tiffany and Jesse Dunbar's Testimonies: A Journey of Faith and Redemption

by: **Ara Catchatoorian**

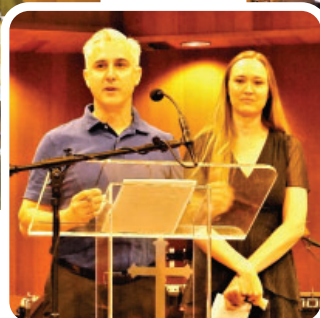
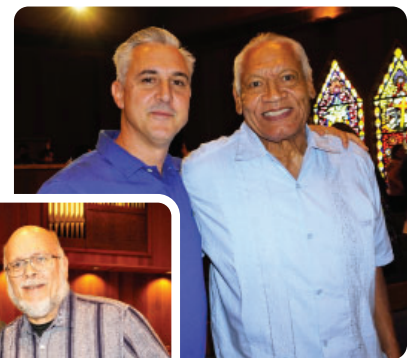
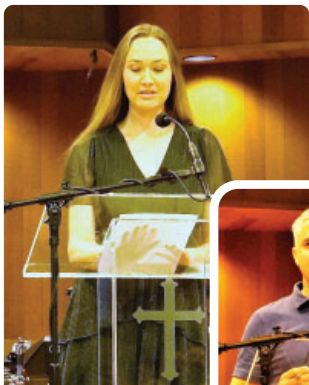
On October 8, 2023, Tiffany and Jesse Dunbar shared their heartfelt testimonies, revealing their unique paths to faith and redemption as they were accepted as official members of FAPC. Their stories showcase the transformative power of God's love and the profound impact of prayer and community.

Tiffany Dunbar's faith journey began at an early age, as she grew up in a Christian family where God was an integral part of daily life. Her grandparents and parents were devoted believers, instilling the values of faith and devotion in her. Despite not having a dramatic conversion story, Tiffany's testimony reminds us that faith can be a steady presence, even in the absence of a radical turning point. Her walk with Christ has been a continuous journey, strengthened through the trials and tribulations of life.

Jesse Dunbar's story, on the other hand, is a testament to the redemptive power of God's grace. His life took a dark turn as he found himself entangled in a life of crime and hardship. Yet, through a series of events and divine interventions, Jesse came to a pivotal moment of surrender. He realized that he needed a higher power to guide him out of the darkness that had consumed his life. Jesse's encounter with a detective, known as "the Terminator," who was in attendance, became a turning point, pushing him to choose a different path.

Both Tiffany and Jesse's journeys illustrate the profound impact of prayer and the support of a loving community. Tiffany's grandmother and her church family prayed for her, and their collective faith played a crucial role in guiding her through life. For Jesse, the power of prayer and the support of fellow believers helped him turn his life around.

Tiffany and Jesse's testimonies serve as a powerful reminder that faith can take many different forms, and each person's journey is unique. Whether one grows up in a faith-filled environment like Tiffany or experiences a radical transformation like Jesse, the love and grace of God are always available to guide, redeem, and transform lives. Their stories encourage all believers to continue in prayer, trust in God's plan, and extend love and support to those on their faith journey. As Psalm 145:4 suggests, one generation commends the works of God to another, passing down the blessings of faith and hope from one generation to the next.



Camp Arev Men's Retreat  
October 13-15th, 2023



Camp Arev Men's Retreat  
October 13-15th, 2023



# Unlocking Spiritual Growth and Honesty with ‘Sins We Accept’

**Embrace a Positive Transformation in Your Life and Relationships with This Inspiring Book**

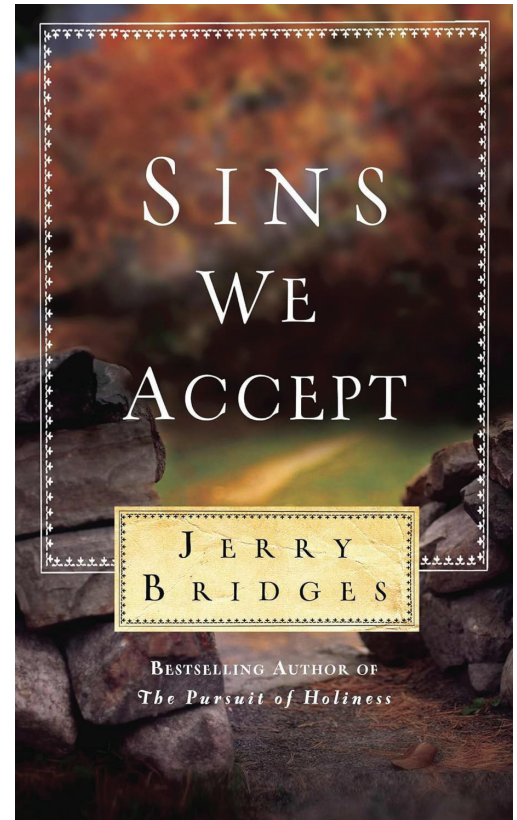
Happy Thanksgiving!!! We want to give each family a copy of a little book that can transform both your relationship with God and with others.

If we'll read and put into practice the principles of Sins We Accept, others will be quite thankful for the changes in our lives!

Frequently, talking about sin can seem so negative, but we believe that you'll find tremendous freedom as we reject these "acceptable sins."

We'll find greater freedom with the Lord as well!

For both of these, you'll be thankful!



# FAPC Youth Help Lead Armenian Studies Organization at CSUF

**Alec Karayan & Armand Karkazian Step Forward at Fresno State's ASO**

Congratulations to Alec Karayan on his election as President and Armand Karkazian on his election as Vice President of the Armenian Students Organization (ASO) at California State University, Fresno. Alec (seated center) is a Plant Science Major and Armand (seated to the right of Alec) is an Agricultural Business Major at CSU Fresno. The ASO celebrates its 50th Anniversary





# New ASO President Alec Karayan Invites Badveli Greg to Address Artsakh Crisis

## In the Midst of the Artsakh Situation, Armenian Students Seek Spiritual Guidance and Action

Newly-elected Armenian Students Organization (ASO) President Alec Karayan invited Badveli Greg to speak briefly about prayer at their October barbeque. In light of the situation in Artsakh, Badveli urged the students to seek the Lord on behalf of those who suffered the ethnic cleansing and to listen to Him as He directs them to action.





# Harvesting Joy and Togetherness: FAPC's Children's Harvest Event

## Families Unite for a Day of Harvest Fun and Fellowship

In a heartwarming celebration of community and gratitude, children and families from First Armenian Presbyterian Church gathered at a local pumpkin patch for a day of harvest-themed fun.

This event, held in a rustic outdoor setting, offered hayrides, games, and delicious seasonal treats, evoking the bounties of the harvest season and fostering an appreciation for the earth's abundance.

The gathering provided children with a wonderful opportunity to bond with their friends, embrace the spirit of togetherness, and reflect on the values of gratitude and sharing, all while creating cherished memories.

FAPC's Children's Harvest Event at the pumpkin patch was a heartwarming reminder of the joy that comes from coming together to celebrate the harvest and the blessings of community, echoing the biblical teachings of Galatians 6:9 to persevere in doing good and reaping the harvest of togetherness.







# Children's Ministries





# Countdown to Christmas: Our Sunday School Christmas Program is in the Works!

**Mrs. Nataly Wairdian**

Dear Beloved Church Parents,

With the holiday season just around the corner, we are excited to announce that preparations for our annual Sunday School Christmas program have officially begun. This festive event is a cherished tradition in our community, and your support and involvement are invaluable in making it a memorable experience for our children.

To ensure that our young participants are well-prepared, we have organized practice sessions every Sunday during Sunday School. We kindly ask parents to assist their children with major roles by practicing lines at home. Additionally, the songs and script lines will be sent home for your convenience.

We understand the busy schedules that come with the holiday season, so we have also scheduled a special practice session on the Saturday before the program, December 16 starting at 9 am. Your child’s attendance at these sessions is vital for their confidence and a smooth performance on the day of the program.

The Christmas program itself is set to take place on December 17 in our beloved fellowship hall. Following the program, we will have a delightful dinner where we can all come together in celebration.

Your involvement, support, and encouragement are paramount in creating a joyful and meaningful Christmas program for our children. Your presence, as well as the time spent practicing with your child, will undoubtedly contribute to their growth and success during this special event.

Let us come together as a church family to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We look forward to your active participation in making this year’s program a resounding success. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the children’s ministry director.



May the blessings of the Christmas season fill your hearts and homes with love and joy.

In faith and fellowship,

Nataly Wairdian  
Children’s Ministry Director  
First Armenian Presbyterian Church

NOT REGISTERED FOR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL?



*Register Online*



FIRST ARMENIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTS



# A Miracle On Main Street

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:30 PM



Children's Performance



Dinner



Live Music

FAPC Fellowship Hall

430 S First Street

Fresno, CA 93702

REGISTER FOR EVENT





# FAPC Hosts AMAA Presentation on its Global Operations

## Guest Speaker Harout Nercessian Gives of AMAA Canada Delivers Armenian Sermon

On Sunday, October 29, 2023 FAPC hosted guest speaker, Harout Nercessian, AMMA Representative to Canada as he gave the day's Armenian sermon and a presentation on the AMMA's activities worldwide. FAPC hosted a delicious lunch prepared by the Missions committee for all members in attendance.





Young Couples Event

**Started with a Bang!**  
**FAPC Young Couples Event at The Firing Line is a blast!**

On September 17, 2023, First Armenian Presbyterian Church's Young Couples ministry enjoyed an evening of fellowship and target practice at The Firing Line shooting range in Clovis, CA.



# Men's Bible Study



Men, join our Wednesday Bible Study in the Fireside Room as Badveli Greg continues the study of the Gospel of Mark during the autumn season. Men of all ages are invited to attend as their schedules permit. Contact Administrator Jacci Rustigan at [jacci@fapc.net](mailto:jacci@fapc.net) or call (559) 237-6638 to be added to the Wednesday Bible Study Group e-list.



## Birthday Shinanegans

On October 12th, the FAPC Men's Bible Study group celebrated Ed Ashjian's 80th birthday. Happy Birthday Ed!

# Armenian Men's Bible Study

Հայերեն Լեզուով  
Տղամարդկանց  
Աստվածաշնչի ուսումնասիրություն

Տեղադրության և  
մանրամասների համար  
կապվեք Լուսեայի հետ  
(818) 438-2415  
LUSEVAJIAN@GMAIL.COM

Միացե՛ք մեզ ընկերակցության, թեմատիկ քննարկումների և հոգևոր աճի համար:

Ամեն 1-ին և 3-րդ շաբաթ օրը ժամը 9:30-ին:  
Բոլորը ողջունելի են:



OH NO! I lost  
my address  
book contacts!

WELL, NOT REALLY...BUT OUR FAPC DEACON TEAM WOULD LIKE TO BE SURE WE HAVE YOUR UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION.

IF YOU HAVE MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, YOU CAN E-MAIL US AT [jacci@fapc.net](mailto:jacci@fapc.net) OR GIVE THE CHURCH OFFICE A CALL AT 559-237-6638 TO LET US KNOW.

YOU CAN ALSO CHECK PLANNING CENTER TO BE SURE YOUR INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE.

THANK YOU!

THE FAPC DEACON TEAM



WINTER  
Camp

2024

High School  
January 12 - 14

Juniors  
January 19 - 21

Junior High  
January 26 - 28

Young Adults  
February 2 - 4

## LOVE PACK

### \$50 PER LOVE PACK

IF YOU CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN A CHURCH LOVE PACK EVENT, YOU MAY DONATE \$50/BOX TO ARDA AND A LOVE PACK WILL BE PACKED FOR YOU.

CONTENTS WILL BE PURCHASED IN BULK AND SUPPLIED TO EACH CHURCH COMMENSURATE TO # OF BOXES BEING FUNDED.



#### HYGIENE

Pack of toothbrushes, toothpaste, nail clippers, comb, towels, soap, shampoo, towels, diapers, hygiene pads.



#### BEDDING

Blankets and pillows and a set of bedsheets and pillowcases.



#### SCHOOL

Pencils, Pens, Erasers, Rulers, Coloring pencils, Glue sticks, Scissors, Sharpeners, Notebooks.



#### WARM CLOTHING

Jackets, Hoodies, Sweaters, Gloves, Hats, Undergarments.



- EACH LOVE PACK = \$50
- ONE SHIPPING CONTAINER = 650 LOVE PACKS
- LOVE PACKS WILL ARRIVE @ COLDEST TIME OF YEAR - FEBRUARY

**CALL ARDA @ 626-744-3221**

YOUR CHURCH NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR CHURCH MAY ASSEMBLE THE LOVE PACKS AT YOUR LOCATION OR PARTICIPATE IN A MULTI CHURCH PACKING DAY.

#### ARDA BOARD MEMBERS

**Ray Sevotan**  
Chairman

**Stan Lazzarian**  
President

**Paul Ajjian**  
**Martin Eskjjan**  
**Levon Fillion**  
**Jay Khushigian**

**Darrell Levonian**  
**Ani Shahinian**  
**Len Sunuqjan**

#### ARDA ADMINISTRATION

**Ariel Babikian**  
Executive Director

**Hrehat Stepanian**  
Armenia Director

**Rita Leo Manglikian**  
Director of Operations

**Lulza Petrozayan**  
Medical Director



*Together We Will Serve!*



P.O. Box 5727  
Pasadena, CA 91117

PACK SOME LOVE IN A  
**"LOVE PACK"**  
OF  
BASIC ESSENTIALS



*"Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me"*  
MATTHEW 25:40





# First Armenian Presbyterian Church

430 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Fresno, CA 93702

Return Service Requested

Teaching Elder: Rev. Greg Haroutunian; Badveli@fapc.net  
 Ruling Elders: Dr. Hagop Afarian, Paul David Bedrosian, Rev. Paul Haroutunian, Kalem Kazarian and Rev. Razmig Minassian  
 Deacons: Noelle Nightingale, Sandra Marashian, Maral Afarian, Richard Bittikofer, Rita Barsamian, Ara & Sosie Catchatoorian, Edward & Silva Esajian, Simon Kalebjian, Janik & Mariam Oganessian, Ando & Kinsey Sivas  
 Staff Team: Church Administrator: Jacci Rustigan, Jacci@fapc.net; Financial Assistant: Araz Ghazarian, Araz@fapc.net; Marketing Director, Ara Catchatoorian, Ara@fapc.net; Custodian: Susan Ruiz; Music Director: Rev. Razmig Minassian, Razmig@camparev.org; Youth Director: Eddy Thurber eddy@fapc.net, Children's Ministry Director: Nataly Wairdian, nataly@fapc.net

## November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		Women's Bible Study 5:55PM Women's Zoom Bible Study 2:55PM Family Fellowship 6:45PM Session	Men's Bible Study Fireside 12-1PM	Women's Bible Study Fireside 9:45 AM Family Fellowship Zoom	Mommy & Me CE Bldg 9:30 AM	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 AM Prayer Bridal Room 10:30 Communion Service Coffee Fellowship Armenian Bible Study 12:30PM Armenian Home Worship 1:45 PM		Women's Bible Study 5:55PM Women's Zoom Bible Study 2:55PM Family Fellowship 6:45PM Session	Men's Bible Study Fireside 12-1PM	Women's Bible Study Fireside 9:45 AM Family Fellowship Zoom	Veteran's Day	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Prayer Bridal Room 9:30AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Armenian Bible Study 12:30PM		Women's Bible Study 5:55PM Women's Zoom Bible Study 2:55PM Family Fellowship 6:45PM Session	Men's Bible Study Fireside 12-1PM	Women's Bible Study Fireside 9:45 AM Family Fellowship Zoom 24/7 Prayer Fireside 7PM	Mommy & Me CE Bldg 9:30 AM	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Prayer Bridal Room 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Armenian Bible Study 12:30PM		Women's Bible Study 5:55PM Women's Zoom Bible Study 2:55PM Family Fellowship 6:45PM	Men's Bible Study Fireside 12-1PM	Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closed	Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closed	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Prayer Bridal Room 9:30AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Armenian Bible Study 12:30PM First Sunday of Advent		Women's Bible Study 5:55PM Women's Zoom Bible Study 2:55PM Family Fellowship 6:45PM Session 1PM	Men's Bible Study Fireside 12-1PM			

\*UNSOLICITATED SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME. ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO EDITORIAL REVISIONS. PLEASE EMAIL TO JACCI@FAPC.NET

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. PHONE: (559) 237-6638 FAX: (559) 237-9526