

# The Calvary Messenger

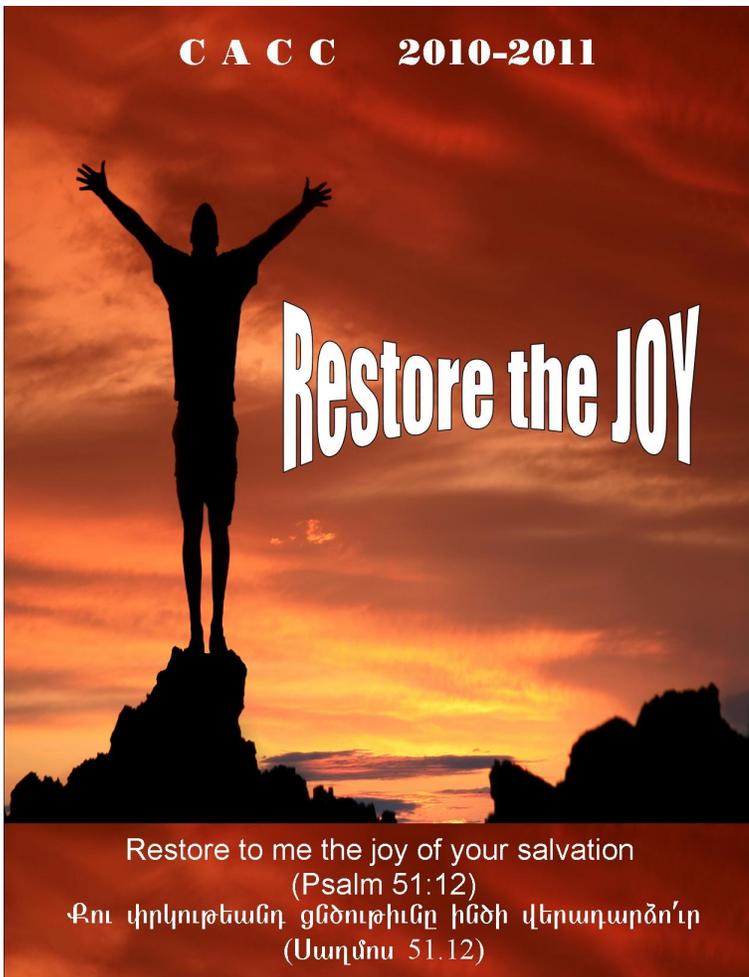
## Գողգոթա Լրաբեր



Volume 39 / Number 3  
2010

The Newsletter of the  
**Calvary Armenian Congregational Church of San Francisco**  
725 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132-2902 Office (415) 586-2000 / Fax (415) 333-1076  
Website: <http://www.cacc-sf.org> / Office Email: [cacc@cacc-sf.org](mailto:cacc@cacc-sf.org) / Rev. Nerses Balabanian: [nbalabanian@gmail.com](mailto:nbalabanian@gmail.com)

## *A View from Calvary*



## 2010 & 2011 Coming Events

**Saturday & Sunday, November 13-14**

Food Festival

**Sunday, November 19**

Christmas Worship Service

**Saturday, December 18**

Christmas Celebration

**Sunday, January 30**

Annual Congregational Meeting

**Saturday, April 16**

Musical Night at Calvary

was a young boy, with a passion of music and poetry, as well as a fighter of lions and bears. But the most important virtue was that he was **a man after God's own heart** (1 Sam. 13:14). Every Christian believer should seek to be after God's own heart. We should seek to have hearts that beat with God's heart. This does not come automatically. Paul knew that our mind (heart) needs to be transformed every day. "Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2).

Secondly, the issue of **maturity**. David and his friend Jonathan both learned to trust God completely. As they grew up, they also matured. There were trials in their lives. Jonathan challenged his father, the king. He stood firm without compromising the truth. He helped his friend David on the account of endangering even his own life. David was chased by the King Saul. David did not play any political game. Both David and Jonathan

*(continued on page seven)*

Lately I have ended a sermon series on the life of David. I learned a lot as I prepared these sermons. I would like to share two things that became my highlights: maturity and being after God's own heart.

David was a simple, nomadic, young, shepherd boy. God chose him to become His servant, the newly-anointed king of Israel. He

# Annual Picnic

CACC's Picnic for 2010 saw a great coming together of the greater Bay Area Armenian community and beyond. We even had guests join us who were visiting from as far away as Toronto, Canada. It was wonderful to see so many new faces while thinking of our dear friends who could not be with us at our picnic this year. Those who came were blessed to hear their voices reverberate amongst the trees as they sang hymns during the wonderful worship service prepared and delivered by our Badveli. We were also graced with perfect weather by the Lord, sunny with perfect temperature allowing many to socialize and play all they wanted in the great outdoors.



After our worship service we got lunch underway and were grateful to have so many wonderful compliments bestowed upon us for doing what we love to do and see so many happy faces of those who were able to come worship the Lord, bond with their fellows, make new memories and fondly recall old ones.

In addition to the Lord and the nourishing celebration of sharing a meal and each others lives joy and liveliness was added to the day in the form of Badveli Nerses and Hagop Nazarian treating us to wonderful music via the accordion and violin which was so wonderfully rousing it even got a group of people dancing! What a joy to see.



A little more fun and excitement was added by the raffle drawing. We were happy that everyone was willing to help support CACC through the raffle which allowed us to sell a few more tickets this year. Those receiving prizes included: 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize of a BBQ Starter Kit went to Narek Ghazarian; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize of the Big BBQ Basket was won by Audrey deLoache and 1<sup>st</sup> Prize went to Claude and Lara Khoury. Thanks to all who helped support the church through the raffle and helped to add to the fun this year.

Many thanks to all who helped us make our "Banquet in the Great Outdoors" a blessed event, especially those who donated food, helped cook and assisted in the serving. Special thanks to Susan Kazarian and her son Richard who helped fill in all day long for Taleen who was still nursing a back injury and to John & Anahid Kerkezian and Sherry Arroyo who helped lead the charge in selling raffle tickets this year. Overall we thank the Lord for our Church and that He blessed it with such a wonderful picnic!

*Martin & Taleen DeArcangelis*



# Biennial Assembly of the AEUNA

The 20<sup>th</sup> Biennial Assembly of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) and the 17<sup>th</sup> convention of the Armenian Evangelical Youth Fellowship (AEYF) took place in Southfield, Michigan on July 8-11. The theme of this assembly was "Union in Christ."

The host church, the Detroit Armenian Congregational Church, with the leadership of its pastor, Rev. Makarios Darawi, did a fabulous job in organizing and hosting.

For the first time ever, the AEUNA and AEYF held their sessions together. It was great to have the young people not only worship with us and play music, but also to hear their views about various issues.

The theme of the assembly was presented throughout the convention in the following sessions: "Why I Love my Church," "Why I Love the Union," "Why do I Care About My Spiritual Maturity," and "Why Do I Need Vision."

The Business Meetings were devoted to issues that generated a lot of discussion and voicing of opinions.

In addition to worship services, business meetings, the members of the assembly participated in a number of seminars: "Raising Godly Children," "Christian Integrity in the Workplace," "Missions: Short and Long Term." The children of the members participated in the Church's VBS and had a great time.

The host church had organized two special events. The first one was a beautiful performance by the Hamazkayin Armenian Dance Group. The second was a banquet in the church hall that featured musical selections and Armenian dance. The convention ended on Sunday morning with the worship service at the church.

Congratulations to our own Taleen DeArcangelis who was elected as Secretary of the AEUNA's Board of Directors. Let us remember in our prayers members of the board, especially Rev. Mgrdich Melkonian the newly elected Moderator.



# Vacation Bible Camp

I'd like to give you an update about this past summer. God blessed our church, as we ventured into our Vacation Bible Camp 2010. About thirty-seven intelligent students, full of life, brought all their energy to CACC to worship, to sing, and learn about our Lord. After a worship and praise session each morning, our young teachers led the kids to partake in their study groups. The Bible lesson and Bible verse for the day were reinforced during this time.



Our young teachers led the kids to partake in their study groups. The Bible lesson and Bible verse for the day were reinforced during this time.

We learned that God's Word is True, God's Word is Comforting, God's Word is Surprising, God's Word is Life-changing, and God's Word is for everyone. Each lesson focused on a Bible story. This year's theme was called The High Seas Expedition, since we spent much of our time on a ship, hearing about the comfort and surprising miracles

that God brought to prisoners Paul and Peter. We spent time digging further and sharing evidence of God's love, help, and comfort throughout our own lives.



It was not hard to notice their excitement and openness to share their own individual experiences and God's presence in their lives.

These kids reflecting upon their faith, learning about Jesus and the cross, and acknowledging that Christ has paid the punishment for our sins, is evidence of God's hand in this powerful ministry.

Our last lesson, God's Word is for Everyone, touched upon our role as Christians in this world. We are called to share out God's love and God's word, and these kids made a sincere effort to do just that. They participated in Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child and brought in boxes to be sent to children around the world this November.



They played games, made crafts, and enjoyed snacks, all relating to the Bible stories. They ended their day with singing and a wrap up-lesson. Thank you to all the volunteers who put forth their time and energy to make Vacation Bible Camp possible. To the congregation, I ask that we continue to pray for this very important ministry and remember in our prayers these children and their enduring relationship with our Lord.

*Sevan Palanjian*

# Renewal Sunday

Every year Calvary Church selects a theme and a Bible verse for Renewal Sunday. Our theme this year is “Restore the Joy” and the verse is from Psalms 51:12a which is “Restore to me the joy of your salvation”. We have been studying King David and have learned how God has given David a new chance. This year our theme is about surrendering to God so that we can be renewed and restored.



Our Sunday worship service was certainly joyous. Our Worship Band led us in song as did the CACC Choir. We dedicated the ministries of the church and took Communion. The children had a special Sunday School program and we all had a delicious Kufta luncheon following the church service. Also the Bay Area Mousa Ler Committee donated their traditional “Herisa” in commemoration of the miraculous rescue of the Moussa Dagh Armenians in 1915.

During the luncheon, we were treated to a slide show of our congregation at work, in worship and having a wonderful time together. An overview of each of the church’s ministries was presented to further explain how we can benefit by joining a group.

May God be glorified through CACC’s ministries and activities.

*Sharlyn Arroyo*

## Meeting with the Ambassador



Bay Area Armenian clergy and representatives from their church councils were invited to a round table discussion with the Honorable, Marie L. Yovanovitch, the American Ambassador to Armenia. The Ambassador outlined the American government's ongoing efforts to strengthen Armenia both economically and politically. She invited questions from those in attendance and expressed her sincere desire to integrate

Armenia more fully into its geographic region and to establish a secure future for the Armenian people. Badveli Nerses Balabanian, our Moderator, Norayr Minassian and Margaret Shamlian, member of the church council, represented our church at this event.

# the 29th annual **ARMENIAN FOOD FESTIVAL** & BOUTIQUE NOEL 2010 at Calvary Armenian Congregational Church

Համոյ  
Հոսոոյ  
Երգոյ  
Պարոյ

## NOVEMBER 13-14

SATURDAY 12 - 9 pm

SUNDAY 12:30 - 3 pm

### FREE ADMISSION

Authentic Armenian  
food & pastries

Live music & folk dancing

Crafts & games  
for kids

Raffle with  
loads of prizes!

725 Brotherhood Way  
San Francisco  
(415) 586 2000  
cacc-sf.org

(Continued from page one)

did not compromise their faith in God and their commitment towards each other. This is maturity. I have a simple message to my readers: please examine your loyalty. We need to learn to have loyalty to Christ and to each other as the body of Christ.

The CACC slogan of the year is **Restore the JOY**. We chose this title from the Psalm 51:12. Maturity means allowing God to restore you. David confessed his sin and his joy was restored.

This is maturity. When our heart is close to God's heart, God will shape us daily. David was tempted to kill his enemy (Saul). Even cutting the edge of Saul's robe bothered his conscience (1 Sam. 24). David was indeed a man after God's own heart. No wonder God said to Samuel that He does not look to appearance but to the heart (1 Sam. 16:7).

We all can be after God's own heart. When we give our life to Him, when we surrender to Him, He will transform us. Trust Him, ask Him to restore the Joy of His salvation in your life.

*Rev. Nerses Balabanian, Pastor*

# Ministry Opportunities

For information please call the church office: (415) 586-2000

**Children's Sunday School, Junior High and High School Youth Groups:** San Francisco, every Sunday.

**Women's Coffee Time with God:** San Jose, every Thursday.

**Coffee Time with God:** San Francisco, first Thursday every month.

**Men's Bagel Time with God:** Los Altos, fourth Saturday every month.

**HomeBuilders for Young Couples & Families:** South Bay & Peninsula, third Saturday every month.

**College & Career:** South Bay and Peninsula, every Wednesday.

**Weekly Dinner Bible Study:** San Francisco, every Monday.

**Church-wide Prayer Meeting:** Los Altos 1st Thursday every month.

## WEDDINGS



We congratulate Ara and Talin (Hajinian) Aroyan, who were married on Saturday, August 14, 2010 at St. John Armenian Apostolic Church, San Francisco, California. Our congratulations also to Aroyan and Hajinian families.

We congratulate Todd and Aline (Ekmekji) Childers, who were married on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. Our congratulations also to Ekmekji and Childers families.

We congratulate Hagop and Aleen (Klachian) Afarian, who were married on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, California. Our congratulations also to Afarian and Klachian families.

The Calvary Messenger is produced as a ministry update for our congregation and friends. Donations to offset printing and mailing costs are appreciated. Any comments, errors, omissions and/or newsworthy items may be addressed to the editors, care of the church office or sent via email to our box at [cacc@cacc-sf.org](mailto:cacc@cacc-sf.org). Please check our website for current ministry information: <http://www.cacc-sf.org>

## 66th Wedding Anniversary July 27, 2010



Congratulations to Edward and Gloria Medzian on their 66th Wedding Anniversary.

**Calvary Armenian Congregational Church**  
**725 Brotherhood Way**  
**San Francisco, California 94132-2902**

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Daly City, CA 94015  
Permit No. 256

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL**



## Church News

### CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Kathleen Mary DeArcangelis (mother of Martin DeArcangelis) who passed away on Sunday, July 11, 2010. Our condolences and prayers to DeArcangelis and Kullukian families.

Mrs. Georgette Manoukian Fletcher (sister of George Manoukian) who passed away on Tuesday, September 14, 2010. Our condolences and prayers to Fletcher and Manoukian families.

Mrs. Anayis Meguerdichian (sister of Ishkan Tachdjian) who passed away on Wednesday, September 15, 2010. Our condolences and prayers to Meguerdichian and Tachdjian families.

Mrs. Roxie Agbashian (sister of Edward Medzian) who passed away (almost 102 years of age) on Wednesday, September 22, 2010. Our condolences and prayers to Agbashian and Medzian families.

Mrs. Marie (Kassarjian) Badeer (sister of Hovel Kassarjian) who passed away on Wednesday, October 14, 2010 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Our condolences and prayers to Badeer and Kassarjian families.

### BAPTISM

Our congratulations to Dana and Elaine Long on the baptism of their son, Theodore Jacob Long on Sunday, April 11, 2010. Please pray for them.



Our congratulations to Christopher and Salpi Dunlap on the baptism of their son, Lincoln Avedis Dunlap on Sunday, October 10, 2010. Please pray for them.

Our congratulations to Steve and Aline Gedikian on the baptism of their daughter, Amelie Hera Gedikian on Sunday, October 10, 2010. Please pray for them.

### UPCOMING COMMUNION SERVICES

**Sunday, November 21**

at 11:00 am

**Sunday, January 2 (2011)**

At 11:00 am

