



# IMMANUEL

ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
ԷՄՄԱՆՈՒԷԼ ՀԱՅ ԺՈՂՈՎԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

OCT NOVE DEC 2024

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 4

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUNDAY MORNINGS AND  
LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK  
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM  
ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SERVICE

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of IACC is to unite together  
believers in Jesus Christ for worship, prayer, instruction,  
fellowship, service and evangelism for the advancement of  
the Kingdom of God. The Church shall make the will of  
God, as revealed through the Holy Scriptures, preeminent  
in the lives of men individually and collectively.*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

*Page 2*

RALLY SUNDAY

*Page 3*

CHURCH NEWS,  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Pages 4 - 5*

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Page 6*

DONATIONS

*Page 7*

THIS 'N THAT

*Page 8*

## THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRISTMAS

### 1. The birth of Christ dispels all fears.

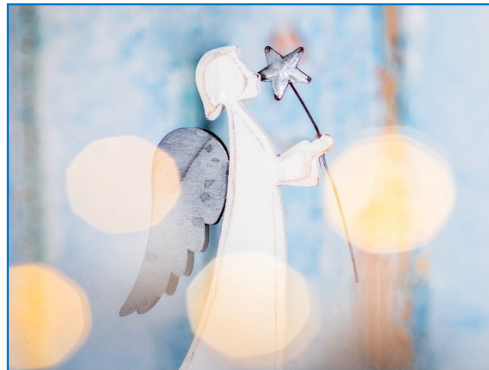
The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid" (Luke 2:10). The shepherds of Bethlehem had many fears; They were afraid of marauding wolves and lawless bandits. They also feared the Roman soldiers who harassed them occasionally. Naturally, the shepherds were terrified when they saw the glory of the heavenly angels. The Baby who was born in Bethlehem specialized in making all fears vanish from the hearts of humans.

### 2. The birth of Christ brings great joy.

The angel told the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10). The shepherds were the loneliest people in the Holy Land. Because of their job, they were deprived from attending social gatherings and religious services in the local synagogues. They spend all their time watching over their flocks, caring for their needs and guarding them. They were shunned by most people because they were uneducated, unsophisticated, physically dirty because they seldom bathed. They were also considered to be spiritually unclean because they worked seven days a week and, consequently, they could not observe the weekly Sabbath. The way they were treated by society made them very unhappy, bitter and depressed. They greatly rejoiced when the angel assured them that a Savior was born who would replace their sorrow with joy.

### 3. The birth of Christ breaks down the walls of discrimination.

The angel told the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people" (Luke 2:10). The shepherds were subjected to discrimination on a daily basis. Generally, people were suspicious of them and accused them, often unjustly, of being liars and thieves.



The word of assurance from the angel that the good news of Christ's birth is not only for the rich and famous, but for all people, including the poor and lowly, gladdened the shepherds' hearts. The grace of God has been extended even to the Gentiles and to all people who will believe in Christ. That's why the Apostle Paul declares in Galatians 3:28, "There is now no distinction between Jew or Gentile, slave and free, male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

### 4. The birth of Christ expresses God's personal touch.

The angel told the shepherds, "A Savior has been born to you" (Luke 2:11). One of the names given to Christ is Immanuel which means "God is with us." During the Old Testament period, God delivered His

messages through prophets like Moses, Isaiah and Jeremiah, but when Christ was born, He communicated His message to the people directly through His Son, Jesus Christ.

### 5. The birth of Christ brings salvation.

The angel said to the shepherds, "Today, in the city of David, a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). The ancient Jews envisioned the Messiah to be a warrior who would liberate their land from Roman rule, and conveniently forgot that His primary mission is spiritual; He came to seek and save the lost by liberating them from the tyrannical rule of sin. John the evangelist says, "As many as received Him (Jesus), to them He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).

### 6. The birth of Christ brings peace.

The night when Christ was born, the angelic choir sang, "Glory to God in the highest, peace to men on whom His favor rests" (Luke 2:14). One of the results of redemption is having peace with God through reconciliation. Because we are connected to Christ by faith, we are no longer the enemies of God but have become His friends and His adopted children.

During the upcoming Advent Season, let us not forget to express our deep gratitude to God for having given us Heaven's most precious gift, His Son Jesus Christ. That's why the Apostle Paul jubilantly exclaims, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Rev. George Kevork Terian

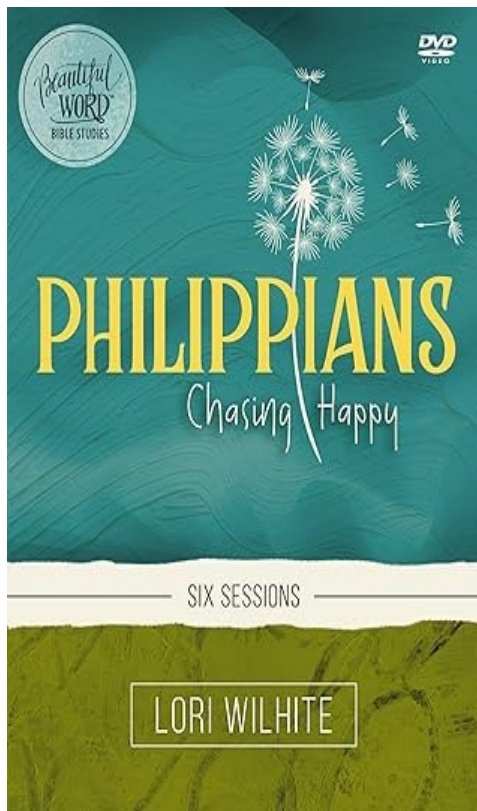
# RALLY SUNDAY

Rally Sunday this year was on September 22, 2024. A great worship service with communion and an English and Armenian message was received from Rev. George Terian. During the worship service, we had the privilege to listen to beautiful worship music lead by Garo Sulahian. The music filled and enriched the sanctuary.

Following the Worship Service, a delicious BBQ kebab sandwich luncheon was served. During the Worship service and luncheon, we were visited by Rev. Sam Albarian and his talented wife, Tamar Paylakian-Albarian, who delighted everyone with her beautiful singing voice during the luncheon. We were again treated by Garo Sulahian with an Armenian song.

Thank you to all who participated, brought food and made this year's Rally Sunday perfect!





## Women's Spiritual Fellowship

On September 21, 2024 was the kick-off for the monthly Bible study and was led by Sylva Hekimian. The women will continue to study from the book, *"Philippians; Chasing Happy"* by Lori Wilhite. The series includes six topics of chasing *Joy, Purpose, Unity, Jesus, Peace, and Contentment.*

We invite all women to join us for fellowship and study.  
10 am breakfast followed by the study.

### FUTURE DATES

October 12, 2024	February 15, 2024
November 9, 2024	March 15, 2025
December 14, 2024	April 26, 2025
January 18, 2025	May (no study due to Mother's Day Luncheon)

## BIRTHDAYS



### JULY

Alice Terian  
Sona Minakian

Not pictured:  
Jim Surmeian  
JoAnn Ohanesian



### AUGUST

Janeen Dinkel  
Tyler Fermanian  
Patti Parrish

Not pictured:  
Julian Deyan  
Kayla Fermanian



### SEPTEMBER

Haley Surmeian  
Debbie Fermanian

# CHURCH NEWS

## BAPTISM

On July 21, 2024, Sebastian Marganian was baptized by Rev. George Terian. He is the son of Vatche Mardiros Marganian and Elia Genesis Lonarie Garcia Marganian. The grandfather is Dr. Hrag Marganian and the grandmother is Dolores Garcia. Congratulations to the Marganian and Garcia families.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

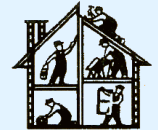
We will continue with our efforts to keep IACC's buildings and grounds looking their best. Our Lord and our congregation deserve it as do our visitors who come and praise Him with joy. Please keep an eye on your surroundings and contact the church office to let them know if you see any needed repairs.

To maintain the grounds and to beautify our Lord's house, the following items have been taken care of to date:

1. Main double door repaired.
2. Repair & reupholstered three pulpit chairs.
3. New faucet installed in the men's restroom.
4. Two new ceiling fans were installed in Sunday School building.

### UPCOMING PROJECTS

1. Change vinyl flooring in Sunday School building hallway.



Board of Trustees Chair, Sona Minakian

Dear Church Members:

Those of you who have been attending IACC for many years probably remember when the congregation moved from its Los Angeles location to its current address in Downey. It was, I am sure, bittersweet to leave your church home but there is joy in looking to the future, change and anticipation. The majesty of the structure and the memories made may have paled in comparison to the adventure of creating a new church home. This current structure is the result of changes to the front facade of the original building and an addition of the social hall; trees planted in the medium of the parking lot and then removed due to the damage caused by the tree roots to the cement. Improvements made to better suit our use and to beautify our surroundings.

As with all things, wear and tear give way to much needed repairs and even renovation. It takes careful stewardship to protect Christ's church and the many Councils that have served over the years are all too familiar with the need to repair. We can never lose heart about our church's needs and gratefully, when the time arose for expensive work, the funds in our Building Fund and the support of our congregation have stood tall.

Continuing to maintain our church is our joy and brings the vision of God not to us but through us. We must not waiver from our obligation to be good stewards but always remember that God expects us to take care of the building He has given us within which to worship and your continued support in that regard is vital. We appreciate all you do to support IACC and her existence and pray for your continued attention and support. Come see our progress!

Sincerely,  
Rosemary Saatjian, Moderator

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Traditional Thanksgiving Luncheon

Sunday, November 24, 2024



Worship Service - 11:00am  
Luncheon - 12:15 pm

More info will follow

## Ladies Aid Christmas Bake Sale

Sunday, December 22, 2024  
following worship service



## Christmas Sing A Long & POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Following Worship Service

\$10 gift exchange



JANUARY 5, 2025

## ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

WORSHIP SERVICE &  
COMMUNION  
11 AM



Daylight savings  
time ends on  
Nov 4, 2024. Turn  
your clocks back  
one hour.

# DONATIONS

To strengthen the ministry of our church and to help nurture faith, stewardship and a deep sense of mission, we welcome the following gifts, with thanks:

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF TRUDI AMERKHANIAN

Vahe & Chris Ashkarian  
Souzi Baghdikian  
Levon Baroutjian  
Marie Birebirian  
Katie Ellis  
Armen & Debbie Fermanian  
Suzanne Eltorai El Gamal  
Baghdo & Lisa Khojikian  
Garo & Annie Kojikian  
Krikor & Nora Kojikian  
James Kok  
Melik & Marlen Kumjian  
Barbara Gasparian  
Sona Minakian  
JoAnn Ohanesian  
Patti Parrish  
Lorraine Sogomian  
Sirarpi Stepanian  
Barbara Stodart  
Rev. George & Alice Terian  
George & Marsha Zakaroff

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF TRUDI AMERKHANIAN TOWARDS THE AMAA ARMENIA ORPHAN FUND

Heather Armbruster  
Paul & Karen Prioleau  
Nick, Beth, Charlie, Carrie, Rich & Soley Peltzer  
Leon & Anoush Tchakalian

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF ZAVEN KHANJIAN

Levon Baroutjian  
Barbara Gasparian  
Sona Minakian  
Patti Parrish

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF ASIEN SURMEIAN

Levon Baroutjian  
Sona Minakian  
JoAnn Ohanesian  
Patti Parrish

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF TODD MORELAND

Levon Baroutjian  
Armen & Debbie Fermanian  
Janeen Dinkel  
Alyce Mashikian  
Rosanna Moreland  
Patti Parrish

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF HMYAK BALTAYAN

Sona Minakian

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF RON DINKEL

Janeen Dinkel

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF AIDA DUHMAN

JoAnn Ohanesian

## IN CELEBRATION OF THE BAPTISM OF GRANDSON, SEBASTIAN MARGANIAN

Dr. Hrag Marganian

## IN HONOR OF PATTI PARRISH'S BIRTHDAY

JoAnn Ohanesian  
Lorraine Sogomian

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANUSH & QUEENIE KAZARIAN

JoAnn Ohanesian

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF LUCY SCHLAUCH'S 100TH HEAVENLY BIRTHDAY

JoAnn Ohanesian

## DONATIONS

Tsolag & Liana Apelian  
Sam & Ruth Proodian

## FOR THE REPAIR & RECOVER OF PULPIT CHAIRS

Hagop & Cynthia Ketenjian

*The Garabidian-Sahagian Family would like to thank all of those who took the time to send beautiful cards and who generously donated in Loving Memory of our Dear Aunt Lillian Harootunian who loved her Church and her Lord Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you.*



As we near the end of another year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your faithful support and dedication to IACC. Your generosity has allowed us to continue our mission of spreading the love of Jesus.

As we reflect on all that we have accomplished this past year, we also look ahead with excitement and anticipation for what is to come. Our vision of making a positive impact in the lives of those around us is only possible because of your contributions.

No matter how big or small, every donation makes a difference. Your support not only helps us continue our mission but also sends a message of love and hope. If you would like to donate financially, you can do so in the following ways:

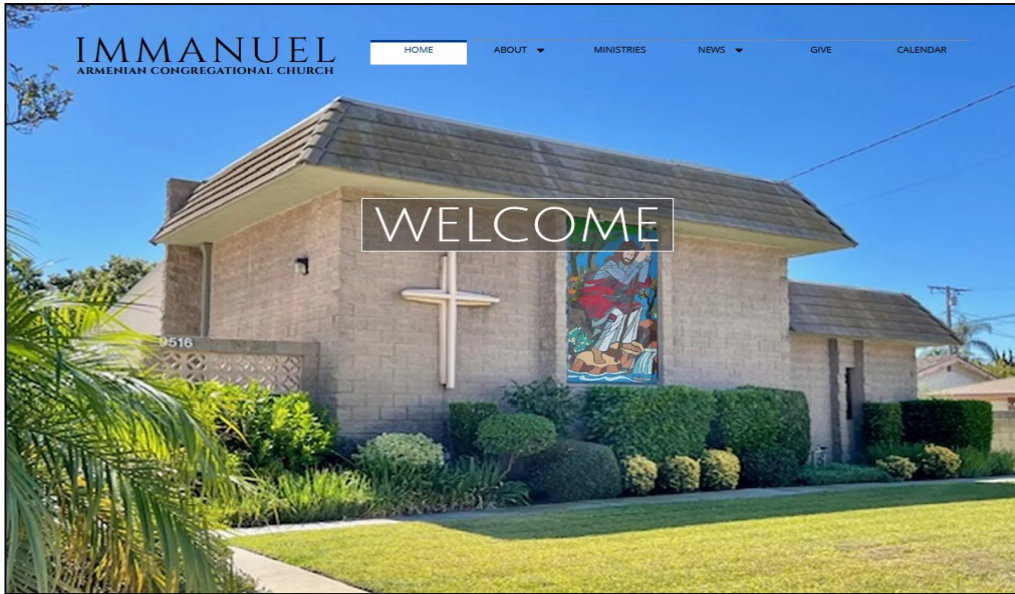
1. In person by worshiping with us Sunday mornings at 11 am.
2. Mail a check to IACC.
3. PayPal, accessed through our website at [www.immanuelacc.org](http://www.immanuelacc.org)

We are incredibly grateful for your continuous support and generosity.

## WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Visit our website at [www.immanuelacc.org](http://www.immanuelacc.org)  
for up-to-date information.

Follow us on Facebook,  
"Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church" & "Immanuel Church Downey" for Live-Stream



WE ARE DELIGHTED TO  
**WELCOME YOU TO IACC!**

We invite you to join us for  
**Worship Service**  
Sunday mornings from  
11:00 am - 12:15 pm  
or on Facebook,  
"Immanuel Church Downey",  
live-stream

**English and Armenian** Sermons

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Oct 12, Sat	-	Women's Bible study, 10 - 12 pm
Oct 13, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am Council Meeting, 1 pm
Oct 20 & 27, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am
Nov 3, Sun	-	Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 9, Sat	-	Women's Bible Study, 10 - 12 pm
Nov 10 & 17, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am
Nov 24, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am. Thanksgiving Sunday. Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon, following service
Dec 1, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am
Dec 8, Sun	-	Worship Service 11 am Annual Christmas Potluck Party
Dec 14, Sun	-	Women's Bible Study, 10 - 12 pm
Dec 15, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am
Dec 22, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am. Christmas Sunday, Annual Ladies Aid Bake Sale
Dec 29, Sun	-	Worship Service, 11 am

Our newsletters are emailed;  
however if you prefer it be  
mailed to your home, please  
contact the church office at  
562-862-7012, or email at of-  
fice@immanuelacc.org

*The quarterly publication of  
Immanuel Armenian  
Congregational Church.*

The 2024 editorial staff includes:  
Rev. George Terian  
Debbie Fermanian  
Rosemary Saatjian

For additional information or article  
submissions,  
please write to:

9516 Downey Avenue, Downey  
California 90240  
(562) 862-7012



E-mail: [office@immanuelacc.org](mailto:office@immanuelacc.org)

Website: [www.immanuelacc.org](http://www.immanuelacc.org)