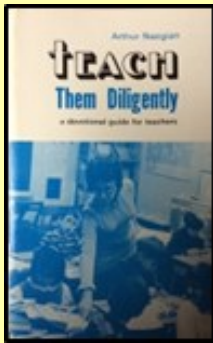
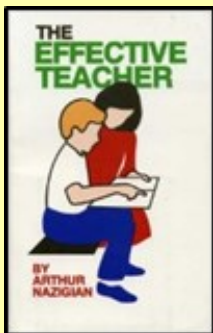


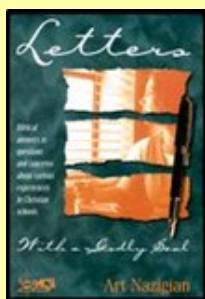
Written by Art:



**Teach Them Diligently** 1971 devotional guide for teachers.



**The Effective Teacher** 1981 devotional insights for Godly teaching.



**Letters...with a Godly Seal** 1996 collection of letters dealing with events occurring in Christian Schools.

## Soul-winner: The Life Ministry of Dr. Art Nazigian

*"Well done, good and faithful servant!" March 24, 1930 - December 21, 2014*

Art Nazigian was indeed a good and faithful servant! His passion for Jesus was as evident as his devotion to Christian education and his service to others. While Art will be remembered as MACSA's longest serving president, his story runs so much broader and deeper, impacting so many lives for Christ, that they literally can't be counted.

Art grew up in southeastern Pennsylvania, excelling at basketball for Chester High School, and then earning an athletic scholarship to West Chester University. After setting numerous school records, Art graduated and played professionally for one season before teaching full-time for the Delaware public schools. However, Art's love of the game would continue and later lead him to inductions into Halls of Fame as well as provide him with future outreach opportunities.

### Word of Life Summers

In 1956, as Art worked and continued his education, he



Art and Ruth Nazigian first met at the Word of Life in 1960, and together served Christian Education and the summer camp ministry.

began to spend summers on staff at the **Word of Life Ranch**, a Christian summer camp for children on Schroon Lake, in the Adirondack Mountains of New York. He loved seeing the kids come to know Christ and would serve as "Marshal Art" the Program Director and in other leadership and volunteer roles.

Jonathan Nazigian, Art's youngest son, recalls that as an educator, his father was rejuvenated and energized



*"Marshal Art" at the Ranch*

by those summers, "He would recharge being with students outside of the school setting." Art was also instrumental in the Word of Life's Basketball Marathon ministry. Students looked up to Art, remembering him and the program which saw thousands of high school athletes come to Christ over many years.

In 1960, Art stayed at camp for a few extra days to help out at the end of the season. That decision was a game changer because he met his future bride, **Ruth**, that week in the lobby of the Word of Life Inn. Art and Ruth were later married and would welcome sons **Mark**, **Paul**, and **Jonathan**. Art ultimately served the Word of Life Ministry for more than 50 summers, many with his family by his side.

### Following God's Call...

Art and Ruth also had a passion to further the cause for Christian education. In 1965, Art followed God's calling to leave the public school system to become the head of a small school near Philadelphia, known as Chester Christian School, with about 100 students. (see Soul-winner page 2)

## Soul-winner: God's call to Christian Education

*(Soul-winner from page 1)*

During the 25 years that Art served as Headmaster the school would take the name of The Christian Academy and expand to three campuses serving nearly 1,300 students.

Current TCA Headmaster **Tim Sierer** remembers, "During the 14 years that I was privileged to work at The Christian Academy with Art as Headmaster, he always operated with an open door policy. He was more than willing to take whatever time was needed to sit, listen, and offer Godly counsel. Art was never too busy to take a phone call or visit from a distraught parent, counsel a bewildered student, or to listen to a plea for help from a harried teacher. He was always putting the needs, cares and concerns of others first."

Art knew so many people over the years. Students and others that met him during their formative years often describe Art with the words mentor and father-figure.

In 1993, Art would go on to bless other schools after TCA, becoming the Headmaster of Mid-Vermont Christian School in White River Junction, Vermont, where he served for seven years. He then served for two years as Headmaster of Life Christian Academy in Ellsworth, Maine, and two more as Headmaster of Christian Life School in Bensalem, Pennsylvania.

Over the years, Art was a pioneering, national leader in the Christian School Movement. In addition to MACSA, he also served for over 20 years on the Executive Board of Association of Christian Schools International and taught at the International Institute for

Christian School Administration, in Winona Lake, Indiana for 21 summers. Art was an Educational Consultant and frequent speaker at churches and Christian school functions, also hosting a radio show called ***A Moment for Christian Education***.

The Nazigian sons attended Liberty University and all continue to serve the Lord. Mark is now a restaurant proprietor and consultant, Paul is an Administrator at Forest Middle School in Virginia, and Jonathan is an Administrator at the Fredericksburg Christian School in Virginia and also a Camp Director at the Word of Life Ranch in Schroon Lake, New York.



*Thankful words from friends at The Christian Academy.*

### Art's Life Verse

*"For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."*

*1 Timothy 4:8*



*Radio Host Art, on left, discusses Christian Education*

### **MACSA President Jim Smock remembers Art's encouraging spirit:**

*Art served as MACSA's president for 25 years, the longest term of any of our presidents, and was known for his desire to see Christian schools change students' lives so that they would be prepared to serve in the Lord's Kingdom. Many administrators will recall one-on-one meetings, phone calls, MACSA Events and Workshops where Art, speaking from his heart, would encourage godly leadership during our challenging times.*

*I personally appreciated Art's message to me, as I began my term as the President of our organization, exhorting me to see a larger vision than what I might have had at the time, knowing that God was going to use the MACSA organization to honor Himself through hundreds of teachers. Without a doubt, Art heard the words that we all seek to hear from our Savior, "Well done!" He finished the race well!*



**President Jim Smock**



## Art Nazigian: The Administrator's Administrator

As you read about the life ministry of Art Nazagian, our hope is to encourage MACSA Administrators who impact so many lives for Christ, but the reality is that the expectations and demands of your role can often be overwhelming.

In talking about Art with his son, **Jonathan**, and two friends, **Dr. Sandy Outlar** and **Dr. Donald Dawes** (colleagues during Art's time as Head of The Christian Academy), the descriptive words that arise often are: **encouraging, educator, humble, and mentor.** The phrase **Administrator's Administrator** seems to fit, which his friends affirmed.

Art was such a large part of MACSA and his heart (and ours) is to support our School leaders in their ministry. Art, while humble and down-to-earth, encouraged and challenged those in Christian Leadership to dream big on God's behalf.

Art's humor, humility, and confidence in Christ is well illustrated by **Sandy Outlar**, former Christian School Administrator, past President of MACSA, and now acting as Christian School Ambassador for Lancaster Bible College:

*"Art hired me from the public school system as a part-time Physical Education teacher for TCA to provide me with my first opportunity in Christian Education. He was a mentor and father-figure to me, the most influential man in my life. He encouraged me to educate myself to become*

*an Administrator and to trust in God always. Years later, when I was to follow Art as the next President of MACSA, I'll never forget meeting him at a shopping center on Naaman's Creek Road for the big transfer of power... there, Art Nazigian, MACSA patriarch, pulled up, opened his car, and handed me a trunkful of papers to become the next President of MACSA."*

When Jonathan was asked if there was a takeaway for our MACSA Administrators, he said, "Dad always took time to recharge and to be in the Word. He wanted us to know that God is always in control. He said to pray and that things aren't always as they seem in the circumstances, that there is wisdom in waiting and not rushing to act."



*Art, on left, mentored and encouraged further education*

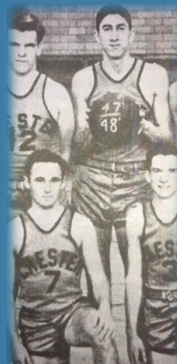
**Don Dawes**, The Heritage School Director and current MACSA Convention Director, says that his path through college was not clear until he met Art Nazigian. He told Don "get your degree and I'll hire you." Don went to work for TCA, over the years contributing much to Christian education, as did many others mentored by Art.

Jonathan Nazigian, with boys of his own and now a Christian School Administrator, finds himself in the leadership role that his father held. Jonathan, "Marshal Jon," is also a Camp Director at Word of Life Ranch.



Art loved to share about God's miracles and when things would happen that could cause the school to panic, Art would respond with calm. When the fall would be rolling around and the right teacher for a certain position had not yet been found, Jonathan recalled that Art would say don't rush to hire, use a sub instead, wait and things will fall into place. Search the Scripture and don't panic.

Facing health struggles in recent years, though Art's body began to fail, his joyful spirit, tender heart, love for others, and passion for Jesus Christ and the Word of God never faltered.



Teacher's 1947-48 Squad was coached by Dick Madison, holding the ball in their hazing over Art Nazigian.



*"Well done, good and faithful servant! Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:23*

## The immeasurable tracts of Art Nazigian

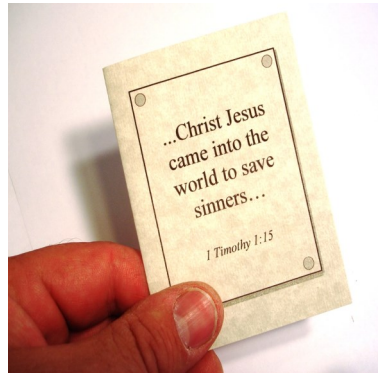
As related by Art's Family in his Memorial Biography...

There were few people who would cross Art's path without receiving a Gospel tract. Gas station attendants, toll-booth operators, waitresses and waiters received them, not to mention tracts left in lobbies, phone booths, and restrooms.

Even in the final years of his life, with his health declining, and with leaving the house becoming difficult, Art still remained active in soul-winning by mailing Gospel tracts to individuals he met or read about. He included tracts with each bill paid.

When Art required emergency surgery a week before he passed into Glory, he left the house with three tracts in his outgoing mail. His sons mailed them out for him.

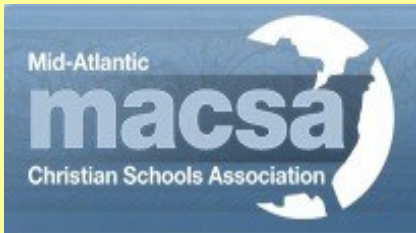
When cleaning out Art's desk, his boys made a truly amazing



discovery, something no one knew about. A series of small, pocket calendars, one for each year, were neatly stacked in a drawer. Inside each calendar, a number was written in each day's square. Each number represented how many tracts Art had given out or mailed that day. At the beginning of each month was a running total, and at the beginning of each year, the lifetime total was transferred to the new calendar.

As far as we know, throughout his life, Art distributed at least **83,980** Gospel tracts.

*"As far as we know, throughout his life, Art distributed at least 83,980 Gospel tracts."*



## 67th Annual Convention November 11-13, 2015

*Titus 2:7 Teaching with Integrity, Intent, & Inspiration*

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West-Mont Christian Academy, Pottstown, PA

**Mr. Brendan O'Brien, Vice President**

Lehigh Valley Christian High School, Catasauqua, PA

**Dr. Timothy Sierer, Treasurer**

The Christian Academy, Brookhaven, PA

**Dr. Donald Dawes, Convention Director**

The Heritage School, Wayne, PA

**Mrs. Marie Young, Secretary**

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**Mrs. Teri Kropp, Communications Director**

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Thank you to the Nazigian Family for allowing MACSA to share photos and stories from Art's life and ministry. I pray that his story will be an inspiration to many! Blessings, Teri Kropp