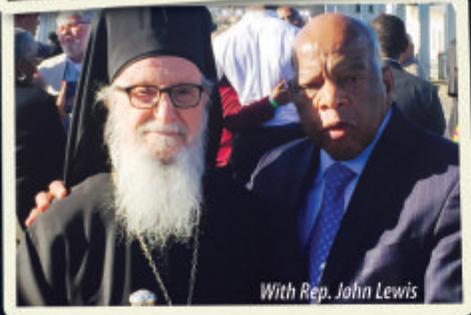


# THE LEADER

Archbishop Demetrios  
in Selma, Alabama,  
March 7, 2015.



With President Barack Obama



With Rep. John Lewis



Crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge



With Archbishop Iakovos, Walter Reuther and other supporters in Selma, Ala., Martin Luther King holds a wreath to the martyred Reverend James Reeb

Iconic image of Archbishop Iakovos with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama, March 15, 1965.

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY: ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Spring 2015

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# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

In this issue of The Leader, we proudly commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the historic Selma to Montgomery Marches for Civil Rights in 1965, in which Archbishop Iakovos of Blessed Memory played a pivotal role. His courageous decision to join Dr. Martin Luther King demonstrated his belief that all human beings are created in the image of God and so are entitled to human and civil rights. In doing so, His Eminence once again elevated the Greek Orthodox Church in America to national prominence. As such, he was awarded with the Medal of Freedom in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter for his many contributions.

In acknowledgement of his role and in commemoration of these historic events, Archbishop Demetrios joined President Obama and leaders of the Civil Rights Movement in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 2015, the 50th anniversary of the first Selma March led by John Lewis, now a member of the United States House of Representatives.

Our cover features both the iconic Life magazine image of Archbishop Iakovos with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from the March 15, 1965 Selma March, along with pictures of Archbishop Demetrios in Selma on March 7, 2015 – 50 years later – illustrating our continuing commitment to the critical cause of civil rights which draws on our Orthodox Faith and Hellenic Heritage.

On behalf of Leadership 100, I wish to acknowledge the impressive contributions of the Very Rev. Archimandrite Dr. Nathanael Symeonides, Director of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations, in organizing a commemoration of these historic events through printed materials, videos, lectures and a special section of the Archdiocesan website, [civilrights.goarch.org](http://civilrights.goarch.org). He was able to do this in part with funding from Leadership 100. We are pleased to publish in these pages an article written for the occasion by Fr. Michael Varlamos of Assumption Church in St. Clair Shores, Michigan.



*George S. Tsandikos*

Leadership 100 also congratulates our own Leadership 100 Partners, under the capable leadership of Co-Chairmen Justin Bozonelis and George Soterakis, for organizing a nationwide Day of Service on Sunday, March 22, 2015 to commemorate the Selma Marches. The Partners were joined by parishioners in selected churches in assembling emergency health kits for the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC).

In addition, I am pleased to report the great success of our 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference in Orlando, Florida from February 12 to 15, 2015, which featured the presentation of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to the renowned Greek academician, artist and designer, Ilias I. Lalaounis, who passed away in December of 2013. We were honored with the presence of Mrs. Lila Lalaounis who accepted the award. The Award was also presented to forum speakers and performers Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou, Michael Psaros, Peter Tiboris and Eilana Lappalainen, and to

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), accepted by Constantine M. Triantafylou, Executive Director and CEO.

Finally, I am happy to report that the Executive Committee approved \$1,350,243 in new grants for 2015 to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and \$620,556 in new grants for 2015 to affiliated organizations. There are additional grant proposals still under review.

This issue of The Leader reminds us of our proud heritage, the vision of Archbishop Iakovos, the leadership of Archbishop Demetrios, as well as our ongoing mission of support for the National Ministries and institutions of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and our sacred obligation of service to our Church, our Community and humankind.

*With warm regards,*

**George S. Tsandikos**  
*Chairman*



His Eminence Archbishop  
Demetrios of America

## Remarks of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America at the Martin Luther and Coretta Scott King Unity Breakfast

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.*

These words from the Book of Psalms (Psalm 135: 1) were not uttered in a time of tranquility and joy. They were not spoken when all was secure, protected, and safe. They are a witness of deep faith and unwavering hope in the midst of great struggle. Under the threat of persecution and death, in the face of hatred and violence, these words of truth are offered by

the Bible as a testimony of the power of faith and hope to overcome.

In great struggles, hope is sustained by faith in God and the assurance that He will fulfill His promises. He has given us life and abundance of life (John 10:10). He has promised to nurture and protect our souls, offering the unique fellowship with Him. Through faith in Him, our lives are transformed, and the promises of a blessed and abundant life are real and renewed

every day, in spite of any kind of difficulties, ordeals and afflictions.

In the midst of struggle, we know that hope sustained by faith is strengthened when it is shared. With shared faith and hope with unified vision of the purpose and nature of human life, in true relationships with God and each other, we are able to offer a beautiful and powerful witness of what true life should be. In our unity we are able to defend the right to the fullness of life for every human being and to stand for all that is just and good and sacred.

On this anniversary we commemorate the heroic faith and hope of those who struggled, of those who upheld human dignity through powerful yet peaceful protests and demonstrations against racism, prejudice, fear and hatred. In the midst of fierce struggle, they remained firm and uncompromising and united in the truth and hope of the civil rights peaceful movement.

Today, we honor a legacy of noble struggle, as so many sacrificed so much for equality and freedom. We honor great people like Martin Luther King and also fighters like Rev. James Reeb and Jimmy Lee Jackson. But we also celebrate a legacy of faith in God, and hope for change—hope that offers dreams of a better future; hope that sees these dreams fulfilled in greater respect for human life and dignity; hope that realizes the affirmation and protection of equality and inalienable rights for all; hope in a shared commitment to ideals and principles that are revealed by God, innate to our human existence and potential, and essential in a free society and for the life and prosperity of all humanity.

And we know that God is with us and that His mercy endures for ever. Hence, we repeat in unison: *We give thanks to the Lord, for His mercy endures forever. Amen.*

# His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos & The Civil Rights Movement: Selma, 1965

by Fr. Michael N. Varlamos

In response to a nation-wide call by the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., religious and civic leaders from across the country gathered at Brown Chapel of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Selma, Alabama on March 15, 1965 to memorialize two recently fallen heroes of the civil rights movement. The first was twenty-six-year-old African American Jimmie Lee Jackson, a deacon at St. James Baptist Church in Marion, Alabama. He was shot twice in the stomach in late February and died shortly thereafter. The second was thirty-eight-year-old James Reeb, a white Unitarian minister, who was severely beaten outside a suspected Ku Klux Klan gathering place in early March. He died two days later from wounds he sustained from that brutal beating. The tragic deaths of these two ministers spurred a national outcry. Distinguished leaders from various faiths and civil rights sympathizers poured into Selma's Brown Chapel for the memorial service awaiting its featured eulogist, the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. Among the dignitaries who arrived in Selma that day was His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. Why did Archbishop Iakovos travel to this remote southern city at one of the most volatile moments in our nation's history?

Since becoming the Greek Orthodox Archbishop on April 1, 1959, Archbishop Iakovos became one of the most prominent church leaders in America to speak out for the need of civil and human rights legislation. His advocacy for the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act was one of his many accomplishments. However, as the results of the 1964 election revealed, the Civil Rights Act had not gone far enough to ensure the vote for all citizens: few African Americans voted in the southern states because many white segregationists prevented them from registering. Civil rights organizations labored tirelessly to register African Americans in cities like Selma, Alabama for at least two years with little success. Of the fifteen thousand African Americans residing in Selma's Dallas County, only three hundred had registered. In adjacent Perry County, the



*Archbishop Iakovos with Martin Luther King, Jr., Selma, March 15, 1965.*

number of African American registered voters was about the same. Blacks comprised 80 percent of the population in the area immediately south of Dallas County, yet none had registered to vote.<sup>1</sup> In response, civil rights leaders mobilized and pressured the federal government for a Voting Rights Act at the beginning of 1965. President Lyndon Johnson felt it was too soon after the Civil Rights Act to introduce voting reform legislation, which prompted Martin Luther King Jr. and others into action.<sup>2</sup> Among these were the National Council of Churches' Commission on Religion and Race and one of its leaders, Archbishop Iakovos.

Dr. King and other civil rights organizers arrived in Selma in January of 1965 to begin planning their voting rights initiative. It would be a strategy consistent with King's belief in nonviolent civil disobedience. They would distribute leaflets, hold mass meetings, organize protest marches, and fill the county jails until the country realized the voting injustices inflicted upon blacks throughout the South. Tensions between whites and blacks continued to mount in Selma and in its adjacent counties in January and February of 1965. A nighttime march in the nearby city of Marion erupted in violence, which led to the brutal death of

Jimmie Lee Jackson. In the wake of the horrific events that unfolded in Marion, civil rights organizers planned a peaceful march from Selma to the state capital of Montgomery on Sunday, March 7. The intention of the march was to protest African Americans' inability to register to vote and the escalating violence perpetrated against them as they attempted to do so. In the absence of Dr. King, the march would begin from Selma's Brown Chapel, proceed across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, and continue along Route 80 to Montgomery. Six hundred marchers left Brown Chapel and made it as far as the Edmund Pettus Bridge, on the outskirts of town. There awaiting them were hundreds of Alabama state troopers, local policemen, and a volunteer mounted posse comprised of local segregationists flaunting their bullwhips, rubber tubing wrapped in barbed wire, and clubs.<sup>3</sup> As the marchers approached, the state police commander ordered the advance. Immediately, law enforcement officers attacked the marchers, pursuing them back across the bridge and well into Selma's black neighborhood. In the end, more than fifty people were hospitalized,<sup>4</sup> hundreds were injured, all were terrified, and the nation viewing the spectacle on television were horrified at what would be later known as "Bloody Sunday."

Learning of the atrocities from Atlanta, King immediately sent telegrams to prominent church leaders across the country calling upon them to join him in “a minister’s march” from Selma to Montgomery on Tuesday, March 9. In response, hundreds of ministers, priests, rabbis, and nuns from across the country descended upon Selma for a second march, and with them hundreds of journalists, photographers, and television cameramen. One of the ministers who arrived was Unitarian minister James Reeb, who flew in from Boston to join the march. At almost 2:30 PM on March 9, only two days after the horrific spectacle of the first Selma to Montgomery march, Dr. King and hundreds of clergy led a march of three thousand from Brown Chapel towards the Edmund Pettus Bridge. When they reached the crest of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, they saw hundreds of state troopers barring their way at the foot of the bridge. When they came within fifty feet of the troopers, Major John Cloud of the Alabama State Police ordered the marchers to halt. Dr. King, fearing a repeat of the first attempted march, requested if he and the marchers could kneel and pray, which Major Cloud permitted. After a brief prayer, Dr. King rose and led the marchers back into Selma. The second attempted march to Montgomery failed; yet, it succeeded in that no one was hurt, at least not until later that evening when suspected members of the Ku Klux Klan assaulted Reverend James Reeb and two other Unitarian ministers. Reeb would die two days later.

News of Reverend Reeb’s death made headlines across the nation. Archbishop Iakovos sent a telegram to Mrs. Reeb on March 12, which stated in part, “The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and our communicants extend deepest condolences and sympathy on the tragic death of your beloved husband, a minister of God who fought oppression of Human Rights and dignity and died heroically on the battlefield of mankind.”<sup>5</sup> A memorial service for Reverend Reeb was set for Monday, March 15 at Brown Chapel in Selma. The intended service was to include eulogies in the chapel followed by a procession to the Dallas

County Courthouse where prayers and a wreath would be placed at the courthouse doors. However, due to escalating racial hostilities, the procession could not occur, because a court-ordered injunction precluded any march taking place.

On March 13, Reverend Robert Spike, Executive Director of the Commission on Religion and Race, sent a telegram to Archbishop Iakovos inviting him as leader of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas and one of the presidents of the World Council of Churches, and vice president of the National Council of Churches to attend the memorial service in Selma on Monday, March 15.<sup>6</sup> His Eminence consulted with his staff and advisors who strongly recommended that he not attend the memorial due to the violent atmosphere in Alabama and that his life would be in grave danger.<sup>7</sup>

On Monday morning, March 15, Archbishop Iakovos, Fr. George Bacopoulos along with twenty other distinguished clergymen of the Commission on Religion and Race boarded a plane chartered by the National Council of Churches and flew to Alabama.<sup>8</sup> Upon arriving in Selma, the pilot opted to land his plane in a cow pasture outside of the city, as racial tensions were still quite high.<sup>9</sup> Archbishop Iakovos, Fr. Bacopoulos, and the CORR delegates proceeded to Brown Chapel in the black neighborhood of Selma. Mourners filled the chapel beyond its capacity as hundreds of sympathizers awaited outside in the doorway while others peered through the windows. Upon arrival, His Eminence was directed to a seat on the dais, since he was the highest-ranking cleric present. Clergymen of all denominations participated in the memorial service, awaiting the arrival of the main eulogist, Dr. King. Iakovos remembered how surprised local blacks were to see a Greek Orthodox archbishop in his black robes.<sup>10</sup> Dr. King arrived three hours late and delivered a stirring eulogy for Reverend Reeb and Jimmie Lee Jackson. As King concluded, Reverend Ralph Abernathy mounted the dais to announce that U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Thomas of Mobile had lifted

the injunction and permitted the march to the Dallas County Courthouse to proceed. The shocked congregants cheered and wept with joy at the prophetic-like pronouncement as they prepared for the long-awaited march to the courthouse.<sup>11</sup>

Just outside the doorway of the chapel, King paused to shake hands and speak briefly with Archbishop Iakovos, whom he remembered meeting on his first trip abroad to Geneva, Switzerland when Iakovos served as a representative of the Ecumenical Patriarchate ten years before.<sup>12</sup> Iakovos later commented that he and Dr. King had walked along Lake Geneva together and remembered how surprised people were to see a black minister for the first time.<sup>13</sup> As they embarked, a little six- or seven-year-old black girl looked up at the distinguished archbishop in his black robes, held his hand, and told him not to worry.<sup>14</sup> Iakovos later remembered looking at this young girl and thought she wanted to ask, “Will the day ever come when I’ll be able to hold any white person’s hand and walk with them?”<sup>15</sup>

At 5:08 PM the procession of nearly 4,000, walking three abreast, began from the steps of Brown Chapel and proceeded through a white neighborhood until it reached the downtown district where the Dallas County Courthouse was located. Dr. King held a purple and white wreath and led the march with Archbishop Iakovos on one side and Reverend Ralph Abernathy, and Andrew Young on the other. The eight-block route took approximately twenty-five minutes to walk. Hundreds of reporters and cameramen followed the solemn procession to the courthouse steps. The police formed a protective ring around the marchers as they advanced. Car horns blared from angry motorists at each intersection as the procession passed, undoubtedly protesting both the obstruction to traffic and its purpose.<sup>16</sup> “As we walked toward the courthouse, there were so many ugly faces staring at us,” Iakovos told a New York Times reporter. “The whites’ spirits were so poisoned by hate and bias. But when you believe in the rightness of what you’re doing, you discount fear.”<sup>17</sup>

The presence of hundreds of police officers and the many clergy of all faiths contributed to the peacefulness of the march. As Jack Nelson of the Los Angeles Times reported, “Most of the whites who ventured onto the street seemed almost awed by the sight of so many ministers, priests and nuns among the marchers. Except for one man who spat in the lens of a TV camera and another who shouted ‘Go to hell’ from a nearby service station, there were no incidents. Several whites along the route stood in doorways of buildings and laughed when they saw cameramen running ahead of yet another in a long series of protest marches here. The laughs faded and the expressions of many changed to awe when they saw the imposing figure of Archbishop Iakovos, his dark eyes as bright as the gold top of the staff he carried, his beard gray and his thick eyebrows as dark as his flowing vestments.”<sup>18</sup>

Just as Dr. King, Archbishop Iakovos, and the other dignitaries reached the courthouse steps, they turned and faced the thousands who had followed them. A Life Magazine journalist photographed this historic moment, which appeared on the front cover of the magazine’s March 26, 1965 issue. Before Dr. King spoke, Sheriff Jim Clark locked the doors from the inside and turned off the lights of the courthouse.<sup>19</sup> The marchers assembled on Alabama Avenue between the courthouse and the federal building surrounded by police. Two hundred white spectators assembled across the street.<sup>20</sup> Dr. King delivered a brief eulogy while a car horn blared in the background as he spoke. He followed his eulogy with a prayer for Reverend Reeb, Jimmie Lee Jackson, and other fallen civil rights martyrs. The memorial concluded with all singing “We Shall Overcome.” As darkness settled and the service ended, the people dispersed back to Brown Chapel. When they had gone, the courthouse door was unlocked and a hand reached from behind it to remove the wreath and to lock the doors again.<sup>21</sup>

With the events in Selma concluded, Archbishop Iakovos and Fr. Bacopoulos departed: His Eminence to South Carolina and Fr. Bacopoulos back to New York City.



*Archbishop with child in Selma, March 15, 1965.*

His Eminence issued a statement to the press that read in part, “I came to this Memorial Service because I believe this is an appropriate occasion not only to dedicate myself as well as our Greek Orthodox Communicants to the noble cause for which our friend, the Reverend James Reeb gave his life; but also in order to show our willingness to continue this fight against prejudice, bias and persecution. In this God-given cause, I feel sure that I have the full and understanding support of our Greek Orthodox faithful of America. For our Greek Orthodox Church and our people fully understand from our heritage and our tradition such sacrificial involvements. Our Church has never hesitated to fight, when it felt it must, for the rights of mankind; and many of our Churchmen have been in the forefront of these battles time and time again...”<sup>22</sup>

Archbishop Iakovos flew to Charleston, South Carolina, his first time visiting the Greek Orthodox community of approximately one hundred twenty families. Later that evening, alone in his hotel room, His Eminence received threatening phone calls throughout the night, expressing their anger and opposition to his presence in Selma earlier that day.<sup>23</sup> However, Iakovos soon disregarded the disappointing phone

calls when he watched President Lyndon Johnson introduce his voting rights bill to Congress that same evening. Iakovos believed that the president’s address was a direct result of the events that had transpired in Selma that day, of which he felt blessed to be a participant.<sup>24</sup>

The next day, Iakovos sent a telegram to President Johnson “expressing the feelings of gratitude and admiration of my people.” He also delivered remarks on CBS’s nationwide radio program *The World Tonight* saying that, “the commitment that our President made before our nation last night renews the faith of our people in equality, democracy and human dignity. The orderly demonstration in Selma yesterday guarantees the peaceful solution to the problem that has done so much damage to the image of the United States here and abroad...”<sup>25</sup> Upon returning to the Archdiocese in New York City, Archbishop Iakovos received many letters both in support and in opposition to his presence in Selma.<sup>26</sup> Though the number of letters in support of his Selma appearance far outnumbered those in opposition, he was especially grieved that for the first time in his life, he received threatening letters from his own people, of his own faith, and who “bestow[ed] on me the title of traitor.”<sup>27</sup>

Over the months and years that followed the historic events in Selma, increasing numbers of Americans—both Greek and non-Greek—appreciated and expressed their admiration for Archbishop Iakovos's role in the civil rights movement. Many scholars and historians consider the events that transpired in Selma that year the crowning moment of the civil rights movement. The marches visually and essentially legitimized the fact that the issue of civil rights was not only an African American cause, but also one shared by all Americans who love freedom and democracy.

Archbishop Iakovos knew that voting did more than give people a voice in their government: voting erased their invisibility. Inspired by his Orthodox Christian faith,

Archbishop Iakovos believed that voting was more than a right or an expression of citizenship; it was a declaration of one's God-created humanity. It was, therefore, just as much a human right as it was a civil right. His Eminence understood this long before he walked with Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma when he himself grew up within a discriminated minority community in Turkey. For him, it was unconscionable that in a land founded on freedom and democracy that inequality and prejudice should prevail. To this end, Archbishop Iakovos labored tirelessly for almost four decades on human and civil rights causes for all peoples, earning him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1980 from President Jimmy Carter—along with his dear friend, Dr. Martin Luther King.

In spring of 2015, we shall commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s march on Selma, and His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos's participation in the historic events that transpired. The Greek Orthodox Church continues to fight against racism, prejudice, and discrimination with fervent love for God and all people. May His Eminence's memory and all he stood for be eternal.

*Written by: Fr. Michael Varlamos,  
Protopresbyter*

*Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
St. Clair Shores, Michigan  
November 3, 2014*

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3 *Ibid.*, 94.

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5 "Telegram to Mrs. James J. Reeb," March 12, 1965, box E24, folder CD, Archbishop Iakovos, Papers, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, New York.

6 "Telegram of Robert Spike to Archbishop Iakovos," Telegram, (March 13, 1965), box E24, folder CD, Archbishop Iakovos, Papers, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, New York.

7 Taylor Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, January 24, 2002, pt. 54' 31", collection 5047, series 4, box 91, Archbishop Iakovos, Taylor Branch Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

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9 Nicholas Gage, "Archbishop Iakovos," in *Iakovos: The Making of an Archbishop* (New York: Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, 1996), 68.

10 Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, pt. 9' 45".

11 Taylor Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965–68* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006), 106–108; Fager, *Selma, 1965*, 132–134.

12 Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965–68*, 108; Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, pt. 8' 50".

13 Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, pt. 11' 30".

14 Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965–68*, 108; Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, 10' 15".

15 *Conversations with Iakovos*, CD, vol. 6, Track 7, 7 vols. (Athens, Greece: SKAI Records, 2003).

16 Press Dispatches, "King Leads 4,000 In March for Reeb," *The Atlanta Constitution*, March 16, 1965; "Selma Allows 8-Block March by 4,000: U.S. Court Tells Police Not to Interfere," *Chicago Tribune*, March 16, 1965, 12; Roy Reed, "Selma March Held After U.S. Court Arranges Accord," *New York Times*, March 16, 1965, 1.

17 Gage, "Archbishop Iakovos," 68.

18 Jack Nelson, "Clergy Lead March After Court Orders," *Los Angeles Times*, March 16, 1965, 1.

19 Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965–68*, 108; Fager, *Selma, 1965*, 134.

20 "Selma Allows 8-Block March by 4,000: U.S. Court Tells Police Not to Interfere," 12; Press Dispatches, "King Leads 4,000 In March for Reeb."

21 Reed, "Selma March Held After U.S. Court Arranges Accord," 1; Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965–68*, 108.

22 Archbishop Iakovos and Archdiocesan Central Council, "Statement by His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos on the Occasion of the Memorial Service for Rev. James Reeb in Selma, Alabama," March 15, 1965, box E24, folder CD, Archbishop Iakovos, Papers, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, New York.

23 Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, pt. 11".

24 *Ibid.*, pt. 1 hour, 13 min.

25 Archbishop Iakovos, "Telegram Sent By Archbishop Iakovos To President Johnson," March 16, 1965, box E24, folder XX, Archbishop Iakovos, Papers, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, New York.

26 "Archbishop Iakovos. Papers. Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, New York," n.d., n. See letters included in folders GF and GA.

27 Branch, Interview with Archbishop Iakovos, pt. 55".



Fr. Michael N. Varlamos

## Fr. Michael N. Varlamos

Fr. Michael Varlamos was born in Highland Park, Michigan on August 14, 1962 and grew up in Detroit and its western suburbs. He graduated from Livonia Bentley High School in 1980 and pursued studies in electrical engineering at Schoolcraft College and Lawrence Institute of Technology. Before completing his engineering program, Fr. Michael decided to study Orthodox theology at Hellenic College in Brookline, MA from which he was graduated in 1987 as valedictorian of his class with a BA in religious studies.

In addition to his studies, Fr. Michael served as assistant to the Dean of Admissions for Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology for four years. In January of 1989 he was ordained a deacon and served Bishop Methodios of Boston and the Assumption parish of Lowell, MA. In May 1989 Fr. Michael was graduated from Holy Cross with high distinction receiving a Masters of Divinity degree. Immediately after graduation, Fr. Michael was ordained a

priest by His Grace Bishop Timothy of Detroit on May 28, 1989 and assigned as the proistamenos of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary parish in Plymouth, MI, where he served for 14 years. His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas assigned him to the Assumption Church in St. Clair Shores, MI on July 27, 2003.

In the fall of 2007, Fr. Michael was accepted to the graduate school of Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan where he pursued an MA degree in classics (ancient Greek and Latin). On September 13, 2009, Fr.

Michael was elevated to the ecclesiastical rank of Protopresbyter by His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas.

In May of 2010 Fr. Michael completed his graduate studies in classics at Wayne State University with his second Masters degree. In addition to continuing his duties as Proistamenos of the Assumption parish, Fr. Michael is currently pursuing a Ph.D in history at Wayne State University. He and Presvytera Tina have four children: Nicholas (22), Olymbia (21), Stavroula (19), and Panayiotis (17).



### ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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From the desk of  
REVEREND FATHER MICHAEL N. VARLAMOS  
fmichaeln@wowway.com

March 21, 2015  
St. James the Confessor

Mr. George Tsandikos, Chairman  
Leadership 100  
645 Fifth Avenue, Suite 906  
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Tsandikos,

I pray this finds you in the best of health.

My name is Fr. Michael Varlamos, the senior priest of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. I am also a Ph.D student at Wayne State University's History Department. For my dissertation, I have been researching the role that the late Archbishop Iakovos played in the civil rights movement of the 1960s. My research necessitates the use of primary sources.

Recently, I visited the archives of our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in New York City. I was very impressed at how well it is organized and that most of the documents have been digitized. Mrs. Nikie Calles's guidance in my research proved invaluable. She informed me that the preservation, organization, and overall excellent condition of our Archdiocesan archives was made possible because of a grant from Leadership 100.

With this letter, I would also like to personally thank you for providing the funds necessary to digitize the archives of our Archdiocese. Without it, the invaluable history of the Greek Orthodox Church in America would be lost and my dissertation impossible to begin. May God bless you, your family, and all the endeavors of Leadership 100 for preventing our history from being silenced. You have my deepest appreciation.

Yours in Christ,

The Reverend Protopresbyter Michael Varlamos  
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
St. Clair Shores, Michigan

KOIMISIS OF THE THEOTOKOS



*Paulette Poulos is assembling kits with Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity Treasurer Peter Doukas (opposite) as Justin Bozonelis (to her right) looks on.*



*Paulette Poulos (fourth from left) with Justin Bozonelis and Leadership 100 Partners and volunteers at Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City.*



*Youth volunteers assemble kits at Archangel Michael Church in Port Washington, NY.*



*Fr. Nikolas Karloutsos (center) with youth volunteers at Archangel Michael Church in Port Washington, NY.*



*Youth Director George Hazlaris (L) with George Soterakis at Church of Our Saviour in Rye, NY.*



*Youth volunteers assemble kits at Church of our Saviour in Rye, NY.*



*Leadership 100 volunteers assemble kits at St. Nicholas Church in Lexington, MA.*

## LEADERSHIP 100 PARTNERS DAY OF SERVICE MARKS 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SELMA MARCHES

The Leadership 100 Partners Day of Service was held as a multi-city event on Sunday, March 22nd at participating Greek Orthodox parishes after liturgy, in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the participation of Archbishop Iakovos of Blessed Memory in the Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights Marches. Leadership 100 members demonstrated that they give back to the community not only through financial contributions but also with their time and service.

Justin Bozonelis and George Soterakis, Co-Chairmen of Leadership 100 Partners and members of the Leadership 100 Board of Trustees, reported that local Leadership 100 member volunteers helped coordinate a day of community service to help assemble International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) emergency health kits. The kits will be sent to impoverished areas outside the United States.

Inaugural participating parishes included the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City, Saint Nicholas Church in Lexington, MA, the Church of Our Saviour in Rye, NY, and the Archangel Michael Church in Port Washington, NY.

Participants of all ages were afforded an opportunity to connect with others in the spirit of volunteering during the Lenten season. Bozonelis estimated that 100 kits were assembled at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City, while Soterakis estimated that more than 100 kits were assembled at the Church of Our Saviour in Rye, NY, noting that “with the blessing and support of parish priest Fr. Elias Villis and the leadership of Youth Director George Hazlaris, the youth spearheaded the community’s efforts to make the Day of Service a success at the church of Archbishop Iakovos, a fitting tribute to his legacy and the ideals of Leadership 100.”

Drake Behrakis, also a member of the Board of Trustees, reported that the Metropolis of Boston held its first Leadership Day of Service at St Nicholas Church in Lexington, MA, where more than 20 volunteers, hosted by Father Demetri Costarakis, assembled 224 IOCC emergency health kits. He gave special thanks to the Anton, Sideridis, Scrivanos, Titcomb and Touloupoulos families.

Michael N. Bapis, former Chairman of Leadership 100 Partners and a member of the Board of Trustees, reported that numerous volunteers participated in the Day of Service at Archangel Michael Church in Port Washington, NY, with the help and support of Fr. Nikolas P. Karloutsos.

Additional parishes throughout the country are expected to report participation.



George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Angeliki (Lila) Lalaounis in honor of her late husband, Ilias I. Lalaounis.

George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Michael Psaros.



George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou.

George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou.



George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Constantine M. Triantafilou on behalf of International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC).



George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to Peter Tiboris, right, and Eilana Lappalainen, left.

## LEADERSHIP 100 PRESENTS AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference, which took place February 12-15, 2015, at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida, featured the presentation of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to the renowned Greek academician, artist and designer, Ilias I. Lalaounis, who passed away in December of 2013, accepted by his wife, Lila, at the Grand Banquet finale on Saturday evening, February 14, 2015.

Other recipients included program speakers and performers Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, of the faculty at the Weill Cornell Medical College/New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City; Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou, an Attending

Endocrinologist in the Department of Medicine at Hospital for Special Surgery and Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology at the Weill Cornell Medical College; Michael Psaros, Co-Founder and Co-Managing Partner of KPS Capital Partners, LP; Peter Tiboris, the renowned conductor, and Eilana Lappalainen, the celebrated dramatic soprano; as well as to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), accepted by Constantine M. Triantafilou, Executive Director and CEO.

According to George S. Tsandikos, Chairman, more than 350 members and guests, together with their families, attended the Conference. "We chose Orlando to

encourage family friendly activities and we were pleased to see so many children participate."

In addition to the traditional Bible Study and Lecture by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, the program included a special presentation by Jerry Dimitriou, Executive Director of Administration of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, which addressed plans for the building of the Saint Nicholas National Shrine at the World Trade Center. A highlight of the Conference was the concert "Symphony at Sunset" with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Peter Tiboris and featuring Eilana Lappalainen.



*Jerry Dimitriou, Executive Director of Administration of Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America addresses Thursday Forum on plans for Saint Nicholas National Shrine.*



*George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, addresses General Assembly.*



*George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, left, and Archbishop Demetrios present Ambassador Loucas Tsilas with a Lalaounis-crafted Icon of the Panagia, in appreciation of the completion of his 15-year tenure as Executive Director of the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA) in January, 2015.*



*Paulette Poulos, Leadership 100 Executive Director, addresses General Assembly.*



*Peter Vlachos, Chairman of Investment Committee, addresses General Assembly.*



*Supreme President of AHEPA, Phillip T. Frangos, addresses General Assembly.*



*Drake Behrakis, member of Grant Committee and Board of Trustees, addresses General Assembly.*



*Thomas G. Jordan, Leadership 100 Treasurer, addresses General Assembly.*



*Youth gather at the Grand Banquet. The Youth Program was organized by Maria Behrakis and Elaine Cotronakis.*



*Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh presides at Memorial Service for Leadership 100 members at the Holy Trinity Church in Orlando, FL.*



*Archbishop Demetrios and (L to R in center) Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit, Chairman George S. Tsandikos, Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta and Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh with members of the Holy Trinity Church of Orlando Hellenic Dance, who performed at Conference.*



First Place Golf winners (L to R) Dr. James Gardner, George Behrakis, and Arthur Katsaros.



First Place Tennis winner Nancy Papaioannou.



(Standing Left to Right) Peter J. Pappas, Mae and John Calamos (Seated Left to Right) Yanni Sianis, Pavlos Yeroulanos, C. Dean Metropoulos and Sophia Pascal.



Golfers



Tennis players



Leadership 100 members gather for walk-run, organized by Mike Manatos, far left, member of Board of Trustees.

## THE PHILANTHROPY OF GOLF

The Annual Leadership 100 Conferences are not only an occasion for inspirational programs and fellowship, but for recreation, with the highlight being a Golf Tournament that draws many members. There is also a Tennis Tournament and a new activity called Walk-Run, but Golf is the most popular.

First Place winners of the Golf Tournament at the 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference were George Behrakis, Dr. James Gardner and Arthur Katsaros. Second Place were John Calamos, C. Dean Metropoulos, Christopher Pappas, and Peter Pappas. Nancy Papaioannou took First Place in the Tennis Tournament, with Second Place going to William Maguire and Dr. Nicholas Romas.

In years past, winners of the Tournaments were given gift certificates, but in the past two years all that changed when Peter J. Pappas, a member of the Executive Committee and the Chairman of the Board of P.J.M. Holding Group, the company he founded, took charge.

Pappas, who is also a real estate developer and noted philanthropist, has devoted his energies in recent years to expanding venues for golfing in Greece. An avid golfer for decades, he has played with the legendary actor Telly Savalas, a friend, as well as with other Hollywood stars, U.S. Presidents and other leaders from around the world.

As a supporter of the Greek Orthodox Church in America, as well as the Greek and

Cypriot American communities, he believed that golf bears many of the characteristics of philanthropy and should serve its purpose. With conviction, he convinced his fellow golfers, as well as tennis players, that the winners of the tournaments should contribute their winnings to the Greek Orthodox Church closest to the venue of each Leadership 100 Annual Conference.

Pappas is a recipient of The Honorary Medal of St. Paul and is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Order of St. Andrew. He has served as a member of the Archdiocesan National Council and on the Board of Trustees of Leadership 100 for many years. He was awarded the Honorary Gold Medal of the Republic of Cyprus.

# FUTURE LEADERS

*By Elaine K. Contronakis*

Another successful conference has come to a close. Friendships have been forged and memories made.

While plans are already underway for another enriching experience for all our youth at our next conference in beautiful Arizona, February 18-21, 2016, here are some moments of our time together.



*Paulette with the future leaders of L100*



*Leadership 100 Family Day at Walt Disney World*



*Ice Breaker with Fr. Elias and Fr. Constantine with all youth, including youth from local parish of Holy Trinity, Orlando, FL*



*Youth in front of castle at the Magic Kingdom*



*Some youth at the Grand Banquet*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS CHRIST THE TRUE VINE ICON TO NEW MEMBERS



*Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou and Andrew Panzures*



*Demetrios E. Argyropoulos*



*Paul and Antonia Bregianos  
with son Gregory and daughter Maria*



*Christopher and Anastasia Daifotis  
with daughters Helen and Christine*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS CHRIST THE TRUE VINE ICON TO NEW MEMBERS



*Peter and Barbara Ferentinos*



*Donald and Linda Franchilli  
with son Niko*



*Nicholas Ganias*



*Dr. James Gardner*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS CHRIST THE TRUE VINE ICON TO NEW MEMBERS



*Michael and Vasilea Kaplanis*



*Arthur and Denise Katsaros*



*William and Joanne Maguire*



*Nicholas J. Pantelidis*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS CHRIST THE TRUE VINE ICON TO NEW MEMBERS



*Dr. Sotiris and Stephanie Pagdadis*



*George Petrocheilos*



*Paul and Denise Skoutelas*



*John and Catherine Stratakis  
with daughter Anastasia*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS OBELISKS TO FULFILLED MEMBERS



*Leon and Robyn Andris*



*Dr. Constantine and Catherine Bitounis*



*Arthur and Denise Katsaros*



*Dr. Constantine and Elaine Michell*

# ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS PRESENTS OBELISKS TO FULFILLED MEMBERS



*Dr. Theodore and Catherine Michell*



*James and Stella Pantelidis*



*Gus and JoAnn Perdikakis  
with daughters Mandie and Lynn*





## GRANTS AT HISTORIC HIGH

The Executive Committee of Leadership 100, meeting at the 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference on February 12, 2015, approved \$1,970,799 in new grants to be distributed from 2015-2017. The amount to be distributed in 2015, along with previously approved grants, now totals \$2,532,651, bringing the year to date total since the inception of Leadership 100 to a historic high of \$41,587,163.

The Committee approved \$1,350,243 in new grants to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and \$620,556 in new grants to affiliated organizations. Both included multi-year grants. There are also additional grant proposals still under review.

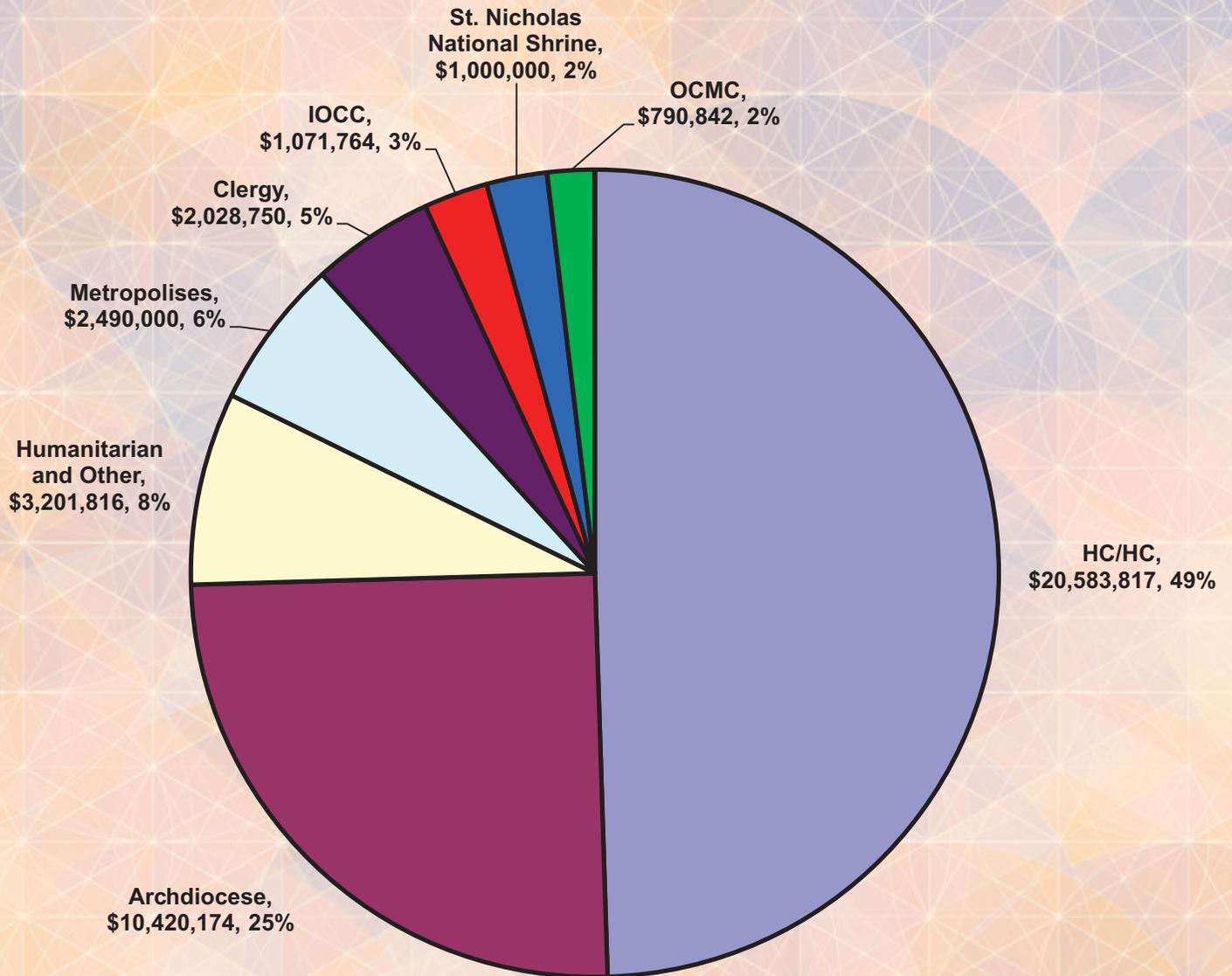
The new grants to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese (GOA) include \$300,000 over three years for the Archdiocesan Advisory

Committee on Science and Technology (AACST) for the “Addressing Modern Challenges Initiative”; \$270,000 for the fifth year of the Camping Ministry Program; \$133,200 to the National Finance Committee for “The Orthodox Software Initiative”; \$300,000 over two years for the Office of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Church-World Affairs for “Faith-Based Diplomacy and Advocacy Initiative”; \$125,000 for the third year of the GOA “Strategic Plan Project”; \$75,000 for the GOA “Faith and Safety Project”; \$65,000 for the Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism for the “Outreach and Evangelism: Baseline Project”; \$52,043 for the second year of the Department of Administration “Ministry Updates Project”; and \$30,000 to Ionian Village for the “IV On-the-Go” retreat program.

The new affiliated organization grants include \$100,000 for the second year of the Metropolis of Atlanta “Family Life Ministry”; \$250,000 over two years to Orthodox Christian Network for “Enhancing the Multimedia Offerings and Marketing Effectiveness of Key GOA Departments”; \$118,621 over two years to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) for the “Serv-X-Treme! National Youth Service Leadership Development Initiative”; \$88,200 to Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) for “Proper Training for Ministering to Prisoners and Educational Outreach through Training and Inspirational Videos”; and \$63,735 to Project Mexico-St. Innocent Orphanage to create and implement an Intern Development Program.

# Leadership 100<sup>®</sup>

## Grants



**TOTAL GRANTS DISTRIBUTED SINCE INCEPTION: \$41,587,163.**



## LEADERSHIP 100 ENDOWMENT FUND 1989 - 2015 GRANTS

<b>Hellenic College / Holy Cross School of Theology</b>	<b>\$ 20,583,817</b>
Hellenic College / Holy Cross Scholarship Program *	17,403,617
Archbishop Iakovos Library Fund	1,000,000
Hellenic College / Holy Cross Technology Infrastructure	1,000,000
Hellenic College / Holy Cross (various grants)	733,600
Hellenic College - Office of Vocation and Ministry	311,600
Leadership 100 Fitness Center at Hellenic College / Holy Cross	
Gifts from Leadership 100 Members	135,000
<b>Greek Orthodox Archdiocese</b>	<b>\$ 10,420,174</b>
Internet Ministry and Technology Infrastructure	1,561,700
Marriage and Family	1,447,990
Outreach & Evangelism / Home Missions	1,271,600
Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations	925,000
Greek Orthodox Telecommunications	879,500
Youth, Young Adult, and Camping Ministries	851,330
Archdiocese Administration, Management, and Leadership Training	834,786
Parish Development and Stewardship	658,241
Communications	648,250
Religious Education	632,068
Archives	400,000
Greek Education	165,000
Radio Ministry	75,409
St. Basil Academy (Archpastorate of Archbishop Michael)	69,300
<b>Humanitarian Assistance and Other Grants</b>	<b>\$ 3,201,816</b>
September 11 Relief Fund (including gifts from Leadership 100 members)	587,550
The Ecumenical Patriarchate (Various Grants)	415,000
Orthodox Christian Network	325,000
Greek Fire Relief Fund (including gifts from Leadership 100 members)	300,129
Various Ministries	266,335
Institute on Religion and World Affairs of Boston University - Orthodox Christianity in American Public Life	260,040
Video Documentaries	219,680
National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians	208,000
Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry	162,882
Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute	157,200
Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund	100,000
Greek Earthquake Relief Fund	100,000
Primary Health Care in Southern Albania (SAE)	100,000



## LEADERSHIP 100 ENDOWMENT FUND 1989 - 2015 GRANTS

<b>Metropolis Ministries</b>	<b>\$ 2,490,000</b>
Metropolis Youth Camps	1,350,000
Metropolis Ministries Outreach	540,000
Metropolis of Boston - Emerging Leaders Ministry	200,000
Metropolis of San Francisco - Family Wellness Center	200,000
Metropolis of Atlanta - Family Life Ministry	200,000
<b>Clergy</b>	<b>\$ 2,028,750</b>
Increased Retired Clergy Pensions	895,500
Eliminated Student Loans of Active Priests	885,000
Archdiocesan Presbyters Council - Clergy Retreats, Wellness, Continuing Education, and Publications	174,000
Presbyters Council Benevolent Fund	44,250
National Presvyteres Retreat	30,000
<b>International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)</b>	<b>\$ 1,071,764</b>
International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)	950,814
Hurricane Katrina Relief (including gifts from Leadership 100 members)	120,950
<b>Special Gift to The St. Nicholas National Shrine</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000</b>
<b>Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC)</b>	<b>\$ 790,842</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 41,587,163</b>

\* As of January, 2015, 150 recipients of Leadership 100 scholarships are graduates that have been ordained, 71 seminarians are still in School, and 58 recipients have graduated and are working for the Church in some capacity.



**GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS<sup>OF</sup> ATLANTA**  
**ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΛΑΝΤΑΣ**

February 19, 2015

Ms. Paulette Poulos, Executive Director  
Leadership 100  
Olympic Tower, Ste. 906  
645 Fifth Ave.  
New York, New York 10022

My dear Paulette,

*"A great door for effective work has been opened....."  
(1 Corinthians 16:9)*

As we look forward to the beginning of Great Lent, I greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with prayers and best wishes for a blessed Lent.

First of all, I wanted to send my congratulations and thanks to you and your co-workers for the wonderful Leadership 100 conference. I was so pleased and happy to have the opportunity of sharing this splendid event with you, to meet so many wonderful people and to participate in the meetings and discussions. I know how much time, energy and sheer hard work it takes to organize such a large event, and I wanted to commend you and all your staff on an excellent job.

Truly I give thanks to God for inspiring the members of Leadership 100 to help and assist the Orthodox Church here in America. By supporting such worthy endeavors as Hellenic College/Holy Cross, OCF and marriage and family, we can see that the members of Leadership 100 understand that it is a blessing to be able to help and assist others in such worthy endeavor. The decision that the Board made to support our Metropolis Family Life Ministry for the second year is a great blessing and will help our clergy and lay families tremendously. Our Family Life Ministry has been very busy and productive offering dynamic Family Retreats, Parish workshops for Marriage and Parenting Seminars as well as utilizing the latest technology to offer tools and resources for today's Orthodox families. Their blog is an outreach ministry to support the growth of our Family Life Ministry and the needs of our Metropolis families.

I prayerfully wish you a blessed Great Lent, as together we seek forgiveness and salvation.  
**Καλη Τεσσαρακοστη!** I remain,

Prayerfully yours with much love in Christ,

**+ALEXIOS**  
Metropolitan of Atlanta



## GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

March 16, 2015

George S. Tsandikos  
Paulette Poulos  
Leadership 100  
Olympic Tower  
645 Fifth Avenue, Suite 906  
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Tsandikos and Paulette,

Having attended part of the 2014 National Clergy Retreat and knowing first hand the tremendous value of this gathering to our clergy, I would like to express my sincerest of thanks to Leadership 100 for its magnanimous decision to once again underwrite this year's retreat in November. By defraying costs not only will you alleviate the economic burden in organizing the retreat but at the same time will facilitate the attendance of our clergy.

Words cannot properly express enough gratitude for all that Leadership 100 does. We are truly fortunate to have an organization of our Archdiocese that is comprised of dedicated and faithful individuals such as yourselves. Wishing you all a blessed and fruitful remainder of Great Lent, I pray that our Almighty Lord grant you many more years of continued service to the Church.

*Thank you  
and a  
blessed + joyous  
Pascha to you all!*

Faithfully in the Service of our Lord,

+ Bishop Andonios of Phasiane  
Chancellor



*GEORGE S. TSANDIKOS, LEADERSHIP 100 CHAIRMAN AND ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS, PRESENT COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ON BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO ANGELO COUTRIS, LEFT, AND EUGENIA HASIOTIS, SECOND FROM RIGHT, BOTH OF WHOM ALSO SERVED ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.*

## *NEW MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES TAKE SEATS*

The Executive Committee welcomed Theodore K. Zampetis of the Metropolis of Detroit as a newly elected member at its meeting during the 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference. Zampetis is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Shiloh Industries, Inc. a leading full service automotive supplier to the U.S., European and Asian automakers in North America.

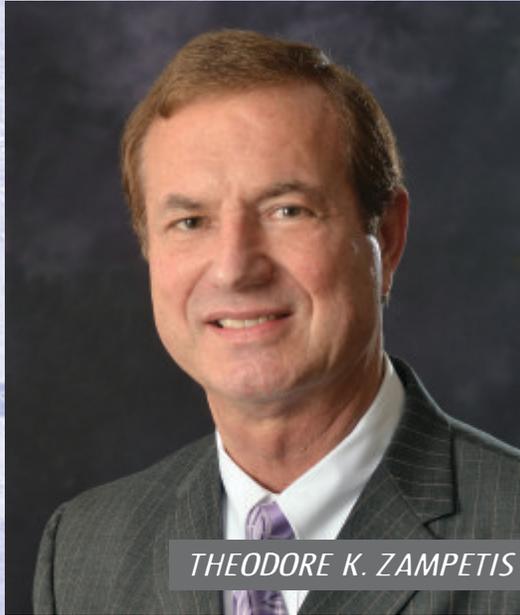
Born in Samos, Greece, he is a graduate of the Greek Merchant Marine Academy in Electro-Mechanical Engineering. He received a Bachelor Degree and Master's Degree in Business Administration, both from the University of Toledo, Ohio. He is married to Ann Saviolis and they have two children, Constantine and Callie, and four grandchildren. All four adult members of the Zampetis family are individually members of Leadership 100.

The Board of Trustees welcomed its new members: Vasilios C. Priskos, Metropolis of Denver; George T. Soterakis, Direct Archdiocesan District; Christopher A. Tjotjos, Metropolis of Pittsburgh; and Peter A. Vlachos, Direct Archdiocesan District.

Priskos is the Principal Broker and Founder of InterNet Properties, a full-service real estate firm established in 1994 and operating in Utah and surrounding states. Born in Greece, he was graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Arts in Finance in 1990. He and his father founded The Royal Eatery in downtown Salt Lake City in 1981, which is still being operated by his brother. He is considered an active force in the challenges related to the development and redevelopment of downtown real estate. Active in community affairs, he resides in Holladay, Utah with his wife, Shanna, and their four sons.

Soterakis is Senior Vice President and Ethics Officer at Citigroup Global Compliance in New York, NY. He earned a JD at Boston University School of Law, Boston, MA in May 2003 and a B.A. in Political Science and Hispanic and Italian Studies from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD in May 2000. He was admitted to the Bar in New York and Massachusetts in 2004 and in the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York in 2005. Soterakis, his wife, Demetra, and their children are members of the Church of Our Saviour in Rye, New York.

Tjotjos is Vice President, Cisco Solutions Practice, Black Box Network Services in Westlake, Ohio. He founded and developed Logos Communication in 1989 into a multi-million dollar corporation that was acquired by Black Box Network Services in October of 2010. Black Box's primary business is



*THEODORE K. ZAMPETIS*



*VASILIOS C. PRISKOS*



*GEORGE T. SOTERAKIS*



*PETER A. VLACHOS*



*CHRISTOPHER A. TJOTJOS*

designing, installing and maintaining IT infrastructure. He has been a member of the Cisco Systems Partner Executive Exchange Program (CPEE) since 2002. Tjotjos holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Bowling Green State University and an MBA from Baldwin-Wallace College. He and his wife, Sophia, son, Andreas, and daughters, Evangelia, Mary and Yiana are members of Saint Demetrios Church, Rocky River, OH.

Vlachos returns to the Board of Trustees. He has served for two decades as Chairman of the Investment Committee. A Managing Director of Beck, Mack & Oliver LLC, an 83-year-old New York investment advisory firm, he founded Austin Investment Management, Inc. in 1989, which was purchased by the former entity in 2009. During his time as President of Austin, he also served as a

corporate board member of Bullhorn, Inc. and VirtualRelocation.com, two innovative technology companies. A native New Yorker, he attended the prestigious Stuyvesant High School and was graduated from Colby College in Waterville, ME in 1958, after serving in the 93rd Bomb Wing of the Air Force Strategic Air command and flying with the 328th Bomb Squadron as a radar bombing and navigational technician during the Korean War. He is a resident of New York City and Martha's Vineyard with his wife, Dr. Susan Deakins. The couple has one daughter, Zoe Vlachos, also a member of Leadership 100, a son, Dimitri Vlachos, three granddaughters and one grandson. He is a member of Annunciation Church, New York, NY.

The Executive Committee thanked Evie Hasiotis of the Metropolis of Boston and Angelo Courtris of the Metropolis of Pittsburgh for their dedicated and devoted service to the Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees and to the Nominating Committee. The Board of Trustees thanked those members who have completed their term of service, namely, Gus Chafoulias and George Gialamas, both of the Metropolis of Chicago, and Dr. George Kallins of the Metropolis of San Francisco for their valuable service and support.



*Very Rev. Eugene N. Pappas and Archbishop Demetrios present Three Hierarchs Hellenic Heritage Award to George S. Tsandikos, as dignitaries and parish leaders look on.*

## George S. Tsandikos Honored With Hellenic Heritage Award



*George S. Tsandikos,  
Chairman of Leadership 100*

George S. Tsandikos, Chairman of Leadership 100, was presented with the Hellenic Heritage Award by Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church of Brooklyn, New York on January 29, 2015. His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, dignitaries and parish leaders joined the Very Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas, Pastor of Three Hierarchs, for the presentation. The Award, given to prominent Greek American leaders for promoting Hellenism, was initiated in 2003.

Tsandikos, who has been a Managing Director of Rockefeller & Company since 2003, is a graduate of Brown University and Boston College of Law. He is a member of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

In accepting the Award, in commemoration of the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs, Tsandikos said it had special meaning for him, growing up as the son of a priest who prized the cultural and educational, along with the spiritual, contributions of the Church Fathers.

“As the heirs of the Three Hierarchs, Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, we are charged with preserving this great tradition in our labor to continue to advance Orthodoxy and Hellenism, a specific mandate given to me in my role as Chairman of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Endowment Fund,” he said.



*(Left to Right) Dr. Olga Alexakos, Anthoula Katsimatides, Anthousa Iliopoulos, Penny Tsilas, Dr. Aphrodite Navab, Paulette Poulos, Elena Karavassilis, Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, Maria Logus, and Catherine Moutoussis.*

Photo credit: Dimitrios S. Panagos

## Paulette Poulos Honored as “Greek American Woman of the Year”

Paulette Poulos, Executive Director of Leadership 100, was honored as “Greek American Woman of the Year” by the Association of Greek American Professional Women (A.G.A.P.W.) in New York City on March 12, 2015.

The tribute, under the auspices of The Consulate General of Greece in New York in celebration of Women’s History Month, was attended by more than a hundred representatives of the Greek American Community, including George Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, and Argyris Vassiliou, Leadership 100 Vice Chairman.

The program opened with introductory remarks by Anthoula Katsimatides, Master of Ceremonies, and an invocation by the Reverend Dr. Robert Stephanopoulos, who also read a congratulatory message from His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios. Welcoming remarks were given by Dr. Olga Alexakos, President and Founder of A.G.A.P.W., as well as by Anthousa Iliopoulos, wife of the Consul General of Greece to New York, and Maria Logus, President of the National Philoptochos Society.

Prior to the introduction of Paulette Poulos by Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, who was the featured speaker, Tsandikos spoke of his long-term friendship and association with Paulette and her half century of service to the Greek Orthodox Church and Community. He cited her long association with

Archbishop Iakovos of Blessed Memory and her leadership positions of increasing responsibility. He said, “You have chosen an exemplary woman for this honor, one who does not discriminate by sex or religion or race, but who yet inspires women young and old by her loving and accepting presence.”

Along with the presentation of the Award by A.G.A.P.W., Paulette was also presented with



*Dr. Olga Alexakos (left) and Dr. Aphrodite Navab, present “Greek American Woman of the Year” Award to Paulette Poulos.*

a New York State Assembly Citation by Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas in recognition of her outstanding service and philanthropy, as well as professional success, in service to the Greek American and New York Communities. In addition, an Excellence Tuition Scholarship Award was presented, in her name, by Dr. Aphrodite Navab to Elena Karavassilis.

In her remarks, Paulette said she viewed her service to the Greek Orthodox Church and

Community not as a professional accomplishment, but rather as a personal and spiritual fulfillment. She credited her parents for instilling in her faith, ideals and the importance of integrity and Archbishop Iakovos for mentoring her as he set the course for the Greek Orthodox Church and Community in America and around the world, believing in placing women in positions of responsibility. She described her

current role as Executive Director of Leadership 100 as a continuation of his legacy and expressed indebtedness to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, “for his trust in me and his paternal love and guidance”, to Tsandikos “for his sage counsel, guidance, support, love and friendship for so many years,” and to “an exceptional group of

Officers, Board of Trustees and members who have offered their time, talent and treasure for the good of the Church and for Leadership 100.”

She closed her remarks by extending warmest gratitude to Dr. Alexakos, who as President and Founder, “devotes all her energies and untiring efforts to the success and advancement of A.G.A.P.W.”

# BROOKLYN HONORS LEADERSHIP 100 MEMBERS



Photo credit: Kosta Bej

*Eric L. Adams, top row center, with honorees George Pantelidis, second from left, James Pantelidis, fourth from left, and Peter Pantelidis, second from right.*

The Borough of Brooklyn in New York City held a Greek Heritage Celebration on March 23, 2015 and honored three prominent, fulfilled members of Leadership 100, among 12 distinguished Greek Americans, in ceremonies at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

James, George and Peter Pantelidis, who together operate Pan-Brothers Associates, a family-owned Real Estate Management and Development Company, were acknowledged

for their contributions to the community by Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. They grew up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

The Very Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas, Pastor of Three Hierarchs Church in Brooklyn, introduced the brothers.

James Pantelidis, who is a member of the Board of Trustees and the Audit Committee of Leadership 100, serves as Principal and

Chief Financial Officer of Pan-Brothers Associates, Inc. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City. George Pantelidis is also a member of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Both are Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Order of Saint Andrew.

Peter Pantelidis is a member of Holy Cross Church in Brooklyn.

## NEW VIDEOS RECOUNT HISTORY OF LEADERSHIP 100



*Arthur C. Anton*



*Peter M. Dion*

Leadership 100 produced with GOTELECOM three new videos during the 24th Annual Conference capturing the history of the organization.

Two of the three surviving Founders of the original seven Founders called upon by Archbishop Iakovos of Blessed Memory to implement his vision for Leadership 100 were interviewed, along with the Chairman of Leadership 100.

In the first video, Arthur C. Anton, Founder and Chairman of Leadership 100 from 2000

to 2004, recounts his first meeting with Archbishop Iakovos when he was a priest in Boston in 1940 and the Archbishop's idea to begin LOGOS, League of Greek Orthodox Stewards, the predecessor organization to Leadership 100. In the second, Peter M. Dion, Founder, recalls the early days of successfully recruiting members and offers his hopes for a new generation of leaders. Both are titled, "The Beginnings of Leadership 100".

In the third video, titled "Leadership 100: Yesterday and Today", Chairman George S.

Tsandikos pays tribute to the Founders and traces the dramatic growth of the organization and the programs and projects it has supported, principally under the spiritual leadership of Archbishop Demetrios.

All three videos are currently posted on the website and will continue to be posted for the foreseeable future under Contact Us on the website Menu as they provide a historical perspective up to the current day.

# GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN NEW YORK CITY



*Grand Marshals of Greek Independence Day Parade in New York City, March 29, 2015 Leadership 100 members Eleni Psaras and John Psaras, far left, and Mae and John Calamos, third and fourth from right, all with blue and gold sashes, flank (left to right) New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Archbishop Demetrios and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, also a Grand Marshal. Panos Kammenos, Minister of National Defence of Greece & Nikos Christodoulides, Cyprus Government Spokesman, Honorary Grand Marshals, with white sashes, are at far right.*

# Leadership 100 Members

## New Members

Since Fall 2014 Issue

<u>Metropolis</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Sponsor(s)</u>
<b>Direct Archdiocesan District</b> Perry N. and Stella Mallas Nicholas J. Pantelidis * Peter and Kiki Xanthos Demetrios J. and Bessie Ziozios	New York, NY New York, NY Dix Hills, NY Manhasset, NY	Markos and Sevasti Lagos James and Stella Pantelidis George Pantelidis Michael N. Bapis and Argyris Vassiliou
<b>Metropolis of Boston</b> Andrew and Susan Bounas  George E. and Karen Danis	Milton, MA  Hudson, MA	His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios and Constantine G. Caras George D. Behrakis
<b>Metropolis of Atlanta</b> Emmanuel J. Manos	Boynton Beach, FL	Emanuel J. and Elaine Cotronakis
<b>Metropolis of Denver</b> Chrystan M. Skefos *	Houston, TX	Harry J. and Cathe Skefos and Justin Bozonelis
<b>Metropolis of Detroit</b> Dr. Lewis A. and Patricia E. Assaley Dr. Sotiris and Stephanie L. Pagdadis	Cincinnati, OH Cincinnati, OH	Gus G. Perdikakis George T. Soterakis
<b>Metropolis of Pittsburgh</b> Harry G. and Michelle Psaros Samuel W. and Judith H. Spanos	McDonald, PA Sewickley, PA	Michael G. and Robin Psaros Angelo J. Coutris
<b>Metropolis of New Jersey</b> George C. Petrocheilos *	Baltimore, MD	Patrice A. Kouvas

\*Leadership 100 Partner

## Fulfilled Members

Since Fall 2014 Issue

<b>Metropolis of Boston</b> Constantine G. and Matoula Scrivanos	Windham, NH
<b>Metropolis of Denver</b> Panayiotis A. and Magdaline C. Peters	Fort Worth, TX
<b>Metropolis of Detroit</b> Gus G. and JoAnn L. Perdikakis	Maineville, OH
<b>Metropolis of Pittsburgh</b> Harry G. and Michelle Psaros Samuel W. and Judith H. Spanos	McDonald, PA Sewickley, PA
<b>Metropolis of San Francisco</b> Dr. Nicholas and Eypheemia Theodore	Paradise Valley, AZ

## In Memoriam

Since Fall 2014 Issue

George P. Brown – 2/24/2015 Columbus, OH	Angene George Rafferty – 2/15/2015 Washington, DC
Christos Cocaine – 2/7/2015 Worcester, MA	Kula Sosangelis – 1/11/2015 Wilmington, DE
Catherine Pappas – 1/28/2015 Boston, MA	Dr. Nicholas L. Terezis – 3/16/2015 Steubenville, OH
Irene M. Pappas – 10/30/2014 Bethesda, MD	

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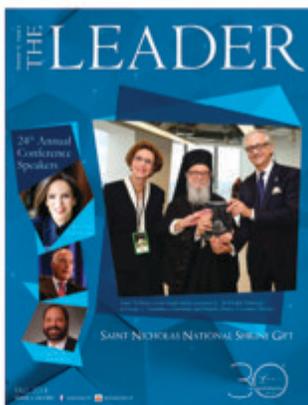
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George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, addresses General Assembly.

## WELCOME TO LEADERSHIP 100

### Leadership 100 Annual Conference Presents Awards for Excellence, Approves New Grants



George S. Tsandikos, Leadership 100 Chairman, addresses General Assembly.

The Archbishop Iakovos

The 24th Annual Leadership 100 Conference, which took place February 12-15, 2015, at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida, featured the presentation of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence to the renowned Greek academician, artist and designer, Ilias I. Lalaounis, who passed away in December of 2013, accepted by his wife, Lia, at the Grand Banquet finale on Saturday evening, February 14, 2015.

Other recipients included program speakers and performers Dr. Eleni Andreopoulou, of the faculty at the Weill Cornell Medical College/New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City; Dr. Panagiota Andreopoulou, an Attending Endocrinologist in the Department of Medicine at Hospital for Special Surgery and Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology at the Weill Cornell Medical College; Michael Psaros,

### Upcoming Events

#### 25TH ANNUAL LEADERSHIP 100 CONFERENCE

February 18 - February 21, 2016

The Phoenician  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
[www.thephoenician.com](http://www.thephoenician.com)

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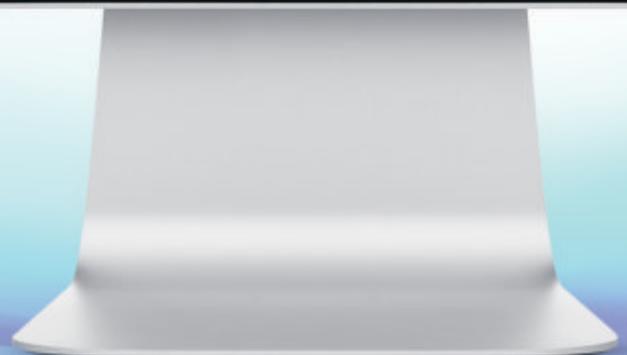
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The Leadership 100 Partners Program is a unique opportunity for young professionals aged 21 to 45 years to join Leadership 100 (click [About Us](#)) to fulfill their personal, spiritual and career development while promoting philanthropy, faith and values, and personal relationships. Leadership 100 Partners enjoy the same benefits as full members, but donate at a progressive rate with tax deductible payments (click [Payment Schedule](#)).

Inaugurated in 2007, today 118 members are now Leadership 100 Partners or Leadership 100 Junior Partners (ages up to 21). Leadership 100 Partners actively participate in the Leadership 100 Annual Leadership 100 Conferences, where prominent leaders of the Greek American Community address their concerns as aspiring leaders. In addition, social gatherings are held at a unique location in the host city of the 100 Conference and other social, cultural and professional gatherings are held across the country each year.

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