

Armenian Church Community
Pittsburgh , Pennsylvania

November 17, 1964

Kerabadiv
Der Sion Srpazan Arkebisgobos Manoogian
Parekhnam Arachnort Amerigayee Hayots
Armenian Prelacy
630 Second Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Kerabadiv Srpazan Hair:

We have been very happy to hear from our Deacon Dr. Sevhonkian that on Thursday November 12 he visited you personally and agreed to postpone your honorable visit to Pittsburgh to January 3, 1965 instead of December 6, 1964. This will give us more of an opportunity to get organized for an official reception, also for contacting honorary guests, who surely will appreciate to have longer advanced notices.

We also heard from Dr. Sevhonkian that Mr. Norhad of the Arachnortaran has already prepared your picture and some information and he has mailed them directly to the two newspapers of Pittsburgh. We will further contact them and will mail a copy of our invitations when they are ready.

We are planning to have an official dinner following your Church Services on Sunday January 3, during which there will be a special program presented by our Sunday School children as well as the adults.

We will contact the Mayer of Pittsburgh as well as the Pastor of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, inviting them to be at the table of honor. We will also try to have on the same table Armenians who are highly honored in Pittsburgh, even though we don't see them during our Church Services, such as Dr. Yardumian, the Head of the Pathology Department of the Dental School of the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Sassouni, the Co-Chairman of the Orthodontics Department of the same School, Mr. Haig Yaghjian, the famous conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphonic Orchestra, Dr. Berberian, ex Professor of Bacteriology at the American University of Beirut and Mr. Papazian, the Regional Manager of the twentyfive branches of the ~~New York~~ Life Insurance Company.

METROPOLITAN LIFE

January 3, 1965 will be our celebration of the New Year and Armenian Christmas. Even though too early as compared to January 6, since we have the first Sunday of the month only, we can never expect to have the right dates, until we have our own Church.

Instead of coming on Sunday, we hereby cordially invite you to honor us on Saturday and be the guest of all of us. Mr. and Mrs. Mgrdich Sakoian, our Treasurer and our Director of the Sunday School respectively, will give you a private room in their home where you will be able to feel at your own home and have all

comfort for as long as you wish.

We will be very happy to hear about the time and place of your arrival, so that we may come and pick you up from there.

We all thank you for the big honor you are granting to Pittsburgh, and we are looking forward to see you on Saturday January 2, 1965.

Vortiagan Agnadzanok

Madchelov Ee Soorp Achen Tser

Stella Sakoian
Stella Sakoian
Secretary

Richard S. Altounian
Richard Altounian
Chairman

Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian

Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian
Deacon

OFFICE OF
DR. SH. SEVHONKIAN
DENTIST
277 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK

August 6, 1965

Mr. Richard Altounian, Chairman
Miss Stella Sakoian, Secretary
Mr. Mgrdich Sakoian, Treasurer
Mr. Joseph Jacobs, Advisor
Mr. Mardiros Mezian, Advisor
Mr. Martin Tellalian, Previous Chairman and Treasurer
Armenian Church Community of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Parish Council Members:

This is to inform you that while in my last letter I told you I was at the borderline of presenting my permanent resignation, there have been sufficient events to prevent me from taking that step. There were mainly three:


1. I felt almost convinced that Mr. Martin Tellalian and Mr. Mardiros Mezian have by now realized that their expressions referring to my not coming were not appropriate, specially during a membership meeting where the Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian presided. Indeed, if we only remember that both of them have been the most helpful to the improvement of our community since its very beginning four years ago, we can not even imagine that they may do anything against the interests of our Church.
2. The meaningful expressions of appreciation of Mrs. Ann Sakoian during the meeting were later seconded by our Chairman, Mr. Richard Altounian, who by a letter expressed his ~~our~~ appreciation, as well as his desire that I continue my humble services.
3. Five weeks ago I met a lady at the New York Church, who has been a regular member of the Armenian Church in Paris, recently moved to New York and in August will move to Pittsburgh with her husband, mother and child. In spite of her husband being a non-Armenian, she feels so close to the Armenian Church that she asked the secretary of the New York Church about any Armenian Church in Pittsburgh. She used to go to the Church in Paris regularly every other Sunday and also used to take lessons of Armenian language. This will make all of us happy, since it is due to the efforts of all of us that our Church services and the receptions have been regular enough, so that I could give her a definite idea, that we do have services the first Sunday of every month, and she is desirous to attend.

Not only I am not going to resign but I expect to be more active when I come, for most probably the first Sundays of December and January I will be unable to attend.

For the month of September, please inform Rev. Brooks that we would appreciate if he permits us to have our Services on the second Sunday instead of the first, due to the Labor Day, as we did in the previous years. As to the continuation of our membership meeting, I would rather prefer to leave it until October so that our accounts may be regularly transmitted to our new Treasurer and reported to the Arachnortaran, since they have asked long ago for a report and we still did not give any.

I am ^{to} thinking and please each and every one of you also think of how we can make this coming year of 1965-1966 a more successful year for our Church Community.

Respectfully yours



Shahan Sevkhonkian

OFFICE OF
DR. SH. SEVHONKIAN
DENTIST
277 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK

August 7, 1965

Mr. Mgrdich Sakoian
Treasurer of the Armenian Church Community of Pittsburgh
1766 Wallace Avenue
East McKeesport, Pa.

Dear Mr. Sakoian:

Thank you for the check of \$90.00, which had on it written "for his services". Since this was written, I feel obliged to make the correction again that I never accept any payment for my services to the Pittsburgh Church or to any other Church. It is just the one third of the way expenses of my nine visits to Pittsburgh, the second third being paid by the Arachnortaran and the third third paid by me. I consider this as my payment for the year 1963-1964. If you want to consider it for the year 1964-1965 as written on the check, then the 1963-1964 remains to be paid.

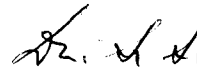
Thank you also for the check of \$150.00 in return for my five checks of \$30.00 each for tax purposes, since I had paid all cash for my way expenses.

Here inclosed is a check of \$10.00 for our Church Building Fund from the St. Vartan Church of Oakland, California. Please send them a thank you note. This was in appreciation of my serving there as Deacon as Sunday, August 1, 1965 which I had refused.

The continuation of our membership meeting can not be in September for I don't think we can be ready. The reading you made from the bank book was good for a Parish Council meeting. However, for the annual membership meeting a separate report is necessary in duplicate or triplicate, so that one copy can be kept in the file of our Secretary, one copy in my file and one copy in the file of the Arachnortaran, together with the annual activities report which our Secretary should prepare.

Hope to see you at the second weekend of September.

Respectfully yours



Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian

P.S. Please let me have the news of Pittsburgh to go in the July and August Community News.

OFFICE OF
DR. SH. SEVHONKIAN
DENTIST
277 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK

August 7, 1965

Mr. Martin Tellalian
4443 Branding Place
Allison Park, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Tellalian:

Even though I did not hear from you since my last letter informing that I was just on the borderline of presenting my resignation, I am most hopeful that by now you did realize that your expressions of telling me not to come were not appropriate, specially when we were in an official membership meeting, The Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian presiding. Your expressions might have been more justified if you had mentioned definite reasons, as Mr. Sakoian did. Anyhow, I can not ignore that starting from the very first day, four years ago, you have been one of the most helpful persons in building up our Church in Pittsburgh, and this alone is enough to minimize your error.

In the letter addressed to the members of the Parish Council you will hear more details why I will NOT resign and will try to be even more active.

Now, it is quite essential that we start planning for the continuation of our membership meeting. First of all, I would like to know, within one week, whether or not you do have the reports in triplicate which were on the table at the end of the last meeting. If not, I will be obliged to prepare new ones. Then, we have to realize that both of us are under a big responsibility. Only we had the right to sign for the bank accounts, and as such, we are jointly responsible for all the money handled from the start till the time the new treasurer was elected. Even though we are both very reliable, we still have to make legal reports to the membership meeting and to the Arachnortaran, and get the honorable discharge or vote of confidence of the membership meeting. For this purpose I will come to you on Saturday morning at the hour you decide, together put all in order, then help the children in their studies of Armenian language class and then go to Sakoians and then to Mezians.

Please inform of your convenience and I will call you before coming.

Respectfully yours

Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian

P.S. Please let me have within one week any news that can go in the July and August Community News.

OFFICE OF
DR. SH. SEVHONKIAN
DENTIST
277 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK

August 7, 1965

Mr. Mardiros Mezian
6114 Dalmatian Drive
Bethel Park, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Mezian:

Even though I did not hear from you since my last letter informing that I was just on the borderline of presenting my resignation, I am most hopeful that by now you did realize that your expressions of telling me not to come were not appropriate, specially when we were in an official membership meeting, The Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian presiding. Your expressions might have been more justified if you had mentioned definite reasons, as Mrs. Sakoian did. Anyhow, I can not ignore that starting from the very first day, four years ago, you have been one of the most helpful persons in building up our Church in Pittsburgh, and this alone is enough to minimize your error.

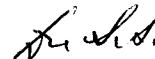
In the letter addressed to the members of the Parish Council you will hear more details why I will NOT resign and will try to be even more active.

Now, while thinking of what we can do to improve ourselves, I have the idea of giving you the title of assistant choir conductor. As such, I am planning to come to your home on Saturday afternoon, give a few hours to the Armenian class of the children and when you arrive to make a rehearsal. We will try it alone, make some corrections, then we will try at the church, in my presence. Most probably, after trying this in September, October and November, you will be able to do it in my absence in December and January. I am sure you will be successful, and you will be very happy for the new help you gave to the Church.

I will be glad to know in advance, whether or not you will be at home and my coming will not bother you. Anyhow, I will call you before coming.

Hope to see you at the second weekend in September.

Respectfully yours



Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian

P.S. Please let me have within one week any news that can go in the July and August community news.

Armenian Church Community
Pittsburgh , Pennsylvania

April 15, 1965

Kerashnorh
Der Sion Serpazan Arkebisgobos Manoogian
Parekhnam Arachnort Amerigayee Hayots
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York City, N.Y.

Kerashnorh Serpazan Hair:

We hereby wish to express, on behalf of our Community and Parish Council, our appreciation for the start of the building of the Armenian Cathedral in the Center of the New York City, which we are sure will be a pride for all the Armenians. By a co incidence, it is on the first Sunday of May, when we should have our monthly Church Services, as well as our Annual Membership Meeting. To avoid any inconvenience, we have been permitted by Rev. Brooks to perform our Church Services on May 9, the Second Sunday of May instead of the First, and he said in case of necessity we can also do the same in June.

In the March issue of our Community News we had already announced that we would have our Annual Membership Meeting in May. We did not mention who will preside, for we did not know. Therefore, kindly please let us know who will be the Representative of the Arachnortaran and when is the preferred date between May 9, June 6 and June 13.

Our Agenda will be as follows:

1. Election of a Chairman and a Secretary for the day.
2. Financial Report of the period before May 1964 by Mr. Martin Tellalian, the Treasurer during that period.
3. Activities Report of the same period by Dr. Sevhonkian.
4. Financial Report of the year 1964-1965 by Mr. Mgrdich Sakoian, the Treasurer.
5. Activities Report of the year 1964-1965 by Miss Stella Sakoian, the Secretary.
6. Election of the New Parish Council for the year 1965-1966.
7. Election of Two Auditors for the year 1965-1966, who will also audit the accounts presented.
8. Suggestions.

We will appreciate an immediate answer, so we can announce either the Membership Meeting or its postponment.

Respectfully yours

Madchelov Ee Soorp Achen Tser

Stella Sakoian *Richard Altounian*
Stella Sakoian Richard Altounian
Secretary Chairman

Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian
Dr. Shahan Sevhonkian
Deacon

Lucy M. S. —