

Hayr Varoujan, Congregation members, following is a summary of our activities for the year.

Negotiated five year contract with Father Sarkis

West Pullman, SS Joachim and Anne, and St. Gregory, hosted Archbishop Torkom's 25th Anniversary Celebration

Had major repairs to heating system

Purchased a new car for Der Hayr

Hosted Martyr's Day Dinner with a program following.

Hosted Vartanantz Dinner with a program following.

Built a new stage

Sponsored annual Trustee picnic.

Established a working arrangement with Sunday School Superintendent.

Sponsored a congregational dinner in honor of the deacons and choir members and presented awards.

Sponsored and hosted annual Christmas Party.

UP-to-date on all expenses

Purchased six new chandeliers to complete the ornamentation in church.

Elected to pay Father Sarkis' funeral expenses.

As I see it for 1973, with the untimely death of our Shepherd, Der Hayr Kashikjian, a more unified unity is very imperative to the survival of this Armenian community. Each and every one of us must support all efforts in our church. There must be a feeling of humility and love for all concerned.

We must cooperate with those individuals who are the leaders of this community. Once and for all, all differences should be cast aside because

this disease of hate and mistrust must vanish from our midsts. When called upon to serve in the capacity of trustee and all other organizations, there should be people waiting in line and it should be considered a privilege to serve.

It has been stated the reason why a few of you do not care to serve this community is because one or two individuals have caused hardship and pain, and these particular people hold the entire congregation in contempt for petty differences. This can no longer be tolerated. My advice to those who approach this attitude should be to leave this community for the betterment of all concerned. Neither you, nor I, can for the sake of petty differences and frustrated attitudes, destroy the majority involved.

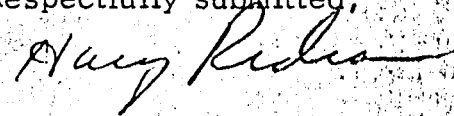
We have a beautiful heritage to be proud of. Our duty to our church and community should be unselfishly served. Most important of all, our children need a better understanding of what we represent. We must consider them in the highest esteem.

Our survival is being jeopardized by the meaningless attitudes of a few who cause alarm and misgivings to the majority who are sincere.

The new trustees who will take office today have a tremendous challenge. It is vital to support them 100% because they will serve us under the most difficult of times.

We must take a vow today to support them to the fullest and to cooperate with our new Shepherd, Hayr Varoujan. His task is a most difficult one. He must serve two communities. He has elected to serve this community once a month, and more if need be. I request all of us give him our utmost efforts and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,



Haig Pedian
Chairman
Parish Council
St. Gregory the Illuminator
Armenian Church of Chicago

Annual Membership Meeting
Sunday, February 4, 1973