

Youth Group Annual Report  
Jan., 1977 - Dec., 1977

St. Gregory Armenian Church  
Binghamton, New York

Summary of the Year's Activities

- January: Planning Session and Business Meeting.
- February:
1. Bowling with Ross Memorial Presbyterian Youth Group.
  2. Ice Skating and Pizza Social at church following religious education class.
- March: Passover Sedar Service conducted by Father George followed by buffet dinner prepared by Youth Group.
- April:
1. Armenian Cooking Lesson - Kadayif  
Youth Group made eight trays of cheese and walnut Kadayif to sell at their Bake Sale.
  2. Palm Sunday Bake Sale - Our diligent workers realized a profit of \$123.00 and felt that their Bake Sale was very successful. The most popular food item was the Kadayif they had made.
- May: Mother's Day Coffee Hour  
Mrs. Alice Boyajian was feted as the "Mother of the Year" and presented with a lovely rose bush. A specially decorated cake was purchased and served to celebrate the event. Fresh flowers were sold to add beauty and cover expenses.
- June: Church Dance Week-End  
Troy, Livingston, N. J., and Syracuse Youth Groups were invited once again and all 47 who participated in the activities had a wonderful time.
1. A delicious Luleh Kebab Dinner was prepared and served prior to the dance. (Thanks to the cheerful and able assistance of Kevork Papazian).
  2. Guests were hosted in Youth Group homes.
  3. Most of the youth participated in worship services and all 65 who attended church on Sunday were invited to stay for a Buereg and Ham Brunch.
  4. Once again fellowship was extended and was gratefully acknowledged.
- October: "Operation Care"  
Eleven boxes of delicious home-made cookies with warm letters were prepared and mailed to all Youth Group members and two church friends who have left the area for college. Beautiful notes of appreciation were received.

November:

1. Planning Session for Annual Christmas Tea.
2. Business Meeting and Elections.  
(Too few showed up for election.)

December:

Christmas Tea and Carolling - for the entire parish was hosted by Youth Group immediately following Badarak with film entertainment for the very little.

St. Gregory's Youth Group has been in existence for six years and as can be seen from the many worthwhile activities, 1977 was another successful year. In addition to their monthly activities, the Youth Group continues to serve at church dinners and tries to make itself available for service when approached by Father George.

The Youth Group has been financially independent since its inception thanks to innovative fund raising projects. The current balance in their savings account is \$210.47.

After six fruitful years, we are now faced with the problem of dwindling membership because so many of our older youth have left the area for college. Those who attend local colleges have outgrown most Jr. and Sr. H. S. activities. Consequently, we are down to about 15 active members, some of whom are not able to attend meetings regularly. This is presenting a problem in planning activities and maintaining esprit de corps. Repeated attempts have been made to recruit the few who are eligible for membership without success, except for the Staschak boys and Melinda Khayat who joined us this year.

On a more positive note, as evidenced by our very successful Church Dance Week-Ends we have found that Armenian teen-agers enjoy meeting one another and every opportunity for this type of exchange should be encouraged and made possible. More parental participation in providing transportation for out-of-town events would be appreciated. Experience has shown that families who sacrifice their time and effort for these purposes find it to be very rewarding.

My fellow advisors (and loyal workers), Grace Baradet and Alice Ketchoyian join me in expressing thanks for your cooperation in all of our endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,



Marion E. Rejebian  
Director,  
St. Gregory's Youth Group