

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT - 1987

1987 was the year when the Department of Religious Education's long-awaited curriculum was published and released. " The WE BELIEVE curriculum was developed to project the Armenian character of the Christian faith through its liturgy, theology, spirituality, history, art and music. Because the Armenian Church represents the central community unit in the United States, these textbooks serve an additional purpose. Besides their primary function of teaching the faith, history and doctrine of the Church, they serve to strengthen national values and traditions in a bi-cultural environment."

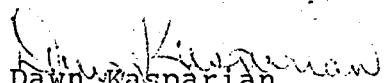
In addition to the new curriculum, we are fortunate to have knowledgeable and dedicated Sunday School teachers: Elizabeth Derderian - Pre-School, Suzie Ashjian - Kindergarten, Lillian Boyajian - Grade 3, Dawn Kasparian & Richard Varadian - Grade 7, Beatrice Postian & Mike Pisani - Grade 8. They have attended regularly held teacher's meetings with Der Hayr, as well as the DRE teacher training session during the summer.

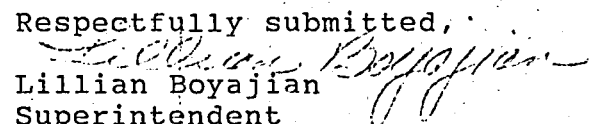
The Sunday School continues to support our adopted child Ronica from Zimbabwe, through Save the Children, and a second child, Aida, through the Armenian Patriarcate of Jerusalem. The weekly contributions of the children and proceeds from a Bake Sale held in the fall are used to fund these projects.

The Sunday School again participated in the Christmas Eve Program. An impressive tableau with readings, Christmas Carols and the Nativity Scene was presented.

Classes are held each Sunday from 10:30-12:00 noon. Children and teachers attend a portion of Badarak and receive Holy Communion the second Sunday of each month.

The main concern of the Sunday School staff continues to be the full commitment of the parents of the Church School age children. Our enrollment of 34 would nearly double if all parents brought their children to Sunday School. Of the 34 students enrolled, average weekly attendance rarely exceeds 20! If the children do not learn the value and importance of regular church attendance now - who will fill the pews of our church 10-15 years from now? " Train the child in the way of The Lord and he will not stray from it."


Dawn Kasparian
Asst. Superintendent

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Boyajian
Superintendent