

1460 Huntington Turnpike  
Trumbull, Conn. 06610  
Tel. (203) 372-5770

January 31, 1982

The annual Parish Assembly of the Holy Ascension Church, Trumbull, Ct. took place on Sunday, January 31, 1982 in the church auditorium at 1:20 p.m. After the Invocation by Der Hayr, the verification of voting members was called by the acting chairman, Mr. Mardy Azarian. Acting secretary was Theresa Harabedian. It was announced that the assembly had a quorum since 33 (thirty-three) members were present out of a possible 82 (eighty-two) paid-up members.

The elected chairman and secretary of the day were Garabed Hovhanessian and Theresa Harabedian.

The secretary's report of last year's meeting was read and accepted. The chairman suggested that proposals for the forthcoming Diocesan Assembly be given thought and discussed at a later time in the meeting.

Ballots were distributed for the election of three Parish Council members, a nominating committee, and an auditing committee. Der Hayr read off the slate of names and introduced each candidate to the assembly. The following were elected:

Parish Council

Shavarsh Papazian, Stephen Goomrigian and Stanley Zysk

Nominating Committee

Keghan Stambolian, Gladys Jevarjian, and Margaret Azarian

Auditing Committee

Richard Khachian, Marty Moomjian, and Gary Hovhanessian

Three absentee votes were counted, mainly, Edward & Gladys Jevarjian, and Vergine Jevarjian.

The Pastor's Report

In Der Hayr's introduction to his report, he expressed the fact that the past year had been a significant one. He also explained the meaning of his annual report, mainly -- an inventory of the fiscal year as well as a personal inventory. He outlined his spiritual duties as well as his advice and guidance to all the auxiliaries as well as private consultations to various individuals. The various Sacraments which took place were outlined; also his pastoral visitations including seeing the sick at home as well as in hospitals.

He stated that his administrative duties included the writing, printing, and mailing of the church magazine, Voice, with a circulation of 950. He also mentioned the fact that the average number of pages in the Voice are 26 to 36 pages.

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He pointed out that all the auxiliaries worked hard and dilligently together, but was erpecially pleased at the organizing and strength-ening of the ACYOA \.is past year. Der Hayr stressed the importance of instilling the Armenian culture to all our youth. He announced the weekly pledge system had started on the right foot this past year, but was optimistic that it be even more successful in the coming year, with more families participating as well as increasing their pledges. He personally thanked Dr. Harabedian as chairman of the Parish Council for his complete support and cooperation. Der Hayr stated "it made life easier, knowing Dr. Harabedian was always there". He also thanked the choir for their full participation in the Weekly Badaran. Special mention and gratitude was given to Keghan Stambolian, as honorary chairman, to Fraij Yapoujian, Charles Balian, Hurand Arakelian and Yeretzgin Grace Arakelian.

Special thanks was given also to Beatrice Javian, chairman of the Ladies Guild, and praised their fine work in the past year. Also to Theresa Harabedian, Superintendent of the Sunday School and the teachers and parents for bringing their children every Sunday. However, he stated he would li 7 to encourage a larger enrollment, if possible for the coming yea.". Der Hayr also expressed his thanks to Edward Jevarjian for the cleaning of the choir robes and also to Mesdames Vergine Jevarjian, Felice Avakian and Arshalouys Dinihanian for making Maas. Special thanks and appreciation was extended to Richard Gratchian for his constant care of the needs of the church, wheth r it be electrical or plumbing, Richard is always ready and willing to come, repair and serve his church. Der Hayr also thanked the silent majority who always do a great deal of work.

For the coming year, Der Hayr outlined a few projects that everyone should think about and work on, mainly:

- (1) the renovation of the church, which would involve the bricking of the facade of the church. He was optimistic that this work would be completed by Spring.
- (2) the painting of the exterior of the church
- (3) the acquisition of the two side altars and various appointments
- (4) The "spiritual building up" of our community is lacking in vitality. The church attendance could improve and more people should take an active part in church work. He ended with an optimistic note, hoping thatt this challenge should be taken in hand. His report was accepted as read.

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The Parish Council Report was read by Dr. Berdj Harabedian, Chairman of the Parish Council. Dr. Harabedian outlined the various activities and affairs sponsored by the Parish Council, specifically pointing out the 50th anniversary of the church. He thanked the members of the Parish Council for their support and cooperation, and especially thanked Der Hayr for his constant guidance and advice, whenever it was needed. Dr. Harabedian presented a check in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Building Committee. His report was accepted as read.

#### Auxiliary Reports

The women's guild report was read by Rose Shegirian in the absence of Beatrice Javian, chairman. The yearly activities were given and a financial report was presented by Anna Gorakian, treasurer. A check for \$ 1,200.00 was presented to the parish council, leaving a balance of \$ 655.84. These reports were accepted as read.

The Choir report was given by Sonia Trapasso. She stated that the past year had been a special one because of the 50th anniversary of our church, and the presence of the Primate, who ordained Hurand Arakelian as sub-deacon, as well as the the consecration of the new altar. She thanked the parishioners for their support of their Palm Sunday dinner and also thanked Der Hayr, Yeretzgin Grace, Charles Balian, Hurand Arakelian, and Armen Arakelian. She presented a check for \$ 500.00 to the Parish Council, leaving a balance of \$ 331.30.

The Sunday School report was read by Theresa Harabedian, Superintendent. A list of activities for the year were outlined, the number of students enrolled, and also the number of teachers and classrooms. Three students graduated in June, and two teachers attended the Regional FRE workshop held in New Britain. Mrs. Harabedian thanked the teachers for taking an active interest in the importance of teaching Christian education and volunteering their time each and every Sunday. She also thanked Der Hayr for his advice and invaluable time. A check for \$ 500.00 was presented to the parish council, leaving a balance of \$ 217.43.

The ACYOA report was given by Mark Maljanian, chairman. The activities of the group were outlined with special mention of the sports week-ends with other chapters. Armen Arakelian, treasurer, gave a financial report, stating the group had to date 14 paid members. He presented a check in the amount of \$ 250.00 to the parish council, leaving a balance of \$ 250.00 in the savings, and \$ 51.60 in the checking.

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Richard Khachian, representing the Auditing Committee stated that after examining the books, everything appeared to be in order.

The treasurer's report was read by Vartan Petrossian and presented to the assembly the 1982 Budget for approval. A question was raised regarding the possibility of an early mailing prior to the assembly meeting of the budget and treasurer's report to the parishioners for study and examination. It was explained that this was not possible as the reports and books are closed too late. Also the treasurer stated that a professional accountant has been engaged to examine the books.

A point of information regarding the rental of the auditorium was brought up. Der Hayr stipulated that a charge of \$ 75.00 for members and a charge of \$ 100.00 for non-members has been set. It would be necessary, however, to revise the kitchen charges. It was also stated that a monthly income of \$ 140.00 for the rental of the hall for two hours per week is obtained from the Lutheran Church. A motion was made that the proposed budget for 1982 set at \$ 68,400.00 be accepted. This motion was passed. It was suggested that it go on record that Vartan Petrossian be commended for his fine work as treasurer of the Parish Council. Vartan commented that most of his work was made easier through the help of Dr. Berdj Harabedian and Der Hayr.

The Building Committee report was given by Richard Khachian. He stated that according to the present money on hand, there is approximately mortgage payments for only three years. There was much discussion regarding the difference between maintenance repairs on the church and capital repairs. It was pointed out that the capital repairs are the main responsibility of the Parish Council, while the maintenance repairs are the sole responsibility of the Building Committee. It was suggested that another campaign fund or some kind of money making affair be considered. It was suggested by the chair that if a specific proposal is to be made regarding this question, it should be brought up separately at a special meeting specifically to discuss this purpose.

Der Hayr explained that it is absolutely vital that new ideas for plans to organize a new campaign or affair be in the works. This report was accepted as read.

The Mt. Ararat Bazaar report was given by Ralph Trapasso. This year the net profit amounted to \$ 17,459.85, with some accounts still outstanding.

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The Diocesan Delegate, Garabed Hovhanessian, gave the report of the annual Diocesan meeting which was held in Watertown, Mass. Garabed pointed out that the bulk of the proceedings of the meeting was reported in a previous issue of the Voice. However, he went on to say the chief item discussed was Unity. Proposals to change some rules and regulations were presented but did not pass. Plans are underway to increase the number of clergymen. The same issue was the main topic for discussion at the Regional meeting held in New Britain some months later. Gary stated that there was really no significant headway.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m. with a Benediction by Der Hayr.

Respectfully submitted,

*Theresa Harabedian*

Theresa Harabedian  
Secretary

*Rev. Leon Arakelian*

President

*Garabed Hovhanessian*

Garabed Hovhanessian  
Chairman

- P.S.
- 1- Parish assembly notices were mailed out to our congregation on Jan. 21, 1982. also it was announced from the pulpit on four Sundays, prior the meeting.
  - 2- all balloting for elections were done secretly.

*GH*

*JH*

*LA*