

19. FAMILY EXPENSES TAKE JUST ABOUT ALL I EARN.

Every man is obligated to provide for the basic needs of his family - food, clothing, and shelter. But the spiritual sustenance of his family is extremely important. We can provide for the physical needs, but if the spiritual needs are neglected, life has no real meaning or purpose. Through Church activities, we receive strength and courage to face every day problems of life.

Try taking the Church's share out of your income first, instead of leaving it until last. You will find that you are still able to make ends meet. In fact, you may find it much easier to meet your obligations. You will be a happier person, your life will be enriched, for having done it that way. There is a satisfaction we can find in sacrificing our wants to build a House of God.

20. HOW IS THE CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED?

It is an organization of volunteers from our Parish, beginning with the building Committee and augmented until there are enough people to make a personal call on every member and friend of our Church.

21. WHAT ARE DATES FOR OUR CAMPAIGN?

Sept. 1, 1972 to Dec. 1, 1972 and continuing till project is completed.

22. WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION BEGIN & END?

Construction by Johnson & Henrickson has already begun, and a target date of Jan. 1, 1973 is anticipated.

23. WE HAVE JUST BOUGHT A HOME AND HAVE TO PAY FOR IT.

The majority of American families share the same experience. If the Church is forced to depend on its support from those families who are completely free of debt, it would never be able to continue. We of the Armenian Church have always felt our religious obligations most keenly. Please remember this is our own SPIRITUAL HOME.

24. WHAT IF I WANT TO GIVE A LUMP SUM BUT CAN'T?

We have made an arrangement with the bank whereby you may secure a loan "interest free". These arrangements will be made in complete privacy and are being offered for your convenience. We shall attempt to make the burden of your giving as light as possible.

25. I AM NOT ACTIVE IN CHURCH LIFE.

We want you to be active, to be a concerned member of the Armenian Church. We have always believed that one's spiritual life is vital. You need your Church - your Church needs you. You need the community life with your fellow congregants - they need you. Our goal in this campaign is not only financial - we hope that in this mutual venture we shall be drawn together as a community - more, a family - and that there shall be an increased interest and participation in the life of your Church.

26. WHAT ABOUT PARKING & LANDSCAPING?

There will be ample parking for cars. A note of thanks in this area to Sam Azartan who has donated the complete excavating phase of the project.

27. I MAY HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS.

You should feel free at anytime to call our Very Rev. Guregh Yetenekian at his home or to take the opportunity to speak to him about this program or any member of the Building Committee.

"COME, LET US BUILD THE HOLY ALTER OF LIGHT . . ."

Through the centuries, St. Gregory's eternal dictum has been echoing and re-echoing in the souls of the Armenian people.

**ST. MESROB
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

1326 STATE ST. RACINE, WISCONSIN

**QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS**
ABOUT THE NEW
CHURCH BUILDING
FUND CAMPAIGN



**NEW
ST. MESROB
ARMENIAN CHURCH
OF RACINE**

**NEW LOCATION:
4551 ERIE ST. RACINE, WISCONSIN**

**PRESENT ADDRESS:
1326 STATE ST. RACINE, WISCONSIN**

1. WHY IS YOUR CHURCH HAVING A BUILDING PROGRAM?

Anyone who is familiar with the program of our church cannot help but be aware of the desperate need for additional space. We must build or deny ourselves the proper place to worship. We must build or deny many of our children the privileges of Sunday School. We must build or deny our youth the opportunities of church life and activities. We must build or deny many who might want to join us.

2. WHAT IS THE BUILDING FUND CAMPAIGN?

It is a mutual and concerted effort on the part of all the congregation to provide \$160,000 in pledges of cash or other property between Sept. 1, 1972 to Dec. 1, 1972. These pledges will be payable over a 3-year period beginning on or before Jan. 1, 1973 and completed by Jan. 1, 1976.

3. WHO WILL BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE?

Every member of the church will be expected to invest his own proportionate fair share in this financial endeavor. This is our church — this is our responsibility.

4. WILL A LIST OF DONORS AND THE AMOUNT OF THEIR GIFT BE PUBLISHED? "YES"

A list of all donor's will be published; however, we will honor the request of those who wish to keep their contributions secret.

5. WILL FUTURE MEMBERS BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BUILDING FUND?

Yes, they will. Exact policy in this matter will be determined. Building a church is a privilege and we will not deprive any future member the opportunity to serve God.

6. WHY NOT ASSESS MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION INSTEAD OF ASKING FOR PLEDGES?

An assessment requires a formula for giving. We prefer to ask our fellow members to make a voluntary investment in our church. We prefer not to ask for equal gifts, but we do ask every member to make a pledge according to his own ability to give.

7. WHY NOT FINANCE THE NEW BUILDING OUT OF REGULAR CHURCH INCOME?

This regular income is used to finance our current program. We have never been able to accumulate enough extra funds from this source for such an undertaking as this.

8. WHY HAVE WE SET A CAMPAIGN GOAL OF \$160,000

This amount is required to build a home for our Parish that will meet all our present needs and needs of the future.

9. IS THIS A GOOD TIME TO GO INTO A BUILDING PROGRAM?

Yes, this is an opportune moment. We have planned and pointed towards this building program for over 8 years. Now we are ready to move forward — there is absolutely no advantage in waiting. To delay would add to our building costs and would do nothing to relieve the present crowded conditions. You are all familiar with the intolerable atmosphere under which we now pursue our Church and Sunday School activities each week. This condition will only get worse, not better, unless some provision is made to rectify it.

10. WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE NEW CHURCH?

1. A Church building designed to meet our present and anticipated future needs.
2. Kindergarten — adequately furnished, equipped.
3. At least 7 additional class rooms which will allow for expansion of our Sunday School.
4. A fine Baptistery.
5. Adequate office space.
6. An auditorium for expanded social activities.
7. Kitchen and storage space.
8. Recreational area.
9. Large lounge.
10. Adequate parking space.
11. You will be sent a brochure at a later date which will visually define all of the physical aspects of our new Church.

11. HAS THE BUILDING BEEN CAREFULLY PLANNED?

We have made a careful study of the needs of our total program. Every department of Church activity has been carefully scrutinized for today and the foreseeable future based on a master plan. Mr. Charles Seitz an outstanding Church Architect, has been retained to design our building. Mr. Seitz has worked very closely with our own Building Study Committee & Building Committee. We have also reviewed this plan with our Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, and he has given his encouragement as well as some very good recommendations.

12. ARE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHURCH FUND TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

Our tax laws are so written as to encourage generous giving to such a worthy cause. In fact, you may deduct as much as thirty percent of your gross income. You will be surprised when you compute how little it actually costs you to make a substantial investment in your Church if you look into possible tax deductions for generous giving.

13. WILL I BE COMPELLED TO COMPLETE PAYMENTS ON MY PLEDGE IF CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND MY CONTROL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTINUE MY REGULAR PAYMENTS?

If, at any time, it becomes necessary to make any adjustment in the terms of your pledge, each case will be treated as a personal matter which can be resolved privately without embarrassment to anyone. Some of us will want to increase our pledges as our income increases or as our financial obligations decrease.

14. MAY SECURITIES OR PROPERTY OTHER THAN MONEY BE GIVEN?

There are specific advantages in giving appreciated securities or other property.

1. You pay no capital gains tax on appreciated securities or other property.
2. You use today's higher value as the tax deductible contribution.

15. HOW SHALL I PAY MY VOWS? (PLEDGE)

You can select your own method of payment. You may pay weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually or according to your own budget.

16. WHO RECEIVES THE MONEY?

The treasurer of The Church Project Committee will receive all monies or property and all building funds will be handled as a separate account apart from any normal operating funds. Safeguards for all building funds have been carefully considered.

17. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PLEDGE AND A VERBAL PROMISE?

A signed pledge card is a tangible expression of your intent to invest in your new Church; it is counted as money raised for this purpose. A verbal promise is not. We must know how much money will be available in the next three years or we cannot move forward with the details of the new building. You will want to "stand up and be counted" with every other vitally interested member of your Church.

18. THERE ARE SO MANY FUND-RAISING PROGRAMS, HOW CAN I SUPPORT ALL OF THEM?

You have to be selective. Building fund monies directly benefit you. Your Church deserves top priority for the next three years. This is a campaign for funds for an institution that is vital to the religious upbringing of your own children, and the development of your own spiritual life. Think of all that your Church means to you.