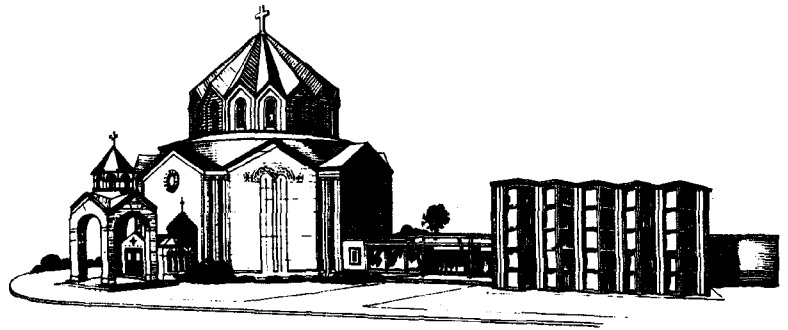


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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



REV. DIRAN PAPA ZIAN
REV. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTORS

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★

PHONE: 356-1910

★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

November 13, 1970

The Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

Attached is a copy of the minutes of a special meeting held on
September 22, 1970, regarding the Clergy Program for St. John's
Armenian Church.

We were unaware that you were waiting for a copy of these minutes
and upon being advised, we arranged to mail a copy immediately in order
that you may proceed with your planned actions without further delay.

For your information and in line with your previous permission
we made contact with Father Zaven Arzoomanian and received an answer
which indicated that he was interested. We were awaiting your return
before we made further contact.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Megregian
MICHAEL MEGREGIAN
Chairman, Parish Council

Encl.

ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED BY FR. DIRAN PAPAIZIAN

A. Attendants of Meeting

Archbishop Sion Manoogian (Chairman of the Meeting)
Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
Very Rev. Paren Avedikian
Mr. Alex Manoogian
Mr. Edward Mardigian
Mr. Daniel Shahan
Mr. Martin Apkarian
Parish Council Members

B. Father Diran Papazian explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review the Clergy situation of St. John's Armenian Church.

C. Parish Council Chairman Michael Megregian stated there were no pre-conceived notions by him or the Council which prompted the Councils actions towards solving the Clergy requirements of our Church.

The actions that had been taken by the Parish Council were due to Fr. Parens appointment as Sunday School and Youth Director which left an immediate void in our requirements for two priests.

D. Jack Margosian presented a summary of the items considered as top problems and the action the Parish Council had taken to date towards solving the problems (per attached list).

E. Comments and ideas were exchanged and the following were among the most significant.

1. Mr. Manoogian stated that an Executive Secretary may be the answer for relieving the Pastor's administrative workload.
2. Mr. Mardigian acknowledged that a new Pastor would probably benefit the community, however, the Parish Council was responsible to coordinate with the Pastor for solutions to any problems or disagreements that may exist.
3. Daniel Shahan and others present commented that:
 - a. A complete list of every function in running the Church should be spelled out in detail and specially assigned.'
 - b. Priorities of Pastors duties should be established.
 - c. The office help and work should be re-arranged.
 - d. The Torchbearer workload should be removed to the extent possible from the Pastor.

F. Chairman Megregian concluded the meeting by re-affirming the Councils position and courses of planned action as follows:

1. Awaiting the Primate's decision and action for establishing a new Pastor for St. John's Armenian Church with Fr. Diran as the Assistant Pastor.
2. Work on a coordinated program with the Pastor for relieving the administrative workload.
3. Work on a detail statement of functions covering specifically the Pastor, Assistant Pastor and Parish Council responsibilities.

I Archie Yeghissian Motioned to accept minutes.

II Simon Tashjian seconded.

JACK MARGOSIAN
Secretary, Parish Council

September 22, 1970

ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

PARISH COUNCIL'S EVALUATION ON THE
STATUS OF THE CHURCH

1. Dues paying membership has declined.
2. Sunday School Staff is faced with teaching and administrative problems. Also, Sunday School attendance has declined.
3. Many parishioners have lost active interest in the Church and Church Service attendance has declined.

PARISH COUNCIL'S EVALUATION OF
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS REQUIRED

1. Strengthen the Membership and Dues Committee and implement concerted programs to expedite payment of back dues and increase the membership of dues paying members.
2. Appoint a Sunday School Superintendent who is qualified to handle both the teaching and administrative requirements of the Sunday School.
3. Give the parishioners clergy and, primarily, a Pastor of the type that will spark a new level of confidence and stimulate more active interest in the Church.

The Parish Council agreed that a "new" Pastor, renowned for his abilities and past accomplishments, would be the best course of action to revitalize the parishioners' active interest in the Church.

PARISH COUNCIL'S PROGRESS OF ACTIONS
IMPLEMENTED TO DATE

1. Plans for supplementing the Dues Committee and implementing special actions is in progress.
2. Father Paren Avedikian has accepted the position of full time Sunday School Superintendent and Youth Director which, together with his University studies, will occupy his full time. In addition, Mr. L. Zenian will work on Father Paren's staff as special advisor.
3. A meeting was recently held in Detroit with the Primate to review the clergy requirements of the Church and the following was agreed upon:
 - a. Two full time priests, in addition to Father Paren as Sunday School Superintendent, were required to satisfy the total needs of our Church.
 - b. The alternatives that were discussed were:
 1. Bring in an additional priest to work as an assistant Pastor to Father Diran Papazian.
 2. Bring in a new Pastor and have Father Diran be the assistant Pastor.

PARISH COUNCIL'S EVALUATION ON THE
STATUS OF THE CHURCH

3. (Continued)

4. Visitation program has been inadequate.

PARISH COUNCIL'S EVALUATION OF
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS REQUIRED

3. (Continued)

4. Two full time priests were required to handle the visitation program, sacraments, Church services, and Pastor administrative duties of the Church.

PARISH COUNCIL'S PROGRESS OF ACTIONS
IMPLEMENTED TO DATE

3. b. (Continued)

3. Bring in a new Pastor and transfer Father Diran to another Parish.

c. Parish Council agreed that, all things considered, the alternatives in order of preference were alternative 2, then alternative 3, and then alternative 1.

d. The Primate stated he would consider on the basis of the above preferences and said that Parish Council had his approval to contact candidate priests from other Parishes and to submit their names to him for his consideration and action.

4. The Primate agreed to take action for having two priests in our Church as soon as practicable.