

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 1989

Offsetting the grim events in Artsakh and other parts of Armenia, we are encouraged by the movement toward unification of our churches in America. Plans are under way by the combined churches and organizations of the Merrimack Valley Commemorative Committee to remember the martyred Armenians on the 75th anniversary of those events.

As a parish we have witnessed the blossoming of the Sunday School program under the guidance and loving attention of Zarty Chilingirian and Kim Dandurant with the assistance of Toni, April, Lynn and others.

The Fellowship Hour under the coordination of Virginia Tavitian has become a vital and important part of our church every Sunday.

We have discovered that cooperatively working together can produce wonderful results as in the case of the Church Picnic and the Tri-Church Picnic. Moreover, those taking part in the Septemberfest - a new undertaking by our parish - found that preparing and serving lulu kebabs downtown Haverhill can be fun. Again, great enthusiasm and church spirit made possible a very successful Church Bazaar this past Fall.

Many of us experienced the exhilaration of learning Armenian under the tutelage of the Armenian Language Lab and Resource Center staff during their one-day program. We hope that the momentum of that special day will propel us forward in our plans to begin an Armenian Language course at our church.


Major Functions of the Parish Council this past year:

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| Annual Church Picnic | \$1,850 | |
| Tri-Church Picnic | 506 | |
| Septemberfest | 1,004 | |
| Church Bazaar | <u>6,388</u> | |
| | <u>\$9,748</u> | Total Net Proceeds |

We thank God that our Derhayr, Rev. Father Krikor Maksoudian and Deacons Armen Dilan and Charles Loosian have devoted themselves to providing regular church services. Much credit is due Sue Kezerian for directing with Alice's assistance an outstanding church choir. We were grieved at the loss of our beloved Yeretzgin, Agnes Maksoudian and our devoted Parish Council Member, Lucy Poshian as well as several other church members including the longstanding Chairlady of the Women's Guild, Koharig Movsesian. We are thankful for the Derhayr's ministrations to the ill and infirm and his insights into the history and culture of Armenia. Bless Sylvia and Virginia Tavitian, our organists.

Parish Council Members for 1989:

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chairman | Edgar Mosesian | Mary Mooradian |
| Vice Chairman | Michael Takesian | Vahan Hanedanian |
| Treasurer | Pauline Harian | |
| Assistant Treasurer | Richard Devejian | Diocesan Delegate - Martin Aaronian |
| Secretary | Alice Rayissian | Advisors: Zaven Gostanian |
| | Liz Derderian | Zarty Chilingirian |
| | Joseph Tavitian | Vasken Gostanian |


Edgar Mosesian, Chairman

WOMEN'S GUILD

Although the Guild had been plagued by illness, they still had a very busy year. A number of executive committee meetings were held where plans were formulated for the year.

On March 12, a traditional Mid-Lenten dinner was held following church services.

The Guild celebrated their fiftieth (50) anniversary October 8 with a gala banquet attended by a capacity crowd.

The Guild participated in the church picnic and bazaar. They are always ready financially and physically to help whenever they are called upon.

Bank Balance December 31, 1989 \$11,098.09

LADIES AIDE SOCIETY

The Ladies Aide Society with a membership of eleven (11) members meets every second Wednesday of the month.

Although small in number, this group was actively involved in every major church function such as Women's Guild Requiem dinners, church picnic, church bazaar, tri-church picnic and Septemberfest.

Monthly kheyma suppers and the annual Mardi Gras (Poon Paregentan) are the major money making functions of this group.

An open invitation is extended to all those interested in attending any of our meetings.

Bank Balance December 31, 1989 \$5,451.24

MR. & MS. CLUB

The Mr. & Ms. Club held a total of nine (9) business meetings during the fiscal year from January 1989 to January 1990. The Club has an active membership of twenty-eight (28) members.

During the year, the Club sponsored a chicken dinner in April and a ham and bean supper in October. The members also participated in the annual Church Bazaar, making choreg, toorshi, pies and pastries as well as working at various booths and helping with luncheon and supper.

Last spring, the executive committee started working on amending the By-Laws of our Club for the purpose of encouraging new members. In June, the name of the organization was changed to the Mr. & Ms. Club of St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church. The purpose of the group is to come together and help the church financially, socially and morally. Members can be single or married and of Armenian descent. In case of married couples, either the wife or husband must be of Armenian descent. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson must be members in good standing of the Club.

The Mr. & Ms. Club invites new members to join this active and friendly organization which has been part of the church for over thirty-five years.

The balance in the Club's treasury as of December 31, 1989 is \$3,817.06.

CHURCH CHOIR

The Choir has been involved in a variety of activities for 1989 as follows:

The Choir hosted a Palm Sunday dinner in March, 1989 and served a delicious full course shish kebab dinner to those who attended. Ara Parseghian showed slides and narrated his trip to Armenia and Turkey including his climb of Mt. Ararat.

Two members of the Choir, Alice Kasparian and Zarty Chilingirian attended the Association of Armenian Church Choir's 43rd annual assembly held in Philadelphia on November 3 and 4, 1989.

The Choir is currently selling bricks for \$1.00 each to raise funds for the earthquake-stricken survivors in Armenia.

Every Sunday the Choir faithfully sings the Badarak during church services on regular Sundays and Feast Days.

The current Bank Balance is \$1,249.00.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Classes are held every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. under the direction of Mrs. Kim Dandurant with the assistance of Mrs. Toni Ann Bevilacqua. The children are enthusiastic about their classes and are eager to learn.

Communion breakfasts were served on Christmas and Easter.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children to Sunday School so that they may have a religious education.