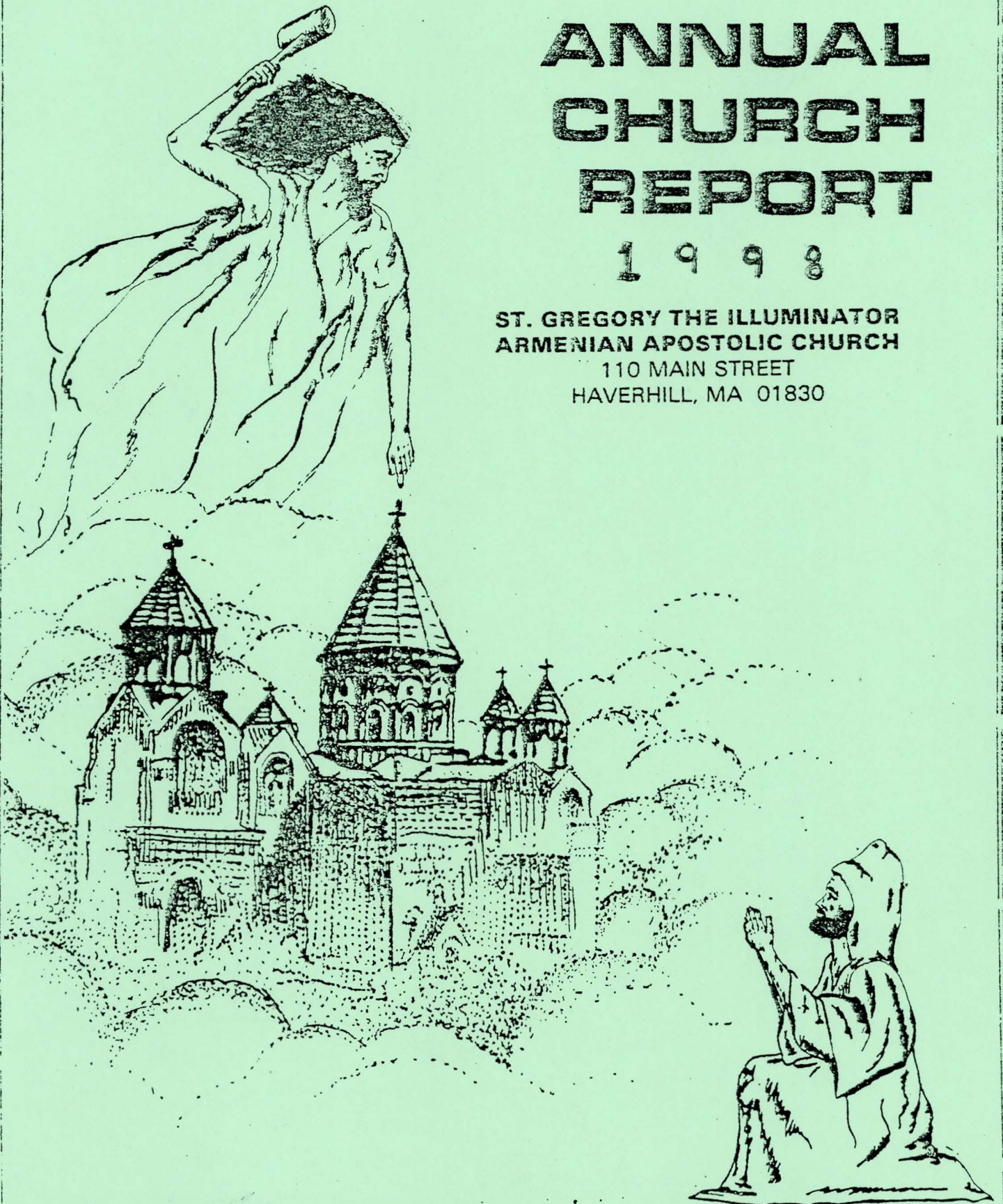


ANNUAL CHURCH REPORT

1998

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
110 MAIN STREET
HAVERHILL, MA 01830





Invitation to the Annual Parish Assembly

Sunday, February 7, 1999 at 12:30 P.M. following church services.

A complimentary luncheon will be served prior to the meeting.

**DUES MUST BE PAID IN THROUGH 1998
TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE PARISH
ASSEMBLY. NON-VOTING MEMBERS
MAY ATTEND AS OBSERVERS ONLY.**

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Quorum
3. Election of Assembly Chairperson and Secretary
4. Minutes of the 1998 Parish Assembly
5. Report of the Nominating Committee
6. Elections of:
 - a. Four (4) Parish Council Members (*two year term*)
 - b. Three (3) Nominating Committee Members (*one year term*)
 - c. One (1) Auditing Committee Member (*three year term*)
7. Annual Report of the Visiting Pastor, Hayr Soorp Krikor Maksoudian
8. Annual Report of the Parish Council
9. Annual Report of the Diocesan Delegate, Paul Tavitian
10. Annual Report of Parish Committees
11. Annual Report of Parish Organizations
12. Parish Council 1998 Financial Report and adoption of 1999 Budget
13. Old Business
 - a. Steeple
 - b. Massachusetts Historical Commission
14. New Business
 - a. Reducing the Number of Parish Council Members from 9 to 7
 - b. Membership Development
 - c. Other New Business
15. Closing Prayer

SAINT GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
110 Main Street
Haverhill, Massachusetts

1998 Annual Parish Assembly

The 1997 Annual Parish Assembly was held on Sunday, February 22, 1998. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM EST by Parish Council Chairperson, Albert Movsesian.

1. Opening Prayer

Visiting pastor Very Reverend Fr. Krikor Maksoudian lead the opening prayers.

2. Quorum

Albert Movsesian read the 1997 dues paying member list for the roll call. Information packages were passed out to the 39 dues paid members in attendance. There were 39 dues paying members present out of the total 78 paid dues members, which constitutes the necessary quorum required to conduct the assembly meeting.

3. Election of Assembly Chairperson and Secretary

Motion from Steve Arthur to nominate Paul Tavitian as Assembly Chairperson, motion seconded, motion passed.

No further motions for Assembly Chairperson were made.

Motion from Twanda McNeil to nominate Janice Mosesian as Assembly Secretary, motion seconded by Richard McNeil, motion passed.

No further motions for Assembly Secretary were made.

4. Minutes of the 1997 Parish Assembly and Special Assemblies

Motion from Steve Arthur to omit the reading of the 1997 Parish Assembly and Special Assembly meeting minutes, and to accept those minutes, motion seconded by Richard McNeil, motion passed.

5. Report of the Nominating Committee

Opening remarks from Nominating Committee Chairperson Sylvia Tavitian who thanked her committee members for their efforts.

Two existing Parish Council members are definitely staying on to finish their term:

Sevan Demirdogen

Harry ~~Kasparian~~ *Alexanian*

Two other existing Parish Council members may or may not be staying on to complete their term, pending formal notification to or from the Parish Council:

Rafik Papalian

Lou Nicolosi

6. Elections of:

Parish Assembly

a. Parish Council Members (5)

Nominations from the floor were requested for Parish Council.

Motion from Sue Kezerian to nominate Albert Movsesian, motion seconded by Sylvia Tavitian, motion passed.

Motion from Araxie Kasparian to nominate Cindy Kasparian, motion seconded, motion passed.

Parish Council nominations were closed via motion from Sylvia Tavitian, motion seconded, motion passed.

b. Nominating Committee Members (3)

Nominations from the floor were requested for Nominating Committee.

Motion from Steve Arthur to nominate Janice Mosesian, motion seconded by Albert Movsesian, motion passed.

Nominating Committee nominations were closed via motion from Alice Kasparian, motion seconded, motion passed.

c. Auditing Committee Member (1)

Nominations from the floor were requested for Audit Committee.

Martin Aaronian agreed to stay on as Audit Committee member.

Nominations for Audit Committee were closed via motion from Sylvia Tavitian, motion seconded by Alice Kasparian, motion passed.

7. Annual Report of the Pastor

In lieu of a Pastors report by the church pastor, visiting pastor Very Reverend Fr. Krikor Maksoudian was asked to remark by Assembly Chairperson Paul Tavitian:

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor remarked that he was pleased to be among us in peaceful times.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor explained that both the Business Administration and Liturgical parts of a parish are very important.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor called upon each^{of} us to "take action" by bringing our ideas forward and putting our energy into making a contribution to our parish. These actions indicate the Holy Spirit is with us and is reacting though us.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor recognized the steadfast contributions of the members without whom the Divine Liturgy would not be possible, namely Charles Loosian our Deacon and the contribution of Herman Gennetian and David Tavitian as well. Very Rev. Fr. Krikor volunteered his time to help with instructional training of alter servers who are interested.

The backbone of the Armenian Church are the parishes' woman's groups and St. Gregory's is no exception.

Sad to read in the Mr. & Mrs. Club report that there has been no activity this past year and remarked that it would be nice to see activity come back as the Mr. & Mrs. Club which is another example of an organization critical to the welfare of the church.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor has been coming to Saint Gregory's since 1986 and noted that the Sunday School is stronger today than he has ever seen it. The church must continue to develop young blood and must strengthen the Sunday School. He offered his assistance to Sunday School development.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor was encouraged to read that St. Gregory's had an Adults Group and stressed the importance of establishing an ACYOA group at our parish. The ACYOA used to be the most vibrant of organizations. Many parishioners met their spouses at ACYOA events. Unfortunately, there are only six chapters left throughout the diocese. With only three people, either a Junior or Senior group could be established here at St. Gregory's.

Very Rev. Fr. Krikor is glad to be of service, and will continue to help our parish, which he holds close to him for a number of reasons, one being that Saint Gregory's was the first parish he served at after his ordination.

At this time the ballots were cast for the various committees. An attendance sheet was passed around for signatures of attending dues paying members and was reconciled to the number of ballots counted.

8. Annual Report of Parish Council

Remarks from the Parish Council chairperson Albert Movsesian included an update on Der Sahag Kaishian. A Californian parish has inquired about Der Sahag and has accepted him as their pastor. Der Sahag is currently visiting the Californian parish and it's parishioners, including those who are ill.

Albert Movsesian thanked everyone who helped in any way to coordinate today's assembly meeting.

We have a monumental task in front of us to reorganize our church. Each person is being challenged to become involved at St. Gregory's in some way. We have the energy, and the people resources - who bring broad expertise in many different fields.

The message was stressed that now is the time to bond together, or loose the identity of the Armenian people in Haverhill.

What can we easily do to make a difference?

- Each person bring in one other person
- Volunteer for one activity throughout the year
- Come to a church function, even if it's only for 15 minutes

The Lawrence Eagle Tribune ran an article which brought up the interest in having the church be listed on the Massachusetts Historical Register. Lance Kasparian is the key contributor helping to facilitate the investigation of historical registration. Funding may become available through both public and private resources to restore the church steeple.

Albert Movsesian and others such as James Derderian, Paul Tavitian and Joe Tavitian have undertaken various efforts to repair and attend to the church's maintenance, including hall and kitchen upkeep.

All of the above have been positive, upbeat goings on.

Discussion from the floor around concern for potential lost church records, such as those pertaining to weddings and baptisms. Questions around the original master key being returned to the church. Further related discussion was around moneys owed to the Arch Diocese to repay the balance on a loan in the original amount of \$6,000.

Discussion from the floor was taken up to suggest that the people who have left the church, be invited back to join us now that times are peaceful again. Further suggestion to encourage former parishioners to return to the church and will do what we can to make them feel welcome. Suggestion was also made to make an increased effort to welcome newcomers to the church by greeting them warmly and asking how we may be of assistance to them.

9. Annual Report of the Diocesan Delegate

Motion from Cindy Kasparian to accept the Diocesan Assembly Report, motion seconded, motion passed.

10. Annual Report of Parish Committees

In the package which was handed out to the dues paying parishioners, there was a report from each committee enclosed.

11. Annual Report of Parish Organizations

In the package which was handed out to the dues paying parishioners, there was a report from each organization enclosed.

Advice was given around the balances held by certain organizations who are inactive where if the various inactive organizations were to be reactivated, then moneys will be transferred into the newly activated organization accounts.

Election Results were presented by Sylvia Tavitian as follows:

The five newly elected Parish Council members who will serve for two years in order of votes are:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|----|
| 1. Albert Movsesian | - | 34 |
| 2. James Derderian | - | 29 |
| 3. Steve Arthur | - | 28 |
| 4. Elaine Meuse | - | 28 |
| 5. Harry Kasparian | - | 25 |

The remaining two Parish Council nominees will serve for the one remaining year left from the term of the two existing Parish Council members who may be resigning if formalized in order of votes are:

Cindy Kasparian - 24
Robert Serabian - 20

The three newly elected Nominating Committee members are in order of votes:

1. Sylvia Tavitian - 35
2. Janice Mosesian - 35
3. Joyce Alexanian - 29
Pauline Harian - 15

The one returning Auditing Committee Member is:

1. Martin Aaronian

12. Parish Council 1997 Financial Report and adoption of 1998 Budget

There was discussion around the 1997 financial report, particularly the \$17,120. owed to the Arch Diocese for 1996 and 1997 Diocesan Assessments and \$4,500. for Clergy Severance.

The church only brings in \$200.-\$500. per week, how will we meet our obligations? The Diocese has been pressuring us or payment, they need our funds to operate successfully. Suggestion was made not to take the money out of savings. Further discussion explained out of the \$50. member dues, approximately \$49. goes to the diocese, along with portions of various other moneys for a total of approximately \$70. per member.

Financial discussions continued

What are the options available to us to resolve our financial issues?

- Bring in new members
- Additional donations
- Hold functions to raise money

Functions bring people together and can be very uplifting.

We need to continue to actively participate, pledge and donate to our church.

The church's fixed costs for heating, electricity, etc. do not decrease whether there are 100 members or 10 members.

Our ethnic situation is declining due to the homogenization of the Armenian community in the USA

What of church merger options?

The attendees of this annual parish assembly are the people who are always here. We are a cohesive and hard working body.

Come to church and bring someone with you.
Support the functions and bring someone with you.

Motion from Cindy Kasparian to accept the 1998 Budget, motion seconded by Steve Arthur, motion passed with one against.

Discussion of the importance of having part-time secretarial assistance. Moneys are not called out in the budget for this needed position.

13. Old Business

a. Merger

Remarks from Steve Arthur, Chairperson of the St. Gregory Merger Committee. The committee is active together with the Lawrence committee chaired by Mark Kazanjian. They continue to investigate acquiring land for a new site. A joint assembly with both Haverhill and Lawrence is needed together with his Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to voice the various concerns and opinions.

In order to survive in the Merrimack Valley, it would be a good idea to put aside our issues and go to a neutral third site to combine our community resources. there will be concerns around cultural, social and political differences. The plea was made to give our children the same break that our parents and grandparents gave to us. Apathy apparently is a prevailing attitude towards our culture's future. People do not care, do not want to change or to consider change. We need to get past this, and become enlightened. Granted, money will always be a concern. Let us overcome our differences and think about our future, our legacy 10 to 20 years down the line.

Discussion ensued around what the political issues were. Apparently power is a key factor in terms of who will be in charge of what if a merge was to occur. Additional discussion around the relative worth of the parish owned properties in Lawrence and Haverhill.

Continued discussion around encouragement to preserve our capital, pursue the historical registry which would allow funding to restore our church, and to pursue the merger opportunity as well. Note that the buyer group attracted for purchase of a registered historical site would potentially different than for those of a general private owner, such as a developer.

b. Steeple

As previously noted, some leaks have apparently been successfully repaired.

14. New Business

a. Membership Development

Remarks from Harry Alexanian emphasized that we must not look at what "we" here need, but what "they" who are not here need. Let us ask what we can do to become attractive to others including:

- Mr. & Mrs. Club former members
- Other former members
- People who have never been affiliated with our church

We need to articulate what we have to offer, what is in it for them.

How can we accomplish new membership?

- We need volunteer people resources
- Bring your ideas and make a difference
- Each person must be made to feel welcome
- Swallow your pride
- Do not criticize, or project a negative attitude

Discussion suggestion to create a "Welcome Wagon" type of service to the community which would include sending literature to people new to the area. Our challenge is to determine who is moving into our community so that we can make contact with them.

b. Massachusetts Historical Commission

Previously noted above.

c. Reducing the Number of Parish Council Members from 9 to 7

Motion from Albert Movsesian to reduce the number of Parish Council Members from 9 to 7, effective in 1999, motion seconded by Richard McNeil, motion did not pass, only 5 members in favor of reduction, the majority against reduction.

Discussion prior to the motion being put to vote included points both for and against reduction. Major points against reduction included:

- members do go away on vacation
- the large amount of work now, and important issues facing future parish Councils
- a larger group brings more perspectives and ideas to the table
- reducing the number of required members is assuming that 9 people cannot be found to server, which in turn, projects the image that they will fail. Let us think positively and give the newly formed Parish Councils of the future a fighting chance to make a difference.

Major points for reduction included:

- Parish Council members who do not attend the meetings create a situation where a quorum is not present to make any decisions which leads to an ineffective Parish Council. Parish Council members must remember this going forward in order for our Councils to be successful.

d. Other New Business

There are elderly people who would like to attend church services but who are unable to find a ride. Suggestion is to form car pools. If you are coming to church, and will be passing an elderly member's home, arrange stop by and pick up as many people as you are able.

Thanks was extended to retiring Parish Council member Ann Drouin for her gift of time and energy in helping over the years.

Gratitude and acknowledgment was given to Sue Kezerian and the choir members and our two organists Sylvia Tavitian and Virginia Tavitian.

Suggestion was made to construct a handicap ramp or elevator for the elderly and handicapped parishioners. The Parish Council is looking into this suggestion.

Announcements:

Joint Sunday School efforts are underway between Haverhill, Lawrence, Chelmsford, North Andover and Salem, New Hampshire with the objective of bringing the children together at social events. These types of events may provide opportunities for new church membership. An event is planned March 21st at Skate Land in Bradford, with a fellowship planned at St. Gregory's church in Haverhill afterwards.

There will be an adults only event where appetizers will be server at ALMA, the Armenian Library & Museum of America in Watertown, Massachusetts. The donation is \$5. please notify Elaine Meuse if you would like to participate.

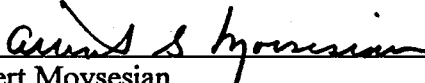
Motion from George Kasparian to close the meeting, motions seconded, motion passed.

15. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was lead by Very Rev. Fr. Krikor Maksoudian.

The Annual Parish Assembly meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM EST.


Respectfully Submitted,



Albert Movsesian
Parish Council Chairperson



Paul Tavitian
Parish Assembly Chairperson



Janice Mosesian
Parish Assembly Secretary

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church
Ladies Aide Society

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 1998 – December 31, 1998

Bank Balance as of 1/1/98: \$ 1,369.73

Income:

◆ Dinners	\$ 2,054.00	
◆ Choreg	\$ 1,659.00	
◆ Bazaar (Lunch & Pastry)	\$ 1,930.15	
		<u>\$ 5,643.15</u>

TOTAL CASH: \$ 7,012.88

Expenses:

◆ Donation to St. Gregory	\$ 2,500.00	
◆ New Freezer	\$ 459.00	
◆ Dinners	\$ 423.35	
◆ Choreg	\$ 203.70	
◆ Bazaar	\$ 544.38	
◆ Madagh	\$ 47.39	
◆ Armenian Orphan Sponsorship	\$ 200.00	
◆ Bank Charges (checks, etc.)	\$ 30.98	
		<u>(\$ 4,408.80)</u>

Bank Balance as of 12/31/98: \$ 2,604.08

Respectfully Submitted,

Araxie Kasparian

Araxie Kasparian
Treasurer



1998 Sunday School Program Annual Report

The mission of the Sunday School Program is to encourage learning and understanding through the discovery of the spiritual riches of the Armenian Church. The Sunday School Program will foster strong family support, positive school experience, structured youth activities, underpinned by Armenian Christian values, and provide our youth the greatest opportunity for success.

This year's registration of twenty (20) children, aged two and above, represents an increase of 30%, from last year's program.

There are eleven children in the Nursery and Kindergarten Class, which is led by Ms. Brenda Tavitian, with support from other available program staff.

Five children attend the Intermediate Grades Class, which is led by Ms. Laura Soraghan.

Four children attend the Senior Grades Class, which is led by Steven Cole.

Sunday School meets regularly, 10:45 am to 12 noon. On a planned basis, children attend service; to receive communion, or to participate in a special ceremony, or rite.

Here are some notable objectives that were met in 1998:

Well attended and successful Lenten Dinner, in April.

Well attended and successful Graduation Ceremony, in June.

Purchased additional curriculum materials, to include student text, teacher manual, and activity packets. Materials now are complete for grades Nursery through Eight.

Provided "Back to School Folders" for all children. These folders contain essential information ranging from dates in church history, to the four minor orders.

Use of the DRE Children's Worship Bulletin, weekly, to augment lessons.

Provided Advent Calendars for all children.

Sent ornaments made by children of the Sunday School to adorn the cathedral tree at St. Vartan Cathedral.

Sunday School 1998 Completed Objectives - continued

Participated in the Sons of Vartan Christmas Party. The Sunday School donated beanie babies as prizes, and ran a "Beano for Beanies" activity for approximately thirty (30) children.

Ongoing nonperishable food drive.

For the Senior Grades, development of a youth group model for discussions of significant contemporary topics, and to get children excited about growing in their faith.

The Sunday School hosts fellowship, when we are in session, and has made an effort to provide an added variety of items for parishioners.

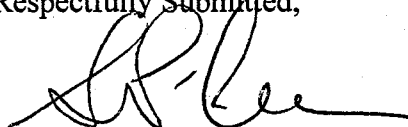
The Sunday School is very thankful to the Soraghan Family for hosting a summer party for the children of the Sunday School, and for providing the food for the Lenten Dinner, in April.

Thanks go out to all of the children, parents, teachers, and families involved with the Sunday School for their commitment.

A special thanks goes out to the entire parish community for the warmth and support that all of us at the Sunday School feel.

We look forward to steady and progressive program development for the remainder of the school year, and pray for God's wisdom and guidance, to keep us on this route.

Respectfully Submitted,



1/25/99

Steven P. Cole, Superintendent of the Sunday School

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Sunday School
1998 Annual Report

Balance 1/1/98	\$374.07	
Income	<u>601.35</u>	\$975.42
Expenses		<u>727.76</u>
Balance 1/1/99		<u>\$247.66</u>

Respectfully submitted

Elaine Tahmizian Meuse, Treasurer

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church

The Pacesetters

1998 Annual Report

Prepared by Harry Alexanian, Vice Chairman

The Pacesetters is a social group of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church in Haverhill. Open to community members from all over the Merrimack Valley, it has a mailing list representing 80 individuals. We recently met and elected 1999 officers.

The group's events included a Spaghetti Supper, a summer dance and was active in the church auction. This year, the Pacesetters is planning on sponsoring a Lenten Dinner, a trip to Ellis Island in May and another summer dance.

The Pacesetters recently transferred \$1,500 to the Church's general fund leaving over \$600 to fund future events. This transfer will appear in the 1999 financials for the Church and Pacesetters.

1998 FINANCIAL REPORT

Balances in Bank Accounts as of January 1, 1998

Checking Account	\$518.94	
Savings Account	\$52.72	
Total		\$571.66

INCOME

Lenten Dinner	\$0	
Spaghetti Supper	\$0	
Dance	\$3,355	
Total Income		\$3,355

EXPENSES

Lenten Dinner	\$0	
Spaghetti Supper	\$45	
Dance	\$1,718.18	
Total Expenses		\$1,763.18

Balance in Bank as of December 31, 1998

Checking	\$2,110.76	
Savings	\$52.72	
Total Cash in Accounts		\$2,163.48

St. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

The Pacesetters
1998 Annual Report

Account Balances 1/1/98

Checking Account	\$ 518.94	
Savings Account	<u>52.72</u>	\$ 571.66

Income

Lenten Dinner	--	
Spaghetti Dinner	--	
Dance	<u>\$3,355.00</u>	<u>\$3,355.00</u>

Total Income \$3,926.66

Expenses

Lenten Dinner	--	
Spaghetti Dinner	45	
Dance	<u>\$1,718.18</u>	<u>\$1,763.18</u>

Account Balances 1/1/99 \$2,163.48

Donation to Parish 1/30/99 1,500.00

Account Balances 1/30/99 663.48

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Alexanian

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Church Choir
1998 Annual Report

<u>Balance 1/1/98</u>			\$1,165.01	
<u>Income</u>				
Church Collection	\$235.00			
Dinners	<u>817.00</u>	<u>1,052.00</u>		<u>\$2,217.01</u>
<u>Expenses</u>				
Palm Sunday Dinner	162.68			
Lenten Dinner	84.70			
Anniversary Donation	500.00			
Altar Flowers	50.00			<u>\$797.38</u>
<u>Balance</u> 1/1/99				<u>\$1,419.63</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bazarian, Chairman

Alice Kasparian, Treasurer

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Mr. and Mrs. Club
1998 Annual Report

The St. Gregory Mr. and Mrs. Club of Haverhill, MA was inactive during 1998.

We had no meetings and no activities to report.

The Treasury Report is as follows:

Balance January 1, 1998.....	\$279.71
Interest Income During 1998.....	<u>2.81</u>
Balance January 1, 1999.....	\$282.52

Respectfully submitted,

Vasken Gostanian, Treasurer

1998 Financials

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church			
Statement of Operations			
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1998			
REVENUES	1998	1998	1999
Offerings, Gifts, Etc.	Budget	Actual	Budget
Sacraments	\$1,500	\$650	\$900
Hokenhankist & Prayers	\$2,000	\$1,935	\$2,250
Memorial Contributions / In lieu of Flowers	\$2,500	\$6,380	\$6,300
Pledge	\$12,000	\$11,649	\$12,000
Plate	\$2,000	\$1,383	\$1,500
Membership Dues	\$5,000	\$4,335	\$3,250
Altar Flowers	\$500	\$547	\$650
Altar Candles	\$400	\$507	\$500
Christmas Offering	\$1,600	\$1,237	\$1,200
Easter Offering	\$1,200	\$1,091	\$1,100
Armenian Church Endowment Fund (ACEF)	\$500	\$1,097	\$1,100
Bank Interest	\$5,600	\$6,306	\$6,400
Church Hall Rental	\$200	\$300	\$300
Bookstore	\$200	\$10	\$10
Gifts / Donations	\$500	\$5,781	\$900
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,000	\$574	\$300
Heating Fund	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Total Offerings, Gifts, Etc	\$37,700	\$43,782	\$40,660
Church Functions Revenue			
Church Picnic	\$3,000	\$4,023	\$4,000
Church Bazaar / Harvest Festival	\$4,500	\$1,627	\$1,000
Church Anniversary	\$6,300	\$6,260	\$5,000
Church Auction	\$0	\$2,261	\$2,300
Assembly Lunches	\$200	\$0	\$100
Parish Council Dinners	\$800	\$697	\$600
Total Church Functions	\$14,800	\$14,868	\$13,000
Total Revenues	\$52,500	\$58,650	\$53,660

1998 Financials

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church			
Statement of Operations			
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1998			
EXPENSES	1998	1998	1999
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Clergy Expenses			
Clergy Stipend	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clergy Car Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clergy Medical Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clergy Housing	\$3,750	\$2,204	\$1,960
Clergy Life Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clergy / Delegate Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clergy Severance	\$4,500	\$3,746	\$0
Clergy Pension	\$0	\$0	\$0
Visiting Clergy	\$7,500	\$6,170	\$7,500
Total Clergy Expenses	\$15,750	\$12,120	\$9,460
Church Function Expenses			
Parish Assembly Lunches	\$75	\$106	\$300
Picnic	\$2,000	\$1,260	\$1,500
Bazaar / Harvest Festival	\$1,000	\$512	\$700
Auction	\$0	\$573	\$600
Church Anniversary	\$500	\$211	\$500
PC Dinners	\$125	\$510	\$600
Total Church Functions	\$3,700	\$3,172	\$4,200
Operating Expenses			
Church Gifts / Donations	\$500	\$505	\$500
Custodian Services	\$1,500	\$1,555	\$1,400
Bank Charges	\$50	\$0	\$50
Landscaping / Snow Removal	\$500	\$0	\$200
Capital Improvements	\$0	\$3,384	\$5,000
Repairs & Maintenance - Church	\$5,000	\$2,376	\$2,500
Deacon/Organist/Soloist/Visiting Priest	\$300	\$525	\$500
Electric - Church	\$2,000	\$942	\$1,000
Telephone Church	\$600	\$309	\$400
Gas - Church	\$7,000	\$5,519	\$6,000
Water	\$200	\$54	\$100
Insurance - Church	\$1,000	\$1,803	\$1,820
Diocesan Assessment	\$6,500	\$8,369	\$9,900
Kitchen Supplies / Paper Goods	\$1,000	\$955	\$1,000
Office Supplies & Maintenance	\$900	\$804	\$900
Church Supplies	\$300	\$631	\$650

1998 Financials

Flowers	\$500	\$558	\$600
Postage	\$800	\$634	\$700
Bookstore	\$0	\$0	\$20
Miscellaneous	\$100	\$423	\$500
Total Operating Expenses	\$28,750	\$29,346	\$33,740
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$48,200	\$44,638	\$47,400
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$4,300	\$14,012	\$6,260

1998 Financials

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church			
Statement of Operations			
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1998			
TRANSFERS AND ASSETS	1998		
Transfers	Actual		
Transfer From Savings to Checking	\$4,998		
Transfer to Endowment Fund	(\$4,000)		
Net Transfers	\$998		
LIQUID ASSETS			
Checkbook Balance as of Dec. 31, 1998	\$13,050		
Fund Balances as of Dec. 31, 1998	\$116,108		
Total Liquid Assets	\$129,158		
FUNDS			
Movsesian Door Fund	\$1,081		
Endowment Fund	\$68,619		
Building Fund	\$37,890		
Money Market Fund	\$8,518		
Total Fund Accounts	\$116,108		
INTEREST INCOME			
Check Book	\$91		
Movsesian Door Fund	\$32		
Endowment Fund	\$3,738		
Building Fund	\$2,122		
Money Market Fund	\$323		
Total Interest Income	\$6,306		

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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OTHER INCOME

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999 Est.</u>
ACEF	\$ 896	\$1,097	\$1,000
Ladies Aid	5,000	2,500	2,500
Choir	--	500	500
Sunday School	--	--	--
Pacesetters	--	--	1,500

BANK BOOK BALANCES

	<u>12/31/97</u>	<u>12/31/98</u>
Check Book	\$ 4,415.00	\$13,049.84
Money Market	13,192.02	8,517.17
Movsesian Door	1,049.41	1,081.32
Bldg. Fund (CD)	35,768.84	37,710.99
Endowment (CD)	60,886.96	68,618.81

96th Annual Diocesan Assembly Report

The 96th Diocesan Assembly of the Armenian Church of America convened on May 7-9, 1998, at Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral in New York City. His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian Primate of the Eastern Diocese presided over the Assembly.

1st Plenary Session

The 96th Diocesan Assembly opened on Thursday May 7, 1998 at 1:40 P.M. with a Celebration of the Inaugural Service commemorating the Diocesan Centennial by Archbishop Khajag. He also delivered the Invocation.

Dr. Garo Garibian, 1997 Diocesan Assembly Chairman welcomed the Delegates. A roll call was taken by registrar Nubar Kupelian. He declared a quorum of 68 out of 127 delegates.

His Eminence introduced two newly ordained clergymen: Very Rev. Daniel Findikyan and Rev. Fr. Vartan Joulfayan.

Registrar Nubar Kupelian read the names of the newly elected Delegates, Alternates and Parish Council Chairmen. By motion made and seconded, these names were confirmed by the Assembly. A total of 106 Registered Delegates out of 197 comprise the body of the Assembly.

The minutes of the 95th Diocesan Assembly was read and accepted.

Deceased Clergy and Delegates names were read and will be remembered at Sunday's Liturgy. Patriarch Karekin Kazanjian, Rev. Fr. Michael Buttero, Daron Mazmanian, Mesrob Mesrobian, Zarouhi Norsigian and Gilbert Markarian were the deceased members.

Roberts Rules of Parliamentary Procedure was accepted unanimously by the Assembly.

Nominating Committee Chairman Aram Hintlian read names of nominees for the Nominating Committee, Proposal Committee, Auditing Committee and Diocesan Board of Trustees.

Haig Dadourian Chairman of the Diocesan Council announced the names of Candidates for the Office of Primate. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Bishop Aris Shirvanian and Archbishop Mosrob Krikorian. After the names were read a communication was received from Archbishop

Krikorian to withdraw his name. Although his name was left on the ballot, it was not counted.

At this time His Holiness Karekin I Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians and His entourage of visiting Archbishops entered the Cathedral.

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag addressed The Assembly and welcomed all Delegates to St. Vartan Cathedral on the occasion of the Centennial of our Diocese and acknowledged the presence of the Diocesan Primate. From the Western Diocese Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, Canadian Diocese Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, Argentina and Chile Diocese Archbishop Kissag Mouradian and Uruguay Diocese Bishop Hagop Kelendjian.

Our Primate invited His Holiness Karekin I to give his message. He gave a impassioned presentation and exhorted everyone "to get involved, stand up and be counted and serve as examples to your constituents". He spoke of the forthcoming 1700th Anniversary of the establishment of Christianity in Armenia. His Holiness concluded by asking to be remembered in our Prayers.

Computerized ballots for the Officers of the Assembly were handed out by the Nominating Committee, which I was a member of, and collected by roll call.

Karen Derderyan Auditing Committee Chairlady gave her report concerning use of restricted funds, inventory of assets, disbursements of large amounts without two signatures and the cost of calendars with small returns. The Auditing Committee report was accepted by the Assembly.

Results of Assembly Officers balloting was announced. Dr. Garo Garibian, Holy Trinity Church, Cheltenham, PA was elected as Chairman. English Secretary, Anna Marie Norehad, St. James Church, Evanston, IL. Armenian Secretary Rev. Fr. Nareg Berberian, St. James Church, Richmond, VA.

The Chair acknowledged the presence of Richard Sarajian as observer from the Prelacy. Our observer to the Prelacy Assembly is Edward Brewster.

Assembly Vice-Chairman Harry Terzian of St. John's Church, Detroit, MI invited Proposals Committee Chairlady Lillian Chapien to review the Proposals Committee report. This report will continue at the next session.

The First Plenary Session recessed at 5:35 P.M.

Second Plenary Session

The Assembly convened at 8:30 A.M. Friday May 8, 1998. Archbishop Khajag led a Worship Service assisted by Rev. Fr. Vasken Kouzouian and Deacon Aren Jebejian. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan delivered the homily.

Appointment of the Courtesies Committee was announced with Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian as Chairman. Edward Brewster, Tom Gengozian and Sahag Sahagian were appointed Parliamentarians.

Ballots were distributed by the Nominating Committee for the election of Primate, Nominating, Proposal, Auditing and Board of Trustee Committees.

Nubar Kupelian announced 151 Registered Delegates present.

Continuation of the Proposals Committee. – Proposal #1 by St. George Church, Waukegan, IL to change the panel discussion format to #1 Leadership Training, #2 Youth Development, #3 Empowering the Laity and the many missions of the church and #4 Departments of the Diocese. All to be delivered by qualified persons. Timed for all Delegates to be present to hear these discussions. Proposal passed.

Proposal #2 by Holy Cross Church, Lawrence, MA that the Diocesan Council address the responsibility for payment by the Diocese of the Longevity Stipends which was passed in 1974 and reaffirmed in 1982 and 1983. Proposal passed.

Proposal #3 by St. George Church, Hartford, CT that as of the adjournment of the 1998 Diocesan Assembly, the present Diocesan Stipend Committee be created, that it be composed of five individuals, two clergy to be selected at the Annual Clergy Conference and three lay delegates appointed by The Diocesan Council for a term of 4 years. This Proposal also consists of a list of guide lines to be adhered to by the new Committee. Proposal Passed.

Proposal #4 by St. James Church, Watertown, MA whereas Armenian Churches in the Republic of Armenia, Nagorno-Karabagh and the countries of the former Soviet Union are expanding with the reopening of Churches and other Armenian Religious Institutions - Be it resolved that in order to create a fraternal relationship with and provide financial support for Armenian Churches in these places, Parishes that are financially able, in our Diocese, adopt a sister Armenian Church in these lands, in accord with a plan developed by the Diocesan Primate and Diocesan Council and approved by the Diocesan Assembly. Proposal passed.

Diocesan Council Chairman Haig Dadourian was invited to review the report of the Diocesan Council for the past year. After a lengthy report, the Assembly accepted his report.

Under New Business Item #1 Proposed by Kevork Hagopian St. Georges Church Waukegan, IL that the Diocesan Council be directed to take inventory of all artifacts, religious items, vestments, art work and other valuable property at the Diocese. Proposal passed.

Item #2 Proposed by Dean Shahinian St. Mary's Church, Washington, DC that the Diocesan Assembly directs that - the Diocese not make disbursements from Restricted Funds of more than \$1,000 without the signature and approval of two persons authorized by the Diocesan Assembly or the Diocesan Council. Proposal passed.

George Papalian, Diocesan Council Treasurer presented the 1998 budget report. After much discussion a motion was made and passed to accept his report. A motion was made to accept the 1999 budget of \$3,699,400. The motion passed with a 2/3 vote as required.

The election results are as follows: Diocesan Board of Trustees – Suren Fesjian for a term of ten years. Auditing Committee – Arthur Mardigian. Proposals Committee – Fr. Tavit Boyajian, Fr. Haroutiun Dagley, Michelle Babikian, George Marifian and George Nahabedian. Nominating Committee – Fr. Mardiros Chevian, George Devletian, Nubar Dorian, Gregory Manuelian and John Nersessian.

Archbishop Khajag was escorted into the Cathedral by Clergy with the singing of “Oorakh Ler Soorp Yegeghetzy”. His Eminence addressed the Delegates with words of thanks.

Primates from Canada, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina and Chile were invited to give their message.

The Chair declared a recess at 7:30 P.M. and the resumption of the Second Session to begin at 8:35 P.M.

Unity Report Committee member Edward Chapien made reference that the co-operation of the Prelacy Unity Committee was less than positive. Many suggestions and much discussion was made by the Assembly Delegates for a solution. A motion was made to accept Our Unity Committee resolution, which was to move forward to complete The Unity process. When the Prelacy is prepared to proceed in implementing the Unity guidelines. This Resolution was passed by a 2/3 vote.

The Assembly Recessed at 9:45 P.M.

Third Plenary Session

The 96th Diocesan Assembly opened at 9:45 A.M. Saturday May 9, 1998 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel N.Y. with a Worship Service presided by The Very Rev. Krikor Maksoudian acting Vicar General assisted by Deacon George Devejian. Rev. Fr. Vartan Joulfayan delivered the Homily.

George Chakoian a member of the Diocesan Council was sent to observe the Prelacy Assembly last year. His report was accepted without discussion or comment.

Under Financial Reports it was asked for information on what arrangements have been made for Parishes delinquent in payment of their assessment. It was suggested that incentive amounts be paid by these Churches.

Printing of calendar costs was \$47,000 and \$25,000 was collected. Karen Derderyan asked how do we prevent runaway costs?

Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian gave The Clergy Conference Report. The Assembly moved to accept his report and it was.

Thomas Bardakian gave The Courtesies Report and was accepted by the Assembly.

The 1999 – 97th Diocesan Assembly site will be held at St. Peter Armenian Church Watervliet, N.Y. The First weekend of May.

The Assembly adjourned at 11:15 A.M. Very Rev. Fr. Krikor Maksoudian led the final prayer and singing of “Krisdos Haryav”.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul S. Tavitian

Paul S. Tavitian

Delegate