

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church

The Adults Group

Formerly Known as the Young Adults Group

1996 Annual Report

*Prepared by Harry Alexanian
Interim Acting Coordinator*

At its peak, this group had close to 40 members. While it has a lot of promise and potential, it ran into several problems in holding meetings and events. For example, at times there was either one spouse attending a meeting which reduced attendance and committee participation. If both spouses attended, it meant there would be several small children present causing distractions and interruptions. No solution was arrived at and the group eventually dissolved.

The group meet several times and held a successful lentil supper. The group also supported other church events by attendance and participation. Before dissolving, there were approximately 12 active members with \$364 in the treasury.

Planned in 1997.

For couples and singles alike, there is an important need to identify with others in the same generation. The purpose of this group is to provide a church organization where people of the "baby boom" era can meet and socialize with others they identify with.

The age bracket for this group is from about 28 to 50. Therefore the term "young adults" does not apply and may be a factor in dis-interest. Until another name can be decided upon, the working name of "the Adults Group" will be used.

Harry Alexanian stepped forward to rejuvenate this group with a family style Super Bowl Party. Harry has previously been a national board member in the Armenian Network, a professional organization comprised of married and single members in their 30s and 40s. His goal is to bring to the Adults Group some of the same kind of programming that has made the Network attractive to 100s of Armenians in the same age group.

One key to success of an organization such as this is communicating with parishioners of the same age group who are members of other Armenian churches. Because all churches share similar difficulty in addressing the needs of this age group, it is important for us to exchange ideas, get to know each other and demonstrate reciprocal support.

In the coming year, Mr. Alexanian plans to:

- a)- recruit members and elect a board of officers
- b)- establish a mailing list for all Merrimack Valley and send a quarterly newsletter
- c)- organize membership driven events (not necessarily fund raisers) such as:
 - One or more family oriented non-alcoholic sports parties.
 - An "oldies" dance in the Church Hall.
 - One or more Church Suppers (e.g. Lentil).
 - A costumed Halloween party for children and adults.
 - A series of "seminars" on business, careers, personal finance, parenting, home repair.
 - An in-door family-style picnic featuring team and individual board games.