

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Hokeshnor Hayr Soorp Jirayr Tashjian, Parish Council and members of the Parish Assembly.

Today, I am pleased to report to you what were the activities of our Church, what we performed and what were our shortcomings during 1981, and also what is our plan and perspective for the future to improve our religious, cultural and financial aspects of our Church. On May 5, 1981, the Parish Council held a meeting and the following were elected to serve as 1981-82 officers:

Chairman:	Dr. Hrach Hitik
Vice-chairman:	Nishan Babikian
Secretary:	Walter Baronian
Corresponding Secretary:	Violet Koresian
Treasurer:	Garos Sazian
Assistant Treasurer:	Garos Evran Arsen Jerian

Violet Koresian is the liaison for the ACYOA and Arsen Jerian is the liaison for Sunday School.

From May 6, 1981 to December 30, 1981, the Parish Council had 18 regular meetings, about every two weeks. Sometimes the Parish Council has short meetings on Sunday after Badarak for emergencies. Hayr Soorp and I attended three Midwest Regional Council Meetings. Also, Hayr Soorp and I represented our Church at the Anniversary Dinner and Program of S.S. Joachim and Anne Church in Palos Heights. During Sports Weekend we had a special emergency meeting with Srpazan Torkom Manoogian. Hayr Soorp and five members of the Parish Council were present at the Marriott Hotel. I, personally, know all the Parish Council members for many years, but when I had the opportunity to be with them more closely and be with them in the Parish Council during 1981, I recognize the real Nishan Babikian, Walter Baronian, Garos Sazian, Violet Koresian, Arsen Jerian and Garos Evran. I saw their understanding of the role of the Armenian Church in our personal life and in our community life. They are dedicated servants of our Church. They deserve your love, gratitude and appreciation. I would like to present to you some of the work accomplished during 1981. The Parish Council had two combined meetings with the Roofing Committee and a final decision was given and the church roof was finally repaired. As you see, in spite of the heavy winter in Chicago this year, we have no more leakin in our hall. There was hardly a week that something in this church did not need repair or replacement.

We replaced the door of the Men's Room which was missing for many years. We temporarily repaired the door in front of the stage and this year we will try to improve the condition of these doors. The drainage base outside the kitchen door was blocked up for many years and this was cleaned and drained. We started inventory of the entire church and we finished the altar and the church proper. We have to put numbers on each item and record them in an inventory book. As you know, on May 1 our church was again burglarized and the typewriter was stolen and a stained glass window was broken. The window was repaired and we are in the process of purchasing a new typewriter. We purchased a new vacuum cleaner.

For many years our choir was not good enough for our Church because there were not enough members or a choirmaster. This year, we sent a letter to Dr. Hampar Yazijian asking him for his help to organize and teach our choir. At the present time, 35 to 45 parishioners practice every Tuesday night under the direction of Dr. Yazijian. I believe Dr. Yazijian deserves our appreciation and thanks. We have made new arrangements with another person to clean the Church. By doing so, we have cut our cleaning expense in half. The 17th Anniversary Dinner-Dance of our Church was spiritually and financially successful. Also, the Martyr's Day Affair was satisfactory. We prepared a new receipt book which has more details than the previous one. Any person who makes a donation will receive a receipt, a copy of which will be kept in our files. All the things we established were done with the help of the following persons who deserve special thanks: Archie Aznavoorian, Bob Kalenian, Peter Bedrosian, Sarkis Gircik, Dr. Vahe Karach-orlu and Missak Paloian. The Roofing Committee especially deserves your appreciation and gratitude for their hard work.

I would like to recognize two other gentlemen who are deserving of your special thanks: Mr. Haig Pedian who will put new carpeting in the entrance, stairs and the priest's office. Also, George Hagopian who will bear the entire cost for new altar curtains and drapes for the windows in the cultural hall and the Sunday School classrooms. In two weeks, the carpeting will be replaced and we are currently selecting material for the altar curtains.

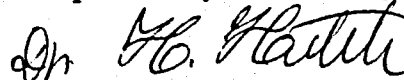
In any Armenian organization or in the Church, if our ladies do not work, that organization or Church cannot survive. I would like to say that our ladies are the backbone of the church activities. I don't know how we could function in this church without the help and hard work of the Women's Guild and the Ladies Auxiliary. Day and night they in the Church, in the kitchen and in the hall. They deserve our heartfelt thanks and appreciation. Also, so many of you know how much work is involved in the preparation of our picnic. The members of the picnic committee worked day and night and, because of their efforts, our picnic was very successful. They deserve our utmost appreciation and thanks.

In June, 1981 we had only 82 members with dues paid. According to the circular we received from the Diocese, it stated that our Church had the smallest amount of members of 10 churches in the Midwest. We feel ashamed about this. We believe this Church was one of the oldest and well-known Churches in the Midwest area. It is regretful to say that today a large amount of Armenians, in spite of their close association in the past, are not affiliated with our Church. They only use the Church for weddings, christenings or other reasons. This must be changed. The Parish Council and every member of this Church should work hard and bring these people back to the Church.

The Armenian Church has cultivated a culture, a tradition, a faith and religion, all of which combined have made us what we are today.

Finally, our special love, thanks and appreciation to Hayr Soorp for his help, cultural and spiritual guidance. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Hrach Hitik
Chairman, Parish Council

February 14, 1982