

# ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

## 1981 ANNUAL REPORT

ՍԲ. ՂԵՒՈՆԴԵԱՆՑ ՏԱՐԵԿԱՆ ԾԽԱԿԱՆ ԺՈՂՈՎ

Սբ. Ղեւոնդեանց Եկեղեցւոյ Հոգեւոր Հովիւն ու Ծխական Խորհուրդը պաշտօնապէս կը հրաւիրեն բոլոր տրատու անդամները մասնակցելու Տարեկան Ծխական Ժողովին, որ տեղի պիտի ունենայ Փետրուար 14, 1982 կէսօրէ առաջ ժամը 11-ին:

Ժողովին Օրակարգը ներկայացուած է ստորեւ անգլերէն հրաւիրագրին մէջ:

Տարեկան Ծխական Ժողովին քուէարկելու եւ ընտրուելու համար իրաքանչիւր անդամ պէտք է վճարած ըլլայ նուազագոյնը 50 տոլար, իսկ Տարեց Անդամներ նուազագոյնը՝ 25 տոլար: Անդամներ պիտի արտօնուին իրենց անդամատուրքերը վճարել Տարեկան Ծխական Ժողովին օրն իսկ:

*Թեթեւ ճաշ մը պիտի սպասարկուի Ժողովին վերջաւորութեան:*

## ST. LEON ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Pastor and the Parish Council of St. Leon Armenian Church extend an official invitation to all dues-paying members to attend the Annual Assembly on Sunday, February 14, 1982 at 11:00 a.m.

Kindly consult the following agenda and make sure you attend the assembly by taking part in its deliberations.

### AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Verification of eligible voters
3. Election of Assembly officers
4. Reading of 1981 Assembly Minutes
5. Pastor's Report
6. Parish Council and Organization Reports
7. Elections: Parish Council (5)  
Auditing Committee (3)  
Nominating Committee (3)
8. Auditing Committee Report
9. Approval of 1982 budget
10. Community Center Report
11. New Business
12. Adjournment and Benediction

In order to be eligible to vote by the action of Parish Assembly each member must pay a minimum of \$50.00 per member and the Senior Citizens a minimum of \$25.00 to be eligible to vote and take office. Members will be allowed to pay by the date of the Parish Assembly.

REV. PAREE METJIAN  
President

SARKIS SOULTANIAN  
Chairman

DOVIE TILBIAN  
Corresponding Secretary

A light luncheon will be served immediately following the Parish Assembly.

December 31, 1981

Dear Parishioners:

It has been my privilege this year to serve as Parish Council Chairman. A year that was of major historical significance to our parish. The Community Center and Educational Wing were completed on a timely basis and the report from the Chairman of the Building Committee will apprise you on the current status of the project.

No doubt you will recognize the major challenge that lays ahead for us, namely the disposition of the mortgage principal and interest and assuring the future financial stability of the parish. I have every confidence that with the dedication of our parishioners and friends, as demonstrated in starting the project, we will see to it that our construction project will be paid up quickly.

Although the Community Center project was the focal point of everyone's attention, all parish activities and functions were held and proved to be successful. Timing of some functions required adjustment but nevertheless all major functions were held.

The Parish Council has continued to meet twice a month to consider the needs and activities of the auxiliary organizations, review our financial position, income and expenses, and coordinate activities with the building committee as necessary for the successful completion of the Community Center project.

I am pleased to also report this year the addition of two new St. Leon Auxiliary Organizations: these are the Men's Club formed in June 1981, currently under the Chairmanship of Arthur Ohnikian and the "Care & Share" group spearheaded by Regina Ohanian. Both organizations have made significant progress and no doubt will prove to be valuable assets in the future.

We have also organized a Community Center Management Committee with the responsibility to develop a detailed policy and program for the use and management of the Community Center. Our objective is to make the center self-supporting, in the sense of meeting operating expenses, as quickly as possible and ultimately develop a surplus and a source of income. However, it is unlikely this will be achieved in the first year as you will note from the financial and budget report. This committee is now headed by Mr. Rex Kachigian, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. It has done an excellent job to date and I want to thank all the members for accepting this responsibility so willingly.

The Parish Council would also propose the organization of a new committee to be charged with the responsibility to complete the work started by the memorials and fund raising subcommittees of the Building Committee. This will be to undertake to discharge the mortgage and interest by collection of previously made pledges, secure new pledges at memorials and any other activity to meet this responsibility.

As is our tradition, St. Leon Name Day was celebrated on February 17, with dinner and evening program.

On May 9, the Sports' Committee had a dinner and program to encourage and honor our sports teams. Our sincere thanks to all those capables coaches: Robert Ohnikian, Wayne Rallo and Charles Boyajian as well as their assistants.

The annual picnic in June was chaired by Messers. Jacques Tossounian and Gabriel Kaprelian and the Bazaar was chaired by Harry Zaroian and Edward Torossian. All four are members of the Parish Council and did double duty by assuming these duties. With construction in progress their jobs were that much more difficult.

Of course, the highlight of the year was the dedication and banquet for the Community Center and educational wing with the participation of our Primate, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian.

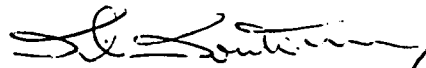
Throughout the year, church services were held regularly by Father Parea Metjian. Our acolyte's program continues as Father Parea, with the support of the Parish Council, maintains his emphasis on the youth.

There are many other deserving individuals without whose active participation, St. Leon Parish would not be where it is today. I want to collectively thank them all - these are the Executive Committee of all auxiliary organizations, our choir director, organist, church secretary and all other special committees.

Our major disappointment this year was the rug sales of the bazaar. I am sure this will be remedied next year. On the other hand, we had resounding success with the New Year's Eve party held in the new Community Center and I am sure this will become part of our annual group of events.

Understandably, this year's budget is the highest ever. It is our collective duty to see to it that the parish remains on sound financial footing so it can continue to grow and carry on with the task of nurturing the spiritual, cultural and social needs of our people and future generations.

Sincerely yours,



Sarkis Sultanian,  
Chairman Parish Council

ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH  
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1981  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1982

RECEIPTS

	<u>PROPOSED 1981</u>	<u>ACTUAL 1981</u>	<u>PERCENT TOTAL</u>	<u>PROPOSED 1982</u>	<u>PERCENT TOTAL</u>
Weekly Envelopes, Dues & Plate Collections	\$20,000	\$20,181.30	24.20%	\$25,000	28.18%
Special Donations:					
Sacraments, In lieu of Flowers, etc.	4,000	12,398.41	14.87%	11,000	12.40%
Net Profit from Affairs	30,000	24,101.07	28.90%	38,000	42.84%
Sale of Books - Lradoo	600	653.00	0.77%	700	0.79%
Holiday Donations	7,000	7,400.00	8.87%	10,000	11.27%
Income from Auxiliary Organizations	6,500	2,989.37	3.60%	2,000	2.25%
Cottage House	3,900	3,575.00	4.30%	-	-
Donations: Hall & Grounds	400	310.00	0.37%	-	-
Income from Investments	<u>5,000</u>	<u>11,767.60</u>	<u>14.12%</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2.25%</u>
Total Receipts	\$77,400	\$83,375.75	100.00%	\$88,700	100.00%
Transfer Funds		450.00			
		<u>\$83,825.75</u>			
Community Center Community Center Management Committee				<u>\$17,000</u>	
Grand Total				\$105,700	

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DISBURSEMENTS

	<u>PROPOSED 1981</u>	<u>ACTUAL 1981</u>	<u>PERCENT TOTAL</u>	<u>PROPOSED 1982</u>	<u>PERCENT TOTAL</u>
Pastor's stipend, auto allowance, visiting clergy	\$15,000	\$16,503.26	23.67%	\$18,000	21.38%
Clergy Insurance and Pension	3,000	2,589.76	3.72%	3,000	3.56%
Church & Parish House Repairs & Maintenance	8,400	4,547.98	6.52%	6,000	7.13%
Diocese Dues & Expenses	9,000	9,920.00	14.23%	12,000	14.25%
Publication & Mailing	3,500	2,726.60	3.92%	3,500	4.16%
Administrative & General	6,000	4,458.67	6.00%	6,000	7.13%
Organist Stipend	2,000	1,830.00	2.62%	2,000	2.37%
Part time Secretary	4,000	4,327.75	6.20%	5,000	5.94%
Caretaker				1,500	1.78%
Armenian School	2,000	1,900.00	2.72%	2,000	2.37%
Sunday School	2,500	2,000.00	2.87%	2,000	2.37%
Sports Association	1,000	262.00	.37%	700	.83%
Van Operating Expenses	1,500	1,206.36	1.75%	1,500	1.78%
Church Operating Expenses, Insurance & Utilities	18,000	16,108.90	23.11%	19,000	22.57%
Equipment Purchase, etc.	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,324.50</u>	<u>1.90%</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2.37%</u>
Total Disbursements	\$77,400	\$69,705.78	100.00%	\$84,200	100.00%
Transfer Funds		450.00			
Note Receivable		2,400.00			
Surplus Transfer to Investment		<u>11,269.97</u>			
		<u>\$83,825.75</u>			
Funds transferred to Building Committee		130,000.00			
Funds loaned to Building Committee		<u>20,399.61</u>			
<u>Community Center:</u>					
Center Operating Expenses, Utilities, Insurance, etc.				19,000	88.37%
Repairs & Maintenance				1,000	4.65%
Caretaker				<u>1,500</u>	<u>6.98%</u>
Grand Total				\$21,500	100.00%

Please Note: Building Mortgage of \$40,000 per year is not included in Budget.

REPORT TO PARISH ASSEMBLY

January 6, 1982

The construction of the St. Leon Community Center has essentially been completed as of the end of 1981. The final stages of construction, which will be completed in early 1982, involve the conversion of the heated, air-conditioned second floor space into a large meeting room. There will also be a small kitchen and appropriate lavatory facilities as well as Youth and guest rooms.

The year 1981 began with the actual construction of the Community Center. The building was essentially completed by mid-October in time for the annual bazaar. On November 15, 1981 the dedication ceremony was performed by our Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. The Dedication Banquet was attended by over 400 people and judged by everyone present, parishioners and friends alike, to have been truly worthy of such an historic occasion in the life of the parish.

Below is a summary of the approximate costs for the total project:

	<u>Thousands of Dollars</u>
Total Construction Contract .....	501
Kitchen .....	36
Patio and Landscaping .....	31
Professional Fees .....	21
Educational Center .....	16
	<u>605</u>
Second Floor Construction .....	20
Furnishings .....	69
Miscellaneous .....	20
	<u>714</u>
Total .....	<u>714</u>

The debts incurred include a very favorable \$250,000 loan by United Jersey Bank at 14% interest, which is prepayable and due in 5 years. We have additional loans to parishioners for \$20,000 at 11% interest due in 3 years.

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The financial support of St. Leon Parishioners and friends to the Community Center project has been most gratifying. By the end of 1981, the following summarizes the sources of funds already in hand or committed.

	<u>Thousands of Dollars</u>
Cash from Parish Treasury .....	130
Pledges .....	400
Donations .....	50
Memorials .....	80
	<hr/>
Total ...	<u>660</u>

It can be seen that only about 10% of the total cost of the project remains to be raised by the Fund-Raising and Memorials Committee. Every parishioner should consider memorials for their departed loved ones, a well-established and heart-warming tradition in the Armenian Church. Where circumstances permit, we ask those who are able to increase their pledges. New members of St. Leon will, of course, be approached to make pledges as was done by many of us who joined the Church after its move to Fair Lawn.

A financial comparison between the final project as it was approved by the Parish Assembly on December 7, 1980 and the actual income and expenditures is instructive. The projected funds available at that time was about \$540,000 compared to about \$660,000 which is projected as of December 1981. The extremely generous \$100,000 pledge by the Abajian family represented the bulk of the additional funds. The projected costs of the project ex furnishings was \$562,000. The comparable cost of the project, as approved, was \$605,000. Much of the additional funds were used to enhance the beauty and functionality of the building which, I am sure all would agree, has been achieved to a gratifying degree. In addition, the extra funds were used to furnish the Center with new quality furnishings.

The ultimate success of the Community Center Project depends on our ability as a Parish to utilize the facilities for our own worthwhile

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activities and generate enough income to cover expenses, including the mortgage payments. To that end, the Parish Council has appointed a Community Center Management Committee to achieve this goal. It must be emphasized that if we do not cover operating expenses, our pledges, memorials, and donations will have to be diverted to pay expenses rather than pay off the mortgage. As a Parish, we must give the Management Committee our total support and commitment to help them achieve their goals.

The work of the Building Committee as it was originally approved by the Parish Assembly two years ago is now ended. However, many of the functions of the Building Committee must continue. I recommend that the Parish Assembly authorize the Parish Council to appoint a committee called the Community Center Coordinating Committee. The name is important only insofar as the Committee is distinguished from the Management Committee. I visualize a group of 5 or 6 people. These committee members will assume the responsibility of paying the mortgage interest and reducing the principal as quickly as possible. They would be responsible for continuing the work of the Fund-Raising and Financial and Memorials sub-committees which currently exist. The Center Coordinating Committee will report to the Parish Council as required. Other activities of the Center Coordinating Committee will include fund-raising activities involving the use of the Hall, such as special events, dances, dinners, etc. The Center Coordinating Committee will organize other committees with other members of the Parish to help with its various activities. The structure of the Center Coordinating Committee will be established by the appointed members.

As Chairman of the Community Center Building Committee, I wish to again express my personal thanks and gratitude to all those who contributed to our success. Special thanks to the Building Committee members who labored so long and hard to make our dream a reality. To all the Parishioners of St. Leon, congratulations and thanks for your support and confidence.

Zaven A. Dadekian  
Chairman  
Building Committee



BUILDING COMMITTEE  
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1981

RECEIPTS

Pledges	\$130,415.00	
Less-Refund of Overpayment	<u>200.00</u>	\$130,215.00
In lieu of Flowers		6,190.00
Memorials		44,965.00
Donations		51,615.00
Mortgage Loan		250,000.00
Notes (11%-Due 1984)		20,000.00
From Parish Council:		
Cash Advance	8,000.00	
Bank Investments Redeemed	<u>168,899.61</u>	176,899.61
Banquets and Booklets		34,064.75
Miscellaneous Income:		
M/M Boyadjian's 50th Anniversary	2,168.44	
Interest & Dividends	2,778.38	
Meadowlands Outing	<u>346.00</u>	5,282.82
Less Cost of Sale of Securities		<u>(868.16)</u>
Total Receipts		\$718,364.02

DISBURSEMENTS

Architectural:		
Mario V. Cammarano	17,500.00	
Other	<u>2,662.62</u>	20,162.62
Community Center Construction		483,905.00
Classrooms Construction		14,700.00
Kitchen		20,000.00
Landscaping		21,520.00
Carpeting, Blinds, Curtains		10,076.43
Mortgage Payments:		
Principal	1,078.05	
Interest	<u>10,791.69</u>	11,869.74
Funds Returned to Parish Council		26,500.00
Banquets & Booklets		19,610.87
Furniture & Tableware		27,513.72
Lighting & Sound System		11,888.18
Kitchen & Dance Floor Finishing		4,162.00
Miscellaneous Disbursements		<u>24,541.07</u>
Total Disbursements		\$696,449.63
Balance		\$ <u>21,914.39</u>

ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH  
12-61 Saddle River Road  
Fair Lawn, N. J. 07410

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1982 SLATE OF CANDIDATES  
SAMPLE BALLOT

CANDIDATES FOR PARISH COUNCIL  
Vote by checking (X) 5 persons only

Tom Ashbahian	Sarkis Kachigian
Edward Boghosian	Martin Kapoian
Arlene Dadekian	Gabriel Kaprelian
Alfred Ferraro	Edward Torosian
Florence Grunstra	_____

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CANDIDATES FOR AUDITING COMMITTEE

Vote by checking (X) 3 persons only

Berjouhi Feredjian	Steven Kachigian
Leon Hovsepian	Jacques Tossounian
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CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vote by checking (X) 3 persons only

Zaven Dadekian	Dovie Tilbian
Sarkis Gabrellian	Vahram Varjabedian
Sebouh Jessourian	_____