

Parish Council Chairman's Report

Each year this assembly marks a period of transition for the church, as parish council members who have fulfilled their terms step aside and a new set of volunteers are elected to continue their work. This year three members of the parish council Nicki, Garo, and Margaret, who have spent years on the council, are stepping down taking with them knowledge and experience that is not easily replaced. I thank them for their years of hard work.

I also wish to personally thank Der Hyre, the parish council members, and our many parishioners for their hard work during the year and their assistance to me in my first year as Parish Council Chairman.

1995 was a successful year. Our annual events such as the banquet, picnic and bazaar were both socially and financially successful, generating much needed revenues. In particular the banquet last year was graced by the presence of his eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian and Senator and Mrs. Joseph Leiberman. In addition the church was involved in numerous activities which included the choir workshop and the Trumbull Interfaith Committee, and hosting the Erevan Choral Society concert.

Our weekly Armenian and Sunday schools are in operation and continue to educate the next generation of parishioners, and, this year Der Hyre has also implemented and is conducting bi-weekly Armenian language and bible study classes for adults.

Thanks to dedication and generosity of our parishioners, the church is running in the black and facilities are in reasonably good repair. The pledge drive this past year succeeded in raising almost \$25,000, exceeding our goal for the year, and, the mortgage burning drive has already raised more than \$27,000 towards the goal of \$50,000.

1996 will, in all probability, be another busy year. January has gone by very quickly, between Armenian Christmas services, which were well attended, and the visit of the Vehapar, and not much has been accomplished.

There is much work to be done in coming months. We need to complete the mortgage burning drive and prepare for the annual banquet before June. And we will shortly be forming committees for this year's bazaar.

We are very close to completing the land sale, which would help alleviate some of the financial burden on this parish. However, the profits from this deal still may not be seen until 1997, and I hope that the sale proceeds will not go into the general account but will be invested in an endowment fund and used to generate income for the church.

In addition to our commitment to burning the mortgage, we still need to continue our pledge drive to meet this year's budget, which will require extra effort on the part of all parishioners.

I thank all of you for your support. I am sure that if we all put forth our best effort in 1996 we will be able to accomplish all of our goals.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary S. Donoian  
Parish Council Chairman