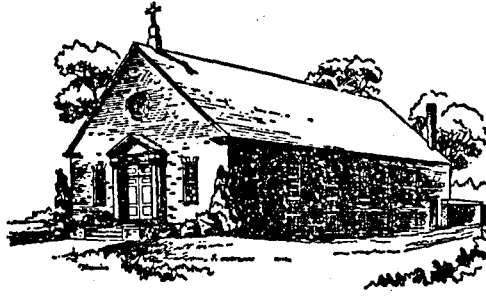


St. James
Armenian Church
834 PEPPER AVENUE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23226
PHONE 282-3818



REV. FR. ARSEN BARSAMIAN
PASTOR

RES. 705 WESTRIVER DRIVE 23229
RES. PHONE 282-4173
STUDY PHONE 282-3818

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
January 29, 1984

PASTOR AND PRESIDENT: Reverend Arsen Barsamian

MEMBERS: Dianna DerHovhannessian, Chairman;

Gerry Sharigian, Vice Chairman; Noubar Boyajian, Treasurer;

John Ashjian and Bedros Okhanes, Assistant Treasurers;

Joyce Soghoian, Secretary; Yeghia Bouroujian, Advisor

CHURCH AND HALL RENTALS: Peter Greene

MEETINGS: 11 regular and 1 called

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The parish council was subdivided again this year into committees in order to better handle our major responsibilities. The maintenance committee, headed by Yeghia Bouroujian, took charge of the routine care of the church and grounds. The floors of the church, social hall, and first floor educational building were professionally waxed. Lawn Doctor was contracted for a large, but not total, portion of our grounds. A hedge trimmer, a weed eater, and an edger were purchased in order to have them readily available when necessary. The parking lot was sealed with an asphalt sealer to protect and condition the lot. Portions of cracked cement and asphalt were repaired. The church rental fees have been revised to a more realistic level. The membership committee, represented by John Ashjian, had several meetings in an attempt to understand the problem. They investigated and discussed various methods that could be used to contact prospective members but have not yet arrived at a

mutually agreeable solution. The choir committee, headed by Bedros Okhanes, again met difficulty in its goal to find a choir director and active choir members who are willing to give time for practice and for Sunday services. The youth committee, headed by Joyce Soghoian, was designed to be a link between the parish council and the youth, which encompasses Sunday School, Armenian School, ACYOA, dance group, and baseball team.

CLERGY:

For our clergy exchange service on June 26, 1983, Der Arsen went to St. Mary's Armenian Church in Washington, DC, and Reverend Vertanes Kalayjian came to St. James to celebrate the Divine Liturgy. Also on September 11, 1983, a relic of the original cross was donated to the Cathedral by Virginia Dervishian Smith. Since she requested that Der Arsen be present, he went to New York for the ceremonies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A double-paneled membership board was placed in the social hall. The three telephones which were on the premises were purchased and an additional phone was purchased for the secretary's office. The ice maker, which has not been used for many years, was sold.

ACTIVITIES:

Dinners sponsored by the parish council in 1983 included Easter chaired by Nebe Boyajian, Martyr's Day chaired by Yeghia Bouroujian, Father's Day Picnic chaired by Bedros Okhanes, and St. James' Name Day chaired by John Ashjian. Delegate Tigran Amirkhanian attended the Diocesan Assembly in Palos Heights, Illinois. The Boys' Club International Festival was headed this year by Gerry Sharigian and was very successful. The annual St. James Food Festival was very ably co-chaired by John and Sam Baronian; it was held one month earlier this year and was exception-

ally well received by the community. The Women's Guild, headed by Shnorig Soghoian, spent many tiring hours preparing much of the food for the Food Festival and Easter dinner. The oriental rug sale, arranged through the Diocese and headed by Dr. Michael Vranian, was tremendously successful and many expressed the hope that we would have it again next year. The parish council arranged and coordinated a bus trip from Richmond to Washington, DC, for members of our community to see the Antranig Dance Group from New York. The 25th Anniversary Booklet was printed and distributed to members of our community; this major project would not have been possible without the invaluable efforts of Virginia Greene. In an effort to simplify our mailing problems, we investigated several machines beginning with the more complex TRS-80 Model III Computer with disk drive and printer which would handle not only mailing labels but also a wealth of other calculations and listings. We had a demonstration of the Canon AP 500 electronic typewriter which would not only handle labels but also produce a perfect first copy. There were many drawbacks to both of these pieces of equipment; therefore, we looked at the less complicated Scriptomatic which would handle our mailing needs by printing directly on the envelope rather than on labels. The parish council called on the building committee to reinvestigate the plans for kitchen and building expansion and they are prepared to make their report today.

Respectfully submitted,

Parish Council:

Denina Sevanian

Gerry Sharigian

Mike Boyajian

John Lohian

Bedros Khachaturian

Joyce Soghoian

Yeghnia A. Bouroudjan