

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT
1996

This past year the Parish Council sponsored two functions

Father's Day Picnic

40 th Anniversary Day - guest of honor , Archbishop Barsamian

We became members of the Va. Council of Churches and had two meetings at our church with them.

We entertained two visiting groups from Armenian (government officials and bankers)

Two main events: Food Festival - net 14,4000 --- Rug Sale - 5,000

Renovations and repairs.

new exterior front doors to church

painting of exterior entrance of church

painting of interior vestibule of church

new altar in vestibule

repairing and replacement of roof tiles of church and flat roof

repair and replace gutters and down spouts

underground drain pipes

repair masonry in front of church and Sunday School and around walkways

powerwash walkways

repaired and grounded all electrical outlets

removed two trees

steamed cleaned carpets

installed motion light at entrance to social hall

As you know Gina Dalton was our secretary until November of last year. She was a tremendous asset to us and we'll miss her very much. We are in need of someone who is able to help with the office for about 10 hours a week.

I am sorry to report to you that financially we have not had a good year. It's been a struggle to maintain the church during the past 12 months. We have had an extremely hard time trying to pay our expenses. While our income is decreasing, our expenses increase. This is not a healthy situation for our church. We must all come together as a community and overcome this problem.

In my opinion, much of this can be accomplished by increasing our membership.

Last year we had 82 members, and this year we have only 72. I am sorry to report to you that this is becoming an alarming trend. If we do not increase our membership soon, particularly with some from the younger generation, the future of St. James Church in Richmond will not be very bright.

If each of you would just encourage one person to become a new member of the Church, we could increase our buget by 50%. What a tremdous help this would be.

I thank all the members of the Parish Council for their hard work during the year, and my whole hearty appreciation and thanks to Hyr Nareg for his leadership and guidance.

John Baronian ,

Chairman