
AVEDIS ԱԻԵՏԻՍ

St. Hagop Armenian Church

The Good News | September/October/November 2012

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Jesus said, 'Let the little children
come to me, and do not stop them;
for it is to such as these that
the kingdom of heaven belongs.'
—Matt. 19:14



Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.-- 1 Timothy 4:12-5:10

How much do we at St. Hagop Armenian Church really support and encourage our youth? How much do our parents realize the life-changing impact of raising a child in the life of our Armenian Church?

In the passage above, the great Apostle Paul is a role model for building up and encouraging youth in the church. In Paul's work of building up 1st century churches, he had happened upon a young man Timothy, who despite his age, impressed Paul with his faith and talents. Paul brings Timothy along to be his assistant, and gives him great responsibilities. He encourages Timothy to be confident in his God given gifts and not to let people dismiss him just because he is young. Apparently, being a Godly example knows no age limit!

We at St. Hagop must strive to follow the Apostle Paul's great example with our youth. The first step of course must be taken by our parents to engage our children in the life of the church. Parents, please make it a top priority to bring your children into the life of the church!

Remember parents that your example speaks the loudest. If you value our Armenian heritage and faith, so will your child. If you speak positively about everyone at church, so will your child. If you come to church to pray and listen to God's word in the sermons, so will your children.

Although our Sunday school, ACYOA, altar server and summer camp programs are all growing slowly, we are still working with only a small percentage of our families. St. Hagop is an oasis of Armenian Christian heritage on the West Coast of FL; take advantage of all our church has to offer! If you don't see what you want for your child at St. Hagop, let us know, and offer us help to make it a reality. What could be more important for your children?

Secondly, our entire community must continue to create an environment which both encourages our youth and gives them responsibility for leadership in the church. If a young person shows up for anything, this is already reason for encouragement; the last thing they need is for us to discourage them!

Let's bring young people in and have patience with their learning. Hitting wrong notes, or making questionable decisions or wearing strange dress is nothing to be upset about. Help develop their leadership style, decision making ability, and judgment. Endure all things and raise them up to do better. It is what God does with all of us.

Encouraging our children is not the same as spoiling them or expecting nothing from them. Everyone is called to serve God and the church and learning how to serve is key to becoming a mature adult. Whether it's serving on the altar or choir, in the women's guild, Sunday school or parish council, young people are formed through service, and service is what the future of St. Hagop Armenian Church depends on.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT by Stepan Serpekian



As we get closer to the end of the summer season we start preparing for our active months of togetherness. We look forward to seeing the children at Sunday school.

Although some of the parishioners were out of town, our team of dedicated Parish Council members were still on guard to make sure St Hagop is well and continuing the tradition of the Armenian Church. We received several new visitors who were enjoying the Florida sunshine. Thanks to the PC members on duty in welcoming all the visitors.

As you all know, Fr. Hovnan has been working hard with the parish council, the Sunday school and the parish at-large to strengthen our community's sense of purpose and mission as Armenian Christians. The July visit of Diocesan staff Elise and Gilda, Sunday School parent-teacher meetings, and Der Hayr's Wednesday evening "Living as Armenian Christians" class all aim toward this objective. We are surely blessed to have him with us.

Our very dedicated handyman, Andrew Anusbigian, has been taken for granted. He replaced the mulch with David's and Chris' assistance, fixed the mailbox and the processional cross. He also assisted Karen Minassian in framing the Narthex Honor wall. The list does not end. We do appreciate his dedication and support to St Hagop!

We increased our General liability insurance coverage with a very minimal additional annual fee. We are in the process of obtaining Equipment (i.e. AC Compressor) insurance coverage so that we do not have to come up with large sums of money to replace them.

Choir news is not that well. Our snowbirds are out of town and the volunteer members are limited. Gratitude goes to Seda Hagopian for regularly keeping us in tune and Pierre Abadjian for sitting in when he can. We look forward to seeing the Sunday school adults join us. Anybody who is interested in joining the choir can do so by seeing me.

The Multipurpose building fund raising committee has set into motion preliminary fundraising planning. Under the leadership of Aram Megerian and the support of the Parish Council with Andrew Anusbigian as the PC representative, we are looking forward for a strong and productive campaign of raising funds to continue our path to the reality of having our own cultural building with classrooms, offices, kitchen, dance and meeting rooms. Stay tuned for more information.

We are planning on having a luncheon every month under the direction of a member of the community. Our first luncheon was under the direction of Dr. George Kamajian on the occasion of the Blessing of the Grapes. We look forward to seeing all of you at these events. Our Fifth Anniversary celebration will take place at the Largo cultural center with the internationally known singer Robert Chilingirian on Saturday October 13th. Reserve your seats and support the raffles. This is the path for the future of the multipurpose building.

Thanking you all for believing in us. We are as strong as your support.

WOMEN'S GUILD by Teresa Haidarian, Recording Secretary

The women's guild received a great response to our last article asking for help serving and cleaning up for coffee hour and cook outs from the younger women. Both Dr. Hagop Mashikian and Dr. George Kamajian answered the call and began recruitment of young ladies for the future women's guild members of the Armenian Church.



The church held a cook out on August 14th for at the Feast of Assumption/Blessing of the Grapes Picnic. Dr. Kamajian arranged for some of the young ladies to help with the set up, serve the food and assist in the cleanup. That help gave the older women a chance to rest after preparing the desserts and enjoy the meal that was deliciously prepared by Chef David. Dr. Hagop Mashikian is working behind the scenes to recruit the youthful women to join the women's guild become active members. A standing ovation from the Women's Guild to Drs. George and Hagop!

Guild meetings were suspended over the summer, but we will begin again this Fall. Please bring ideas on where you would like to hold the next luncheon. If you normally don't attend meetings but would like to attend the luncheon and have a suggestion on a favorite restaurant, please contact Rudi or Karen and they will bring up your choice at the next meeting.

For those who could not make it to the Blessing of the Grapes Picnic, you missed great food and a great time. Der Abraham and Yn. Karine Malkhasyan were present to say their goodbyes as they were leaving for his next ministry assignment in New York. The women's guild presented Yn. Karine with flowers and a \$50 gift card for a parting gift. We were thankful for their brief presence in our community and wish them well in their future assignments!



Our Youth Programs At St. Hagop Have Grown!!!

Give your children the opportunity to make Armenian friends and grow as Armenian Christians!

REGISTRATION & FIRST DAY OF CLASS SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9



Age Level: 5-8 yrs. old

Meeting Time: 11AM-11:30AM, Enter Worship After Class

Curriculum: New From Diocese: "Walking With God"

Teacher/Coordinator: Ms. Jamie Anusbigian



Age Level: 9-13 yrs. old

Meeting Time: 11:45 AM- 12:15PM, Enter Worship Before Class

Curriculum: New From Diocese: "A People And A Way The Armenian Church", Jr. Choir & Altar Service

Teacher/Coordinator: Mr. Stephen Stapanian

New ACYOA Jrs. Program With Yn. Anna For High Schoolers



Age Level: 14-18 yrs. old

Meeting Times: After Church, TBA

Curriculum: Monthly Retreats/Meetings, Service Projects, Jr. Choir, Altar Service

Teacher/Coordinator: Yn. Anna Demerjian, Fr. Hovnan

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION BY HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II
ST. HAGOP ARMENIAN CHURCH PRESENTS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2012

ROBERT CHILINGIRIAN

PERFORMING LIVE AT THE LARGO CULTURAL CENTER



DINNER AND DANCE

DINNER 7:00PM - 8:30PM

DANCE 8:30PM - 12:30AM

TICKETS

ADULTS
\$50.00

STUDENTS
\$35.00

CHILDREN (6-18)
\$25.00
CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE

LARGO CULTURAL CENTER, 105 CENTRAL PARK DRIVE, LARGO FL 33779-0296
RAFFLE TICKETS, DOOR PRIZES, SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, BOOKLET CONTRIBUTIONS

FOR INFORMATION AND TICKETS SALES CALL STEPAN H SERPEKIAN (813) 817-3757
TICKET SALES AFTER 10/7/2012 WILL BE AT DOOR ONLY FOR \$75.00 EACH (NO DISCOUNTS)

Diocesan Staff Presentation at St. Hagop



On Saturday, July 21, Armenian Studies coordinator Gilda Kupelian and Christian Education coordinator Elise Antreassian of the Diocese led a program titled “Raising Children of Faith in the Armenian Tradition – What Every Parent Should Know.”

Over 30 parishioners attended, gathering in the sanctuary for a talk on spiritual formation and a PowerPoint survey of important Armenian historical, literary, and cultural figures. A fellowship hour followed, during which the community considered a parish retreat for adults in the fall or spring and a renewed dedication to Armenian Christian education at St. Hagop.

This meeting was the third follow-up event for St. Hagop Church parents and children designed to continue to improve, expand and commit to our Sunday School and various youth programs.



Published: June 29, 2012

Herald All-Area | Players of the year for tennis, track, weightlifting

GIRLS TENNIS

Marie Babayan, junior, Braden River

By the numbers: Babayan ran through the competition with an undefeated regular season that included a district championship. She beat rival Cari Berry of Lakewood Ranch in straight sets for the district crown.

That enabled Babayan, whose older brother, Shagen, was a former No. 1 player for the Pirates' boys team, to book her second state tournament appearance under head coach Abby Toole.

Babayan was seeded No. 2 in the individual singles portion of the Class 3A state tourney and advanced to the semifinals before being falling in three sets.

In the latest United State Tennis Association combined rankings for girls 18-and-younger, Babayan is ranked No. 26, the highest among local high school players.

Fast facts: Babayan will look to return to the state tournament next year as a senior and seek a college scholarship



Times' all-North Suncoast boys and girls track teams



Wed. May 30, 2012 | **Derek J. LaRiviere**

Boys Athlete of the year: Argishti Gazari, Sr., Anclote

Why we picked him: One season after becoming the first Shark to qualify for state, Gazari finished his career with an impressive performance while establishing himself as the top distance runner on the North Suncoast. With a gold medal at the Class 2A state meet in the 3,200 meters and a bronze for third in the 1,600, he went back to his Holiday school having set a bar for success for the entire program.

Most impressive accomplishment: Last season, Gazari qualified for state in the 3,200 and didn't disappoint, placing seventh in nine minutes, 57 seconds. The stellar run did two things: It proved he belonged and motivated him for his senior season. He took that motivation and bested his 3,200 time by 20 seconds (9:37.84) for first place. His personal-best time for the event (9:21.68) came at the Pepsi Florida Relays in Gainesville on April 6.

Future plans: His distance exploits were enough to catch the attention of the track staff at USF. The program signed him to a scholarship to run both track and cross country. USF cross country coach and track assistant Dena Reif pegged Gazari as the Bulls' top distance threat for next season before he even ran at state.

Did you know? Gazari is a native of Armenia and didn't move to the United States until three years ago when he was 16. A member of the Times' all-North Suncoast cross country first team this past season, Gazari was the top finisher in Class 2A among all local runners and the only one to cross under 17 minutes (16:58). Gazari placed 19th to lead the Sharks.

American Girl, Armenian World

By: Alexis Shahnasarian



To be completely honest, I applied to serve in the Armenian Volunteer Corps on a whim. I am not sure why, but for some reason I felt this strong calling that I had to go. I spent six weeks living and working in Gyumri, Armenia (the second largest city) with some of the kindest people I have ever met - my host family.

Undoubtedly, my favorite part of Armenia was the people. Although I technically “taught” English classes at the American Corner Gyumri and Kasa, my students taught me so much more than they will ever realize. I will never forget my first class (I was 21-years-old, never taught a class in my life, didn’t speak a word of Armenian, and was in a room, with half of the students older than me).

“If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be and why?” I remember asking. I’d like to go out on a limb and venture to say that most Americans, if asked this question, could immediately think of at least one, if not more, changes.

My students pondered the question, and then, one-by-one, answered: “Nothing.” Every student’s explanation was justified with a variation of the same answer— *Why would I want to change my life? I have what is most important, my family.* Personally, declining the opportunity for change didn’t even cross my mind. I listened to the soliloquy of responses, growing more humbled after hearing each student’s response.

I always laugh when I think back to before I left for Armenia. So many family members and friends didn’t understand why I would want to go to a “third world country with so many problems.” After returning, I think the United States has a lot we could learn from Armenia.

To read about my time in Armenia, see pictures of our service projects and travels around Armenia and Artsakh, and watch videos of my adorable host sisters, the volunteers, and the church service at Echmiadzin, visit my blog at americangirlarmenianworld.tumblr.com. Yerezgin Anna told me last week at church that I could now change my blog title from “American Girl, Armenian World,” to “Armenian Girl, American World.” I now have a newfound appreciation, and feel so blessed, proud, and honored to be able to call myself Armenian.

My six weeks in Armenia undoubtedly changed my life. I found a part of myself I never realized was missing. I cannot express my appreciation to Der Hovnan and Yerezgin Anna for telling me about this opportunity and for their continued support throughout every step of my journey. I would highly recommend to anyone, at any age or stage of life, to go to Armenia, and not visit, but live there, and work with the Armenian Volunteer Corps, and travel with Birthright Armenia. They both are truly phenomenal organizations. The timing will never be right. Go anyway. I promise you will not regret it.

MY EXPERIENCE AT ST.NERSESS by Moses Mangasar



Every year many Armenians participate in St. Nersess Summer Conferences. They join to learn about their heritage and have fun. This year I was fortunate enough to be one of them.

There were many benefits to being at St.Nersess as well. I got to learn Armenian dances and culture, and go places I hadn't been before. I also made new and unique friends.

I feel as though it made me a better Christian because I learned many things about how other things can prevent you from being Christian, and

how to be a better Christian by learning from the messages given to me in Bible study by Father Hovnan.

I got to experience an environment where everyone is proud to be Armenian. I also enjoyed singing in Armenian at the Armenian retirement home where I met interesting people. I was thrilled to see the smiles on their faces when we sang.

The best thing I did at St.Nersess was make new friends and extend my family while learning our history and religion.

The last thing I want to say is that this would not have been possible without the support of Eileen, Donna and Eric Barsamian through the Vahan Barsamian Schlorship Fund. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! I hope this suffices in showing my appreciation of your kind gesture.





GODSPEED, MALKHASYAN FAMILY!

It seems like just yesterday, that Fr. Abraham Malkhasyan was assigned to Fr. Hovnan and St. Hagop Church as a pastoral intern, and to St. Haroutiun Church in Orlando as visiting pastor.

Joined by his beautiful wife Yn. Karine and daughter Evelina, Fr. Abraham's good will and infectious energy made his stay a pleasure for all of us. Their stay was also a chance for Der Hovnan, Yn. Anna and our entire community to take on an important ministry—to help support and nurture the future ministry of a priest and family who joins our Diocese from Armenia.

Our goodbye to the Malkhasyan family at the Feast of Assumption/Blessing of the Grapes Picnic was a wonderful and

fitting way to send them off with our best thoughts and prayers.

We will of course stay in touch and expect to hear much good news from the Malkhasyan's—so we do not say goodbye—but farewell till we meet again!

Օրհնեալք եղերուք ի շնորհաց Սուրբ Հոգւոյն:
Երթալք իսաղաղութեամբ եւ Տէր եղիցի ընդ ձեզ ընդ ամենեսեանդ:

Be blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit.
Depart in peace and may the Lord Jesus be with you always. Amen.

SURPRISE CLERGY GUEST FOR EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

Every autumn, the Armenian Church celebrates the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- one of the five major feasts of the Church, and the most important of the four feasts of the Holy Cross.

On Sunday September 16th, we will have a special surprise guest clergy joining Der Hovnan at Badarak and in our procession and adoration of the cross with basil.

Join us and our special guest for fellowship after church, and recall Christ's sweet victory of eternal life as you take home your fragrant basil.



Mkhitar Gosh's Fables

Mkhitar Gosh, twice honored with the title “Doctor of the Armenian Church” was a major figure in Armenian life of the late 12th century. At the time of his death in 1213, he had authored more than a dozen works, including the codification of Armenian law (the Armenian Law Book), the *Fables*, a number of prayers, sermons and theological works. His *Fables* describe the world of his day using plants, planets, animals, fish or insects. With endless variation the *Fables* stress God’s providence and order in creation, and that Armenian Christians will fare well if they govern themselves by God’s order. In Gosh’s own concluding words for his *Fables*, “If the fables are agreeable to some, thank the Lord. Otherwise, out of love for Him forgive us.”

8. When in springtime the vine, bereft of children, wept, all the plants came to console it including the blackberry. These were their words of consolation: “Weep not,” they said, “once again you shall have children.” [The vine] replied: “I shall bear and again they shall destroy. What consolation is that? Rather my comfort would be if my children remained with me, were fruitful and the cause of human happiness. I would be comforted by this” [g10]. Now the blackberry spoke up: “I came to console you, so that you would wipe your eyes on me.” And [the vine] replied: “I thank the gardener who snatches you from my root.”

[The fable] clearly shows that temporarily one may be comforted by survivors, for humankind is mortal. However, the supreme consolation is that surviving heirs please the lord. Foolish words, such as those of the blackberry, aggravate more than comfort the mourner, who would have been thankful to have never seen the senseless consoler.

19. Agriculturalists were watering cotton plants near a poplar tree and were telling each other to be careful not to step on the “cotton tree.” Hearing this, the poplar grew angry [since they] called **սնկ** the cotton a “tree”. The Poplar said: “Why do you call it—like me—a tree, while I am so dense, so tall, and occupy much ground?” Publicly, unafraid, the cotton plant replied: “You are tall and dense, but useless—praised neither for building, fruit, nor combustion. But you do have a heavy shade for which you are blamed particularly, rather than praised. Now I, although poor and weak, have many uses: not only to the wealthy, but to the poor, in [my] cultivation, picking, and working. I become clothing, like fleece from sheep, linen from flax, and silk from worms. You have nothing of the sort, only cones.” So rebuked, the poplar was quiet.

The words of this fable silence the vain human boasts which some have in [their] appearance and stature, [the boasters themselves] being frequently of no use for everyday things as well as for the spiritual. They despise the sight of others, weak and of short stature, [but] who are useful in many human things and bring riches. [Yet] such [useful ones] are praised by the facts [though] chided for vain pursuits.

22. An intelligent person asked the trees: “Why is it that the higher you climb, the deeper you sink your roots?” They replied: “Being as thoughtful as you are, how is it that you do not know that we would be unable to bear up so many branches and to resist the tyranny of the wind if we did not strike our roots deep and winding?” You see our brothers, the sand-box tree and the pine. They are lacking many branches and are unable to resist the wind, not having deep roots.”

This fable counsels those who want to learn about the spiritual and physical stability of a thing, that it is worthwhile starting off with a firm base so that they not fall to the tests of tyrants—be they daevic or human—and so that they be very productive. But if they are started [growing] on shallow [land] and from the top, they will be easily broken, as the fable instructs the lord.

Վազը եւ Մորենին

Գարնան, երբ վազը որթակոտոր եղեր էր, բոլոր տունկերը զինք մխիթարելու եկան. անոնց հետ նաեւ մորենին եկաւ:

- Մի՛ լար,- կ'ըսեն,- դարձեալ զաւակներ կը ծնիս:

- Կը ծնիմ, եւ դարձեալ կը կոտրեն. ինչ մխիթարութիւն է ատիկա. մխիթարանքը այն է, որ կենդանի որդիներս պտուղ կու տան եւ մարդոց ուրախութեան պատճառ կը դառնան:

Այսպէս վազը ինքզինք կը մխիթարէր: Իսկ մորենին կ'ըսէր.

- Քեզ մխիթարելու եկայ, որ ինձմով աչքերդ սրբես:

- Շնորհակալ եմ այգեգործին, որ քեզ արմատներէս կը պոկէ,- կը պատասխանէ վազը:

Առակս կը յայտնէ, որ միաժամանակ պէտք է կենդանի մնացածներով մխիթարուիլ, որ մահկանացու է մարդկային ցեղը, եւ իսկական մխիթարութիւնը այն է, որ կենդանի մնացած ժառանգները Տիրոջ հաճելի ըլլան: Բայց անմիտներուն խօսքը, ինչպէս մորենիինը աւելի զայրացնող է, քան՝ մխիթարութիւն սզաւորին, որ շնորհակալ կ'ըլլայ, եթէ ընդհանրապէս չտեսնէ անմիտ մխիթարողին:

Բամպակենին եւ Սօսին

Սօսի ծառին մօտ երկրագործները բամպակի արտը կը ջրէին: Անոնք զիրար կը զգուշացնէին բամպակենի ծառերը կոխկոտելէ: Սօսին բարկացաւ, որ ծառ կը կոչեն բամպակենին եւ ըսաւ.

- Ինչպէ՛ս կրնայ ատիկա ծառ կոչուիլ եւ համանուն ըլլալ հետս, ես որ հաստ եմ այնքան ու բարձր եւ շատ տեղ կը գրաւեմ:

Եւ բամպակենին անվախ՝ բարձր ու համարձակ պատասխանեց.

- Դուն բարձր ես, արդարեւ, ու հաստ, սակայն անօգուտ, ո՛չ շինութեան համար պիտանի ես, ոչ պտղաբերութեամբ՝ գովելի, այրելու համար ալ անպէտք ես: Միայն թանձր ստուեր ունիս, որուն համար աւելի շատ կը պարսաւեն քեզ, քան կը գովեն: Իսկ ես թէւ փոքր եմ ու տկար, բայց բազմաշահ եմ ե՛ւ օգտակար բոլոր մարդոց համար ե՛ւ պահպանելու, ե՛ւ քաղելու, եւ գործելու ժամանակ, յետոյ ալ հագուստ կը դառնամ, ինչպէս ոչխարներու բուրդը, կտաւատի փուշը եւ շերամի մետաքսը: Մինչդէռ դուն ասոնցմէ ոչ մէկը ունիս, բացի խոզակէն:

Այս յանդիմանութենէն յետոյ սօսին լռեց:

Մտտի եւ պարծենկոտ մարդոց կը լռեցնէ այս առակը, անոնց, որոնք տեսք եւ հասակ ունին, եւ անօգուտ կէանքով կ'այրին, նաեւ միւսներուն, որոնք կ'արհամարհեն տկարները եւ հասակով կարճերը, որոնք սակայն շատ բաներու համար պիտանի են եւ օգտակար:

Ծառերն ու Իմաստունը

Իմաստունը հարցում տուաւ ծառերուն.

- Ի՞նչն է պատճառը, որ դուք որքան բարձրանաք, այնքան խորարմատ կը ձգէք:

Ծառերը պատասխանեցին.

- Ինչպէ՛ս չես գիտեր, իմաստո՛ւն, չէ՞ որ մենք առատ ճիւղաւորուելով, չենք կրնար դիմագրաւել սաստիկ քամին եթէ մեր արմատները խորութեամբ չտարածենք հողին մէջ: Կը տեսնես մեր եղբայրները՝ հաճարենին ու սօսին, որոնք թէւ սաղարթախիտ չեն, բայց խորունկ արմատներ չունենալուն պատճառով չեն կրնար դիմագրաւել քամին:

Ով որ կ'ուզէ թափանցել մարմնին եւ հոգիին վերաբերող հարցերուն էութեան մէջ, պէտք է ամուր հիմերէն սկսի, որպէսզի փորձութիւններու առջեւ չ'իյնայ եւ օգտակար գործ կատարէ:

July 11, 2012

Fr. Hovnan Demerjian
St. Hagop Armenian Church
7020 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, FL 33782

Dear Der Hovnan and St. Hagop Armenian Church
Community,

I am excited to send you this letter and inform how your generous donation made in January 2012, together with other donations, assisted the Markosyan family from Irind village to renovate their home. Thanks again for your willingness to support Armenian families to lift themselves out of poverty. The Markosyan family info with photos is provided below. They are much happier now living in better conditions and are sending their thanks to you!



A few updates about our program: **since 2008 we have assisted 199 families and 17 more families are in the process of improving their housing need** by building or renovating their homes. This year **we have 7 volunteer teams from USA and one from Canada visiting for two weeks each**. These teams will work side by side with beneficiary families and local volunteers.

Yet there are over 26,000 families in urgent housing need in Armenia. I hope you will stay connected with our program. If you have questions about our program please email Gohar Palyan, our resource development manager at gpalyan@fullercenterarmenia.org. Thanks again and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Ashot Yeghiazaryan, President Fuller Center for Housing Armenia

The Markosyan Family Story

The Markosyan family (Father-Hayk, Mother-Meri, Son- Artak, Daughter-Hranush and Grandmother-Hranush) live in Aragatsotn region. For 18 years, the family lived with Hayk's brother's family, altogether there were 13 people in the house. The family house was built in 1965 and had become old, leaky and unlivable. The family's main income comes from beekeeping, breeding and agriculture. This year the family was included in Fuller Center for Housing Armenia and live in a totally renovated home!



THANK YOU! ՇՆՈՐՀԱԿԱԼՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

Baghramyan 3rd Lane, House 10A, Yerevan 0033, Armenia, Tel: (374) 10 271499

fcarmenia@fullercenterarmenia.org www.fullercenterarmenia.org

HOW DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE YOUR AVEDIS?

With escalating printing and postage costs, we have streamlined our mailing procedures starting with this issue of *AVEDIS*.

Starting with this issue, all those who have an email address on file with St.Hagop were sent an electronic copy of our newsletter by default. If you have an email address on file but wish to continue to receive a paper version of the Avedis, we must receive your written request via email (see below).

Those without an email address on file will continue to receive a print version of the Avedis. We urge all those receiving a paper copy of the Avedis make a donation of \$20 a year to cover the cost of their subscription (if not already dues paid member and regular supporter of our church).

We love communicating the “Good News” to our entire St. Hagop Armenian Church family. Thanks for helping us be good stewards of our resources, and for your ongoing support!

TO DO

- 1) If you have an email address on file with St. Hagop, but prefer to receive your Avedis via postal mail, email info@sthagoparmenianchurch.org to request a paper subscription. We urge you to make a donation of \$20 a year to cover the cost of the subscription.
- 2) If you don't have an email address on file with St. Hagop, it is not necessary to do anything. We simply urge you to consider supporting your church by becoming a member of St. Hagop, or at a minimum, making a donation of \$20 a year to cover our costs.

Reminder-Stay Current On Your Dues

For your convenience, we have provided a list of those who have paid dues for 2012, current as of August 25, 2012. If your name is not on this list, please send in a check to the church office with “membership dues” in the memo at your earliest convenience. Membership dues for the year 2012 remain \$125 for general membership and \$80 for full-time students.

St. Hagop Armenian Church 2012 Dues Paid Members as of August 25, 2012:

George	Agnacian		Darwin	Jamgochian
Andrew	Anusbigian		David	Kazarian
Drew	Anusbigian		Nancy	Kazarian
Ryan	Anusbigian		Rudi	Kimatian
Jamie	Anusbigian		Bob	Koolakian
Jean-Jacques	Demerjian		Ida	Merakyan
Derek	Kamajian		John	Messerlian
Anahid	Dixon		Krikor	Mouradian
Leilani	Doty		Alex	Oganesova
Gregory	Hagopian		Bernard	Przegendza
Gina	Hagopian		Norair	Shaldjian
Teresa	Haidarian		Maro	Shaldjian
Hratch	Kaprielian		Arda	Unjian
Harry	Keshishian		Charlie	Walker
Lori	Keshishian			

Thank you for becoming a voting member of the St. Hagop Community!

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Holiday, FL 34691

The Avedis is grateful to accept business ads which help us pay for our newsletter and help you reach your customers. Please notify Carla Megerian at cmegerian@gmail.com if you are interested. Make checks payable to St. Hagop Armenian Church.

Rates are per issue: \$50 for a business card, \$150 for a half page or \$300 for a full page.

WITH THANKS

Philip Manougian
4633 West Leona Street
Tampa, Florida, 33629

July 29th, 2012

St. Hagop Armenian Church
7010 90th Avenue
Pinellas Park, Florida 33782

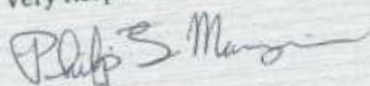
St Hagop Armenian Church Community,

In early May of this year I contacted Der Hovnan and Yn. Anna Demerjian in hopes of finding a temporary summer residence in Tampa while I would be working at my summer internship. As you may have seen and heard, it was a very late-notice proposition, making it difficult to find a living situation. Even through other mediums such as Craigslist and the Classified ads, reasonable and safe housing was hard to find.

Der Hovnan and Yn. Anna were gracious enough to house me for the first few weeks of my stay this summer as I continued searching for a more permanent housing option. Without them, my summer spent in Tampa would have proved exponentially more difficult. I am thrilled to say that my time spent at the Demerjian's residence looking for another housing option paid off. Many people in the parish answered my calls and in the end, the Megerian family was able to take me in. Aram, Carla, Ariana and Lily were kind enough to invite me in as one of their family for the next two and a half months. I am blessed to have been given such an opportunity and will forever be thankful for their generosity.

What I have learned from this summer is that the Armenian community will always be my home. I am proud to call myself an Armenian and be a part of the many parishes around the world. I would not be where I am this summer or even my life if it were not the Church and its loving community. Along with this letter is a check for a \$100 donation to the church; it is the first money I have received from my internship that you all helped make possible. Also included with the letter, is my continued offering of community service to the Armenian Church. Thank you all so much.

Very Respectfully,



Philip J. Manougian

Office Hours: 9:30am-5:30pm

Worship Hours: Sunday 10:30am

Contact Information

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Pinellas Park, FL 33782
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Alexis Shahnasarian, Moses Mangasar

Avedis Newsletter is a publication of St. Hagop Church in Pinellas Park, Florida.

Submissions are welcomed and should be sent to the church office. All text should be electronic format, preferably Word. Editorial board reserves the right to modify or reject any submissions. All material must be received no later than the published deadlines below:

Issue	Submission
December/January/February	November 10th
March/April/May	February 10th

With our new digital format, it still costs over \$500 to print and send each issue of Avedis. We would like to communicate as often as possible with our parishioners. Will you help defray some of the costs? Please send your check memo: Avedis Newsletter 1/2 issue (\$250); 1/4 issue (\$125) or other (\$) amount.

The *Avedis* is grateful to accept business ads which help us pay for our newsletter and help you reach your customers. Please notify Carla Megerian at cmegerian@gmail.com if you are interested. Make checks payable to St. Hagop Armenian Church.

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Rudi Kimatian
Engel1035@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****Divine Liturgy & fellowship take place every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 unless otherwise noted below****

Sun Sept 2	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun Sept 9	Divine Liturgy 1 st Day of Sunday School-SS Coffee Hour	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun Sept 16	Divine Liturgy-Exaltation of the Cross Surprise Clergy Guest, Special Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
Sun Sept 23	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun Sept 30	Divine Liturgy- Holy Cross of Varak	10:30 AM
Sun Oct 7	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sat Oct 13	5 th Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Hagop Dinner & Dance w/Robert Chilingirian at the Largo Cultural Center	7:00PM- 12:30AM
Sun Oct 14	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun Oct 21	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun Oct 28	Divine Liturgy- Discovery of the Cross	10:30 AM
Sun Nov 4	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sat Nov 10	Avedis Submission Deadline	
Sun Nov 11	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun Nov 18	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Thur Nov 22	Thanksgiving Day	
Sun Nov 25	Divine Liturgy-First Sunday of Advent	10:30 AM

St. Hagop Armenian Church

Parish of the Gulf Coast of Florida

7020 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, Florida 33782

727-545-0380 Fax 727-549-0500

The Rev. Fr. Hovnan Demerjian, Pastor

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