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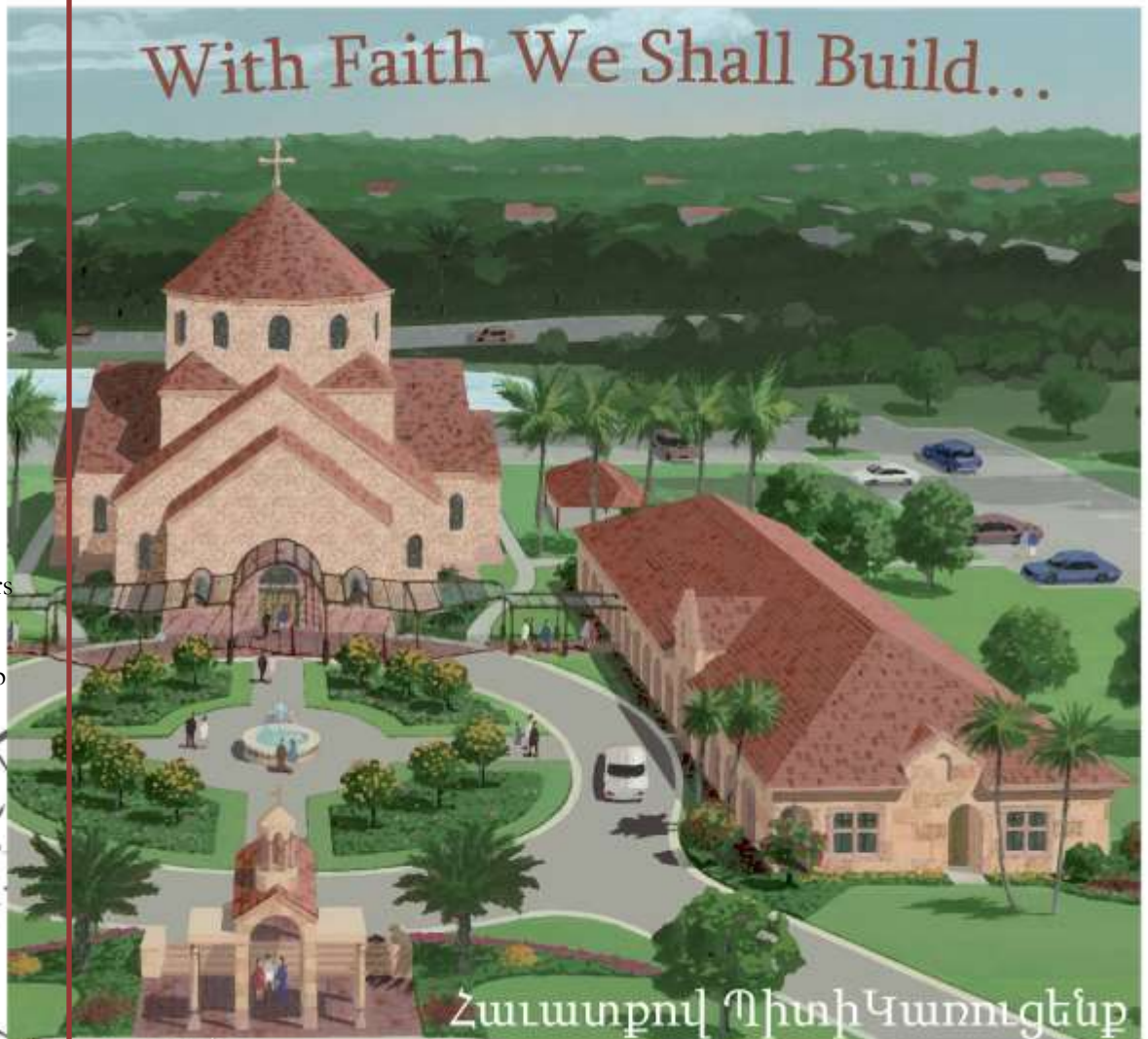
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The church is near, but the way is icy...

It is difficult to be a priest and Florida and get the message across to people of God's invitation to his heavenly kingdom. It's so beautiful here in the winter, that heaven doesn't interest anybody. And it's so hot here in the summer that hell isn't that scary. It's a joke—but there is some truth in it—especially in the first part; that people like us who are basically comfortable, feel we have no need for God or his invitations for something better. “Thank you very much, God, I'm fine—you do your thing I'll do mine.”

However, the Bible and our Armenian Church tradition is, at heart, a book of invitations from God to man—of God trying to break through to his chosen, to Abraham, to David, to King Trdat to me and to you. Unfortunately it also records the sad fact that many people throughout the ages have rejected His different invitations. “He came unto his own, and his own received him not.” We read most weeks in the final Gospel from John.

Today's parable summarizes all God's invitations in history, and man's rejections in a few sentences. A King (God) prepares a banquet and has invited many people to come. When the day comes, most of those invited find bad excuses of why they can't come, “I have to work,” “I already had an engagement, etc.”

We exactly continue God's great banquet every Sunday. This is a meal with God that, unlike pretty much any party that anyone throws, we invite everyone to our banquet, every single week, forever—until the coming of Our Lord. Who has a wedding and invites everybody? Who has a Christmas dinner and invites everybody? No one does -but by the grace of God, we do.

As we know from experience, not everyone comes to church. Some have very good reasons, most others do not. There is a wonderful Ukrainian Orthodox Proverb: "The church is near, but the way is icy, the tavern is far, but I will walk carefully." We do what we want, what we love and what we value. We make excuses for what we don't want to do, don't love and don't value as much as something else.

The biggest problem of why people don't come to church is because they don't know Who has invited them to supper. It's not me. Many people make the mistake of worrying if I am pleased by their participation in church or disappointed at the lack thereof. I am on both counts, but don't worry about me! Almighty God, who made us and invites us to follow him, who has a purpose for our life more beautiful, meaningful and true than the way we are going about it alone. He invites us daily through prayer and study, and at the culmination of each week, to encounter him through Badarak and Holy Communion; in a word to eat at the banquet of the King.

And so the invitation stands, this Lenten season. Let us renew the strength of our the commitment that we made nearly a month ago at Lent's start, to deepen our connection to God, in and out of church, in preparation for his Easter Revelation. Let us by the strength of our example—the door of our church and our hearts wide open—encourage others in this church family to heed the Lord's invitation to grow in Him.

Let us share with others the honor, which brings us here every week. How, unworthy as we are, we accept the invitation to dine with a king, whose kingdom is not of this world, whose banquet begins here in this holy place, but for those who believe, carries on forever, now and always...Amen.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT by Stepan Serpekian

What is happening with St Hagop?

Fr. Hovnan Demerjian: The time has come to wish Fr Hovnan a happy 40th Birthday. Our young spiritual leader has passed the threshold of the few over the hill club members.

Parish Council: At our annual assembly, in February 9, 2014 the four positions that were available are filled by the same candidates for the next two years. We appreciate their dedication in keeping the light of St Hagop continuing to shine on the west coast of Florida. Next year we will need three new candidates to replace Chris, David and myself, according to the bylaws we can serve for three terms of two year each and the time will come at the end of this term. At our first meeting the officers were elected to the following positions: Stepan Serpekian-Chairman, Mallory Maslar-Vice Chairman, Chris Sassouni-Treasurer, Charles Sarkisian-Asst. Treasurer, Chuck Begian-Secretary. Our delegate for the Diocesan Assembly, Dr Hagop Mashikian retired from his position and David Kazarian, the runner up, was named to become the second delegate with Chuck Sarkissian. We thank Dr. Mashikian for his continuous guidance and support.

Sunday School: The Sunday school needs the support of the parents to bring their kids for an education into the Armenian language, religion and history. Is it that difficult to invest two hours per week in your child's heritage and future?

Fund Raising Events: Thanks for the community's support in raising funds for the Syrian Armenians. Our annual Bazaar was scheduled for two days for the very first time. Thanks to Dr. Kamajian and his team of volunteers and donors for another successful fund raising event. We had a lot of fun in bringing the friends and families of St. Hagop together in celebration.

Choir: Welcome to our snowbirds that were able to join our choir and bring the hymns to life. Gratitude also goes to Louise who has been teaching our youngsters every first and third Sunday the beautiful hymns of our church.

The Future: Gratitude to those who delivered their pledged contributions. Chuck Sarkisian is leading the Church Hall Fundraising Campaign and calling on all of us to participate. I am leading the team of volunteers who are working on preparing for the next stage of the construction. Our online auction will take place again this year in April, thanks to Andrew Anusbigian for organizing the auction. Please join us for the Gala, a Church Hall fundraising event on May 9, 2014.

Finally, I would like to thank our supporters and visitors from other states. Look around you and see who is less fortunate than you are. Those who are in need are looking for someone to talk to. See if they need a ride to the church and give them that joy in this holy time of Lent.

CHURCH HALL BUILDING REPORT by Chuck Sarkisian

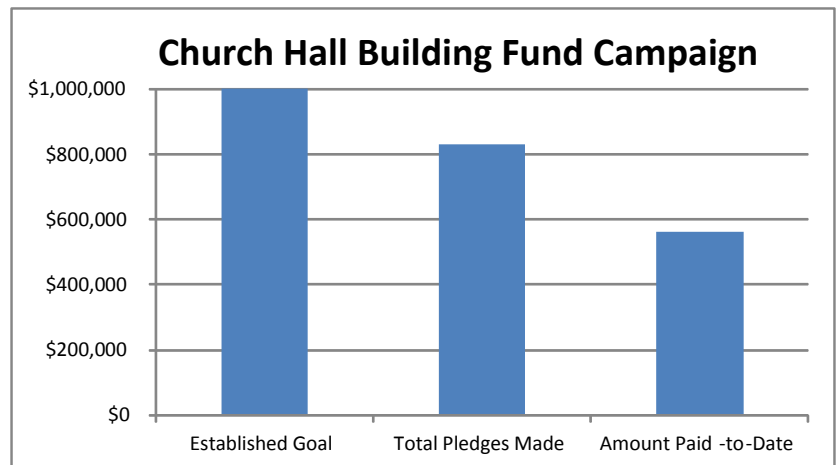
With Faith We Shall Build | Հաւատքով Պիտի Կառուցենք

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on the hill cannot be hidden...let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven (Mat. 5:14-16)."

Exactly a year ago we kicked-off our church hall building fund campaign. Who would have thought that during that year we would raise \$831,730 (83% of our \$1 million goal)?! This monumental accomplishment for a small parish like St. Hagop's bespeaks its parishioners' faith. You embraced our campaign's theme: **With Faith We Shall Build...Հաւատքով Պիտի Կառուցենք** and faith will carry us through our mission. Our faith is grounded in both our Christian beliefs and commitment to perpetuating our heritage.

Our journey to date

It was a busy 2013 campaign. Pledge cards were distributed and fund raising activities - such as the bazaar, silent auction, anniversary dance, New Year's Party and various women's guild activities - were dedicated to the church hall building fund. These activities generated a total of \$68,742. Most important was the generosity of 136 donors pledging \$762,988. Our major initiative was a mailing campaign last summer. This effort was followed-up with two rounds of outreach calls by a dozen volunteers to answer questions and encourage parishioners who had yet to pledge to participate. Also, there was an outreach effort to benefactors beyond our parish; this resulted in contributions and pledges not only from our immediate community but throughout the U.S., from the Northeast to



California and from Washington State to South Florida. Our parishioners spread the word to family and friends who responded in kind. As of the date of this report, we have collected \$562,680; this money is deposited in our building fund restricted account and represents all the payments received to date along with proceeds from fund-raising activities.

Our mission is 100% parishioner participation

As Fr. Hovnan reminds us, our goal is not just to build a church hall but, more importantly, to become an engaged and committed St. Hagop church community dedicated to serving the Lord and preserving Armenian culture today, tomorrow and for generations to come. The church hall is only a means towards this end. It is critical that parishioners understand our mission and participate in our journey by contributing proportionate to their abilities. Your financial contribution, again proportionate to your means, represents your commitment to future Armenian generations. Armenians are proud and sometimes adopt the false notion that a pledge must be "significant". The thinking is "it might be embarrassing to commit the limited amount I can afford, so I might as well skip it." Clearly, that is not what Christ and the Gospel taught us. Moreover, it is totally contrary to our mission! We envision the church hall to include a "Wall of Faith" listing the names of all donors for future generations to see and to proclaim our journey.

Again, our deepest gratitude to the 136 donors/families who have already made their commitment (see the list below identifying donors to date.) We heard some truly moving stories of faith. Like the parable of the widow giving her mite,

many donors made their contributions prayerfully. Some gave greatly and repeatedly as an expression of gratitude for our Lord's blessings.

Yet, only 56% of St. Hagop's dues paying members have participated! We pray for the remaining 44% that God will touch their hearts and brighten their circumstances so they can feel the calling to join our mission.

What lies ahead?

Our goal is to break ground Christmas day, January 6, 2015. We need \$168,270 in new pledges and \$437,320 in cash deposits to the restricted bank account to reach our \$1 million goal. Our commitment is to start construction only when all the money is in the bank.

This last stretch will be either easy or the most challenging yet, depending on you. If each of the 225 parishioners who historically have been engaged in St. Hagop and have yet to participate contributes *on average* \$749, we will reach our goal. So, if you do not see the name of a relative, parishioner, or friend on the list, please encourage them to participate. Also, a reminder, the matching contribution program is still operational for 2014 (Please see me if you have any questions on how the program works). Let us make the last 17% an easy sprint, and maybe if we achieve our goals sooner, we can start the construction earlier.

Church Hall Pledges Through Mar. 13, 2014		
Pledge Amounts	# of Donors	Total Pledged
Under \$50	13	\$221
\$50-\$99	9	\$481
\$100-\$199	30	\$3,215
\$200-\$499	18	\$4,150
\$500-\$999	22	\$11,150
\$1,000-\$1,999	19	\$20,105
\$2,000-\$3,999	10	\$26,499
\$5,000-\$6,000	4	\$20,050
\$10,000-\$16,000	4	\$53,750
\$50,000-\$75,000	4	\$221,617
\$100,000-\$199,999	2	\$200,750
\$200,000	1	\$201,000
Total Donors:	136	Grand Total: \$762,988

To facilitate our progress towards our goal we have the planned for 2014:

- Continue outreach calls to ensure everyone on our mailing list has heard our message.
- Send a special mailing expressing gratitude and update information to donors.
- Continue outreach to selected potential donors, including personal visits to encourage participation and secure some remaining naming rights (including some new naming rights just introduced) as shown in the table below:

Naming Opportunities		
Section	Amount	Description
Main Building	\$200,000	The right is already secured by the Shahnasarian Family.
Dining Room	\$150,000	The right to name the dining room
Kitchen (499 Sq. Ft + Equipment)	\$125,000	The right to name the kitchen
Stage (460 Sq. FT)	\$100,000	The right is already secured by the Megerian Family
Pastor's Office (241 Sq. Ft)	\$50,000	The right is already secured by the Mahdessian Family
Dining Room Bar	\$50,000	The right to name the Bar in the Dining Room
Technology	\$30,000	The right to name the audio/visual and technology for the Hall
Nursery	\$25,000	The right to name the baby Nursery room in the Narthex
Conference Room (184 Sq. Ft)	\$25,000	The right is already secured by Gregory & Alysia Ekizian's Family
Bridal room	\$25,000	The right to name the Bridal room in the Narthex for wedding preparation
Class Room (153 Sq. Ft)	\$25,000	The right is already secured for Seda Malek Karamian
Secretary's Office (129 Sq. Ft)	\$15,000	The right is already secured for Ida Merakyan
Walkway from church to hall	\$10,000	The right to name the walkway is already secured by the Sarafian Family
Total potential naming collection: \$830,000		
* Naming right request must be submitted in writing with donation and confirmed by parish council		

- Host a benefit and expression of gratitude gala for all the donors and prospective donors on May 9. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian will be the guest of honor. Be on the lookout for invitations.
- Begin preparations to develop building project plans including the selection of Architect, lawyer, contractor, etc., who will be actually be involved in the development, County filing and construction of the Hall when ready.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement!

Faithfully yours,

**Chuck Sarkisian,
Church Hall Building Fund Chair**

Երանի Եկեղեցի Շինողաց

Blessed are those who build up the house of the Lord!

Our deepest appreciation to all the donors who made their commitment to the Church Hall Building Fund

Adrienne A Guendjoian*Adrienne Movsesian*Agop and Victoria Mouradian*Albert Shahnasarian*Alice Chavdarian*Alice Miller & Sonia Cure*Anahid Ayrandjian & Astrid Burrows*Anahid Mardiros*Andrew Anusbigian*Anna Tossoonian*Annette Z.P. Ross* Anonymous*Ara & Diane Ekizian*Ara Dostourian*Aram & Carla Megerian*Aram Chouljian*Ardavast Unjian*Ardavast & Adrienne Ekizian*Armen & Rose Zartanian*Armenian Church of South FL*Artoosh & Susan Avanesian*Avedis & Anahit Serpekian*Bagrad & Tatyana Badalyan*Berj & Tracy Sarafian*Bourghol Bros. Inc.*Charles Vartanian*Chris & Carol Sasouni*Christopher Sarkisian*Chuck & Kathy Sarkisian*Chuck Begian*Daniel & Norma Takoushian*Darwin Jamgochian*David & Kathleen Cure*David & Nancy Kazarian*Diana Eggleston*Dr. Sam Mikaelian*Dr. Sirun & Ayda Sarafian*Drew Anusbigian*Edouard Sermanoukian*Eileen Barsamian Jennings*Florence Kazanjian*Fr. Hovnan & Yn. Anna Demerjian*Garo & Bertha Sekdorian*George & Debra Kamajian*George & Marion Rejebian*George and Joan Agnacion*George Avadikian*Gloria Alvandian*Greg & Alysia Ekizian*Greg & Stephanie Hovespian*Gregory & Gilda Mahdessian*Gregory & Jennifer Gurbikian*Gregory Amerkenian*Hagop & Tobe Mashikian*Hank Yacoub*Harout & Lizette Nalbendian*Harout & Patricia Berberian*Harry & Lori Keshishian*Harry and Patricia Alatchanian*Hrach & Thelma Saroyan* Ida Merakyan*Irene & Sergei Kardashian*Irene Hakim*Jack & Sylvia Charshoodian*Jack and Adrienne Dikranian*Jack & Betty Sahagian*Jamie Anusbigian*Jane Jacob*Jean-Jacques & Hasmig Demerjian*Jeffry Sarkisian*John & Bernadette Derderian*John & Kathleen Samuelian*John & Kelly Shamsey* John and Letty Barsoumian*John and Margaret Bedrosian*John Mashikian*John Shahinian*Karen & Vasken Minassian* Karen Anjoorian*Kenneth Folsom & Kimberly Caswell*Kevork & Evelyn Arakelian*Kevork Arakelian*Linda Maslar*Lucy Jamie* Madeline Mouradian*Mallory Maslar*Margaret Bedrosian*Margaret Penerian*Marguerite Dakhlian*Mariam Tatosian*Marian Major*Marie Sarkisian* Martha Garabedian Trust/Leo Kassabian*Martha Samuelian*Mary & Arsen Bayandrian*Mary E. Garabedian*Mary Haydostian*Michael & Catherine Boucher*Michael & Jean Shahnasarian*Michele Shahnasarian*Naomi Manoogian*Norair & Maro Shaldjian*Noubar and Ann Mahdessian*Patricia Yeghissian & Arvid Muller*Reynold & Beverly Spangler*Richard & Christina Kachadurian*Richard & Margaret Curtin*Richard & Pauline Gilgan (Mekjian)*Richard and Yapi Metjian*Richard Maslar*Richard Terzian*Robert Koolakian*Robert & Lori Dorian*Robert & Nancy Poladian*Robert Haydostian*Robert Maslar*Robert Mirak*RR Wolf & Associates*Rubina K. Shaldjian*Rudi Kimatian*Ryan Anusbigian*Sarkis & Natalia Mouradian*Seda Hakopian*Sima Palakian*Stepan & Seta Serpekian*Sylvia & Robert Raubolt*Tanya Sarafian*Teresa Haidarian*Terry & Carolyn Waidley*Theresa Anusbigian*United Armenian Charities*Vahan Tufankjian*Vahe & Noushig Tuysuzian*Vartkes & Mary Dulgerian*Vicken & Courtney Serpekian*Yervant Grigoryan

Hidden Meanings

The Armenian Church's Feasts and Fasts

Living the Gospel of Christ

Հայ էկեղեցւոյ ցամաքը՝ Ժամկէտէն խորհուրդներ

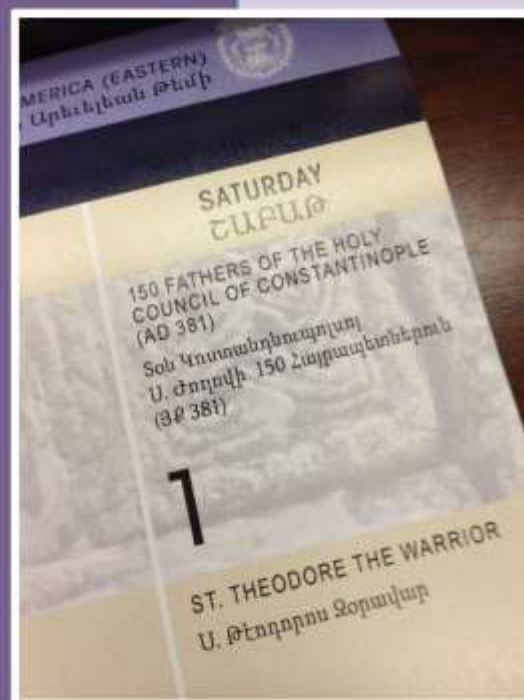
V. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan

Director, Zohrab Information Center

Professor of Liturgical Studies, St. Nersess

Armenian Seminary

Գրիգոր է- Գլխաւ Զօհրապ Տեղեկատու-ութեան Աշխատանք



**Saturday March 29th at 4PM
St. Hagop Armenian Church
7020 90th Ave N., Pinellas Park, FL**

WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT submitted by Teresa Haidarian

Our newly elected officers for 2014 are:

Chair - Seta Serpekian
2nd chair - Debbie Kamajian
Recording Secretary - Teresa Haidarian
Correspondence Secretary - Martha Samuelian
Treasurer - Vicky Mouradian
Assembly Representative - Tobe Mashikian

Thank you to Karen Minassian who served two terms as chair of the Women's Guild. Her efforts and dedication to service are greatly appreciated.

At our last meeting we discussed how to get more families involved in sponsoring a coffee hour. We tossed around several ideas and decided that we would seek out four families a month to sponsor a Sunday. Please respond positively when a member of the Women's Guild approaches you and asks if you and your family would bring food for one of the coffee hours we have after Badarak. In the past, we depended on cash donations to fund the next week's goodies. However, donations were sparse and women of the guild were the usual contributors to the coffee hour, but they want to spread the joy of giving to others in the church. A big thanks to Andy Anusbigian who generously donated the coffee we enjoy each and every Sunday for the past year. And with the number of coffee cans we have in the guild room, it looks like he may be supplying coffee for the next year! Please find some way to help out in order to make this more of a community where everyone is involved.



The last few months have been very busy for the Women's Guild. We participated in the Winter Bazaar by selling pastries. The women worked hard to prepare the pastries and work the table for two straight days to sell the goodies. Special thanks to Thelma Ross-Saroyan for taking it upon herself to organize a raffle and man the table for two days to promote and sell the tickets. Her efforts raised over \$300.00 for the Church Hall. Thanks to all who donated items to the raffle and to those who purchased the raffle tickets. Going back a few months, two of our dedicated members decorated the church Christmas tree for the season. For several years, both Seta and Vicki have donated their time and decorative talents to making the church festive for the Christmas season. Thanks to Teresa for purchasing the poinsettia plants that adorned the altar during the season.

Tobe Mashikian hosted a High Tea and Fashion Show. If anyone knows the work that is involved in creating such an event, you will know the hard work, expertise and volumes of time Tobe put into making the show a great success. The theme behind the show was titled "Downton Abbey" after the popular show on PBS. Many of the women wore outfits from the Downton Abbey era of the 20's, 30's and 40's. Check out the photo album on the church website to view an enjoyable and delightful event.

We want to reignite the passion once felt by parishioners for decorating the altar with flowers every week. In the distant past, we had a signup sheet for volunteers who offered to bring in or pay for altar flowers. We haven't brought the signup sheet back, but would like to invite individuals or families to pay for flowers for the altar. This would be an inexpensive way to participate in beautifying the altar during Badarak. You may not be financially able to host a coffee hour, but have the \$10 or \$15 in your budget once or twice a year to donate a plants or flowers. See Seta, Debbie or a Women's Guild member to do so, or deposit money into an envelope earmarked for altar flowers and place it in the collection plate. You will be recognized in the weekly bulletin.

Thank you to the women who are actively involved in preparing the younger generation to serve the church in the

women's guild. This was delightfully apparent during our church bazaar. Alysia Ekizian worked with her daughter Holly in preparing sourj at the Armenian coffee table. We are certain she can make the best sourj this side of Hayastan! Dr. George and Debbie Kamajian have their two daughters, Ani and Janae actively involved in service with every fundraising event for the Church Hall. They were greeters at the High Tea and Fashion Show, lahmajoon vendors at the Winter Bazaar and help carry out plates of food to the pavilion for coffee hour. If you are a parent with daughters, find a place for them on any given Sunday helping serve at coffee hour, or helping clean up afterwards. We can use every helping hand and you will be teaching your daughters to serve God and the church for a lifetime!

Think ahead to Palm Sunday when we will have our Bake Sale. We can use our best bakers to bring their favorite tasty Armenian treats. We will have a sign-up sheet in the narthex for you to list what you will bring when it gets closer to Palm Sunday.

Nancy Poladian performs service work the first two Sundays every month taking blood pressure and offering advice on medical services available to members after Badarak. She is a nurse, part of "Faith Community Nursing" and is qualified to help with non-invasive procedures within the scope of her nursing license. She brings her blood pressure instrument every Sunday so if you need her to take your pulse and blood pressure on request, she is happy to do so.

As you can see, we are more than just baking and preparing coffee hour. Please join us. We can use your skills, talents and time in some way to serve God and our community! Come to the next meeting and bring up your idea for how you can serve!



WINTER BAZAAR THANK YOU submitted by Dr. George Kamajian

Thank you everyone for making this an amazing Winter Bazaar. Our numbers this year exceeded last year by almost 50%. Almost 500 meals were served in a two day period. We actually ran out of food Sunday at 2pm! Most crafters were very pleased with their sales and asked to come back next year. The St Hagop Women's Guild was equally successful with their sale of baked goods. Most importantly the bounce house, pony rides and petting zoo were totally occupied by children from our church and the local community until the very end of the day. And that is what these events are all about....our future.



Events like this do not happen without a lot of hard work from dedicated people. It's easy to criticize and/or compare

us to the more established Greek communities in Tarpon, Clearwater or St Petersburg or to other festivals you know from back home up north. The reality is we are a very small community and many of us are senior citizens. We are brittle and tend to get wounded easily lifting tables or taking out the trash. But the trash had to be taken out and the tables did have to get folded and put away. All of us multi-task to the best of our abilities.

There are many "thank you's" to go around. My apologies if I missed your name. Years ago the parish council decided no activity would take place unless the church would be indemnified against any financial loss. Therefore thank you to our 4 main sponsors: David Kazarian, Chuck Sarkisian, Greg Ekizian and Aram Megerian, without whose support this Bazaar would be impossible.

First and foremost, thank you to our senior advisor Andy Anusbigian, his children Jamie, Drew and Ryan and mom, Terry for being there. For those of our St. Hagop extended family who don't know, "being there" meant physically on the church grounds Friday to Sunday from 7am-6pm and countless phone calls and e-mails for 3 months before we ever roasted a pig or lamb. The Anusbigians were the first people there on Friday and they were the last to clean up Sunday evening.

"But if the Bazaar didn't start until Saturday at 11am, why did he have to show up Friday?" you may ask. Because the tables don't appear by magic, the tents don't set themselves up, the display items from our second floor choir loft don't walk themselves down to the pavilion. And when everyone goes home at 4 pm, someone stays to clean up, take the trash out, put things away etc. That credit belongs to the Anusbigian family, all of them. Just amazing people. Period.

The food was delicious. The pilaf was amazing. We should all know that there were two main pilaf makers, Seta and Vickie. Losh Kebabs anyone? Thanks again to Lizette and the Dadekian's.

Who needs Iron Chefs? The roast pig and roast lamb were incredible. For our meals we have to thank the culinary skills of David Eggleston, Dikran Kalaydjian, Bob Poladian, Aram Megerian, Greg Ekizian, Chris Sassouni and our two newest but very talented chefs, Zohrab and Avo Kotchounian.



"Ah, but they get to eat first, don't they?" Maybe or maybe not. But remember this, guys like Aram missed his daughter's tennis match to be with us that day. David refused an engineering job assignment that weekend to cook for us.

How did we get an increase in attendance this year? Kudos goes to John Ekizian for anything to do with computers and on line advertising and Diane (1/2 the twins) for creating an advertising booklet where she raised

over \$1000

“It’s not a big deal to get an ad?” you claim. Think about being 18 years old and getting rejected over and over again just so your church can make a profit.

Thank you to Arman and Vicken for the music. Outstanding work for a full weekend of commitment...especially if you are getting married in two weeks. And for Arman to be away from his “350-Z” for all that time, wow!

Thank you Janae for being eaten by fire ants in the name of St. Hagop as she worked the petting zoo. Thank you John, Holly and Alysia for being Starbucks Haiastan without any benefits.

Thank you to Freij, Yeretskin and Roubina for creating a bit of Armenia in Pinellas Park.

Thank you to Tanya and Michael for quenching our thirst. Thank you again to Michael and Artak for collecting money and keeping everyone honest. How many 18 year older’s do you know who would give up their birthday weekend to help the church? Thank you to Movses and Matthew Mangasar for all their help.

Thank you Ani for bringing in half of Seminole High School to keep you company making lamajoun sales. Thank you again to Aram for arm-twisting his poker buddies to eat with us on Sunday. Thank you to Diane and Ara from Michigan who made a pledge to our church building fund even though they are not members of St Hagop. Thank you Alex for proving with your Taboulee, once and for all, that you are ready to be married. Thank you to our galley slaves, Eileen, Lori, Greta, Thelma, Araxi, Mirella and Karen, for keeping the food line going and Women’s Guild sales seamless. Has anyone ever seen Eileen without a hat before? And can you believe Dr. Mike didn’t wear a tie all of Sunday. Thank you to Sezar and Edmond for being our muscle. We know it’s not rewarding to take out the trash but you both did a lot more than that. Thank you Father Hovnan who will, from this day forward, forever be known as “Jonah” to the Bayou Club.

Thank you to my co-chair, Teresa, who agreed to put her name and reputation on the line for this event when there was no other takers and where many said it couldn’t or shouldn’t be done. How many phone calls and e-mails did you make to see this event to it’s success? How many cigar boxes did it take?

Thank you to Sandra Oliva, our “loaner” from David Kazarian’s office who does our church financials who had to sort out the chaos of the vault on Monday morning to reconcile all the accounting. Thanks again David for your *toursbee*.

In the end, we are one big family. I am amazed by the dedication and hard work and sacrifice of so many. I am encouraged by the work of the new generation who proved they can easily step in at any time to fill the void their parents and grandparents leave behind. In particular: Artak, Michael, Arman, Vicken, Vasken, Janae, Ani, Holly, Melanie, Sevan, Jamie, Ryan, Drew, Jack, Diane and Christine, Alex, Zoharb and Avo, Sezar and Edmond. Thank you to all those whose names I have forgotten.



Church Armenian Word of the Day

Learn one word a week for a year, you'll know 50% of words used in Badarak
(a different word printed each week in church bulletin Oct. '13-Oct. '14)

Երկիր | yerkir | earth

This word appears in many well-known places in Badarak; in the *Hayr Mer* as well as *Soorp Soorp*. A compound form of the word is repeated several times in response to the priest's blessing when we bow and say "Asdudzo Yergurbakestsook." or "Let us worship God." The word for worship in Armenian is a beautiful compound made from earth/yerkir and kiss/bakel. Thus to worship in the Armenian church is literally to kiss the ground!

ձեր | tser | your

As in many languages, Armenian has different forms for "your" singular/ familiar and "your" plural/formal. "Dzer" is the plural/formal way to say "your" in Armenian, where "Ko," as we already saw, is singular/familiar. Because Christians have the amazing privilege of addressing God with familiarity, we use "ko" when praying to God in Badarak. We hear "Dzer" less often, when we are referring to the church or other group of people, ie. "hantsans dzer" "your sins."

արքայութիւն | arkayutyun | kingdom

Arkayutyun appears in important places in the Badarak, at the beginning and end of *Hayr Mer* and the end of the Creed/*Havatamk*. Arkayutyun is the same root as Greek "arkhi" forming many extant words in English of the same meaning i.e. monarch, oligarch and archbishop. Its frequent occurrence in Badarak makes sense as we recall Jesus Christ, the king whose kingdom is not of this earth, but of heaven. Reaching the kingdom of heaven, with Christ as our guide and strength, is the ultimate goal of the Christian journey.

Երկինք | yergink | heaven

This word appears in nearly all the well-known places in Badarak; in the *Hayr Mer*, *Havadamk* as well as *Soorp Soorp*. It is most often found in its plural form Երկինքս-yerginks-heavens. It is also very often found with the preposition յ-hee added before it, which means "in", as in Երկինքս-hergins-in the heavens. It is not surprising that this word is repeated so often in Church-which in our theology-is no less than the meeting ground between heaven and earth.

թող | togh | forgive

This word appears more than 20 times in Badarak; often in the form թողութիւն-toghutyoon-forgiveness. This frequency reflects the main purpose of Badarak and the life of Christ, to be the means whereby humanity is forgiven from sin and reconciled again with God. "Togh" shares the same root with Latin based words like tolerate and extol, all stem from the proto Indo European root word for "to bear, to carry"

չար | char | evil

"Char" appears over a dozen times in Badarak, notably it is the last word of the *Hayr Mer*/Our Father (in the form "char-e" "from evil"). The root composition of this word is very interesting. It is made up of the negative prefix "չ" "ch", which means "not" and the word "ար" "ar" which means "to make, create." Thus, in Armenian, evil is to "not create," literally to cause de-struction, unmaking what God the creator has made for, His and our eternal glory.

հաց | hats | bread

In Armenian the word for bread, *hats*, is also the word for all food. When we call Jesus the "bread of life," when we pray "Give us this day our daily bread," when we take the bread of communion, we are not looking for a meal. We are asking the creator of all life to give us spiritual sustenance; energy, hope & strength to continue our journey.

փրկիչ | prgich | savior

"Savior" occurs so many times in Badarak because Jesus' greatest mission for the world and for us has been to save mankind from our sin and reconcile us again to God. He accomplished this for all mankind through his death and resurrection, his salvation continues for each of us who believe in his name, encounter him in church and seek to follow him throughout our lives.

մեր,մեկ,մեզ | mer,mek,mez | our,we,us

"Mer" and all its forms appear dozens of times in Badarak, notably in the title of *Hayr Mer*/Our Father. This is not surprising, since Christianity at its heart is lived together, in communion. Individual faith is important, but we must never lose a sense of the church community, called out by God and journeying together through this world and unto the next. For this reason, at the beginning of Badarak, we remember Jesus' words that, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."-Mat 18:20.

փառք | park | glory

Not surprisingly, this word, which expresses our worship, devotion and thanks for the greatness of God, occurs frequently in Badarak. We hear it all the time in the priest's shortest prayer and blessing "Park Hor yev Vordvo yev Hogvooyin Srbo," "Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" and in the even shorter prayer of pious Armenians everywhere "Park Asdoodzo," or Glory to God!

numbers
nombres

թիւեր 1-20

Photography & poster design by Arak Artinian
Բանալի Արակ Արտինյանի անձնագրերով
Conception et design par Arak Artinian

<p>1 մէկ խառոյի ողկոյ one bunch of grapes une grappe de raisins</p> 	<p>2 երկու կովեր two cows deux vaches</p> 	<p>3 երեք փոփկներ three kittens trois chatons</p> 	<p>4 չորս կոշիկներ four shoes quatre souliers</p> 
<p>5 հինգ բազկ five figs cinq figes</p> 	<p>6 վեց կեռասներ six cherries six cerises</p> 	<p>7 եօթը զանգակներ seven bells sept cloches</p> 	<p>8 ութը ուլկներ eight kids huit chevrans</p> 
<p>9 ինը եփեղացորենի խափեր nine ears of corn neuf épis d'inde</p> 	<p>10 տասը կուռեր ten pomegranates dix grenades</p> 	<p>11 տասնմէկ արմատիկներ eleven figurines onze figurines</p> 	<p>12 տասներկու մուկեր twelve mice douze souris</p> 
<p>13 տասներեք սղորներ thirteen roosters treize coqs</p> 	<p>14 տասնչորս մկրատներ fourteen pairs of scissors quatorze paires de ciseaux</p> 	<p>15 տասնհինգ գիրքեր fifteen books quinze livres</p> 	<p>16 տասնվեց բազկներ sixteen ducklings seize canetons</p> 
<p>17 տասնեօթը բանիկ seventeen shovels dix-sept pelles</p> 	<p>18 տասնութ կրեաներ eighteen turtles dix-huit tortues</p> 	<p>19 տասնինը դեղներ nineteen peaches dix-neuf pêches</p> 	<p>20 բասն դուրմներ twenty zaccchini vingt courgettes</p> 

<p>քսան twenty - vingt</p> <p>քառասուն forty - quarante</p> <p>վաթսան sixty - soixante</p> <p>ութսան eighty - quatre-vingt</p>	<p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49</p> <p>60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69</p> <p>80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89</p>	<p>երեսուն thirty - trente</p> <p>հիսուն fifty - cinquante</p> <p>կարասնասուն seventy - soixante-dix</p> <p>իննիսուն ninety - quatre-vingt-dix</p>	<p>30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39</p> <p>50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59</p> <p>70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79</p> <p>90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99</p>
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100 հարիւր . one hundred . cent

St. Hagop Armenian Church
Cordially invites you to attend

A Gala Evening

To Close our Church Hall Fundraising Gap
and to Celebrate our Success to Date
Honored Guest:

H.E. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian

Friday, May 9, 2014

7:00 pm cocktails, 8:00 pm dinner

Hosted by:

Michael and Jean Shahnasarian
3414 West Linebaugh Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33618

Cocktails, Dinner, Live Entertainment,
Auction, and Cigar Bar

\$250 per person

Black tie optional



M _____

- _____ Accept with pleasure
- _____ Decline with regret but am enclosing a gift of \$ _____

*\$250 per person**

Checks written to St. Hagop Armenian Church, Memo: Gala

** This is a fundraising event. Please bring your giving spirit to help reach our campaign goal.*

***All entrees will include surf and turf,
please specify any special food needs you may have.***

Contact: WithFaithWeShallBuild@gmail.com - 727-545-0380

With Faith We Shall Build  Հաւաւորով Պիտի Կառուցենք

Presentation by Nutritionist
Dr. Betty Wedman



wage war

against bad health

Sun. April 6th-12 Noon
St. Hagop Sanctuary



Holy Week Աւագ Շաբաթ

Join us for the most important and fulfilling worship services of the entire Armenian Church year



Washing of the Feet/"Votnlva"
Thur. Apr. 17 | 7 PM



"Khavaroom" (Passion of our Lord)
Thur. Apr. 17 | 8 PM



Good Friday Burial Service
Fri. Apr. 18 | 7 PM



Easter Eve "Jragalooys Badarak"
Sat. Apr. 19 | 7 PM



Easter Divine Liturgy
Sun. Apr. 20 | 10:30 AM

Easter Stewardship Dive 2014 Իղազին

Please accept my Easter gift to St. Hagop Armenian Church, Which I am making above my regular support, participation, and prayers:

\$5,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 Other\$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: St. Hagop Armenian Church
7020 90th Avenue N., Pinellas Park, FL 33782

You May Also Give Online at: www.sthagoparmenianchurch.org

Did you know? It is an ancient tradition of the Armenian Church that during Easter we make a special Իղազին | Youghakin donation (yough=oil) to keep church lamps burning—thereby supporting the mission of the church!

Remember your Church during this Holy Season
Send in Your Easter Donation!

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

Worship Hours: Sunday 10:30am

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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
July/Aug/Sept 2014	June 10th
Oct/Nov/Dec 2014	September 10th

It costs over \$1,100 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 (\$550); 1/4 issue (\$275) or other (\$) amount.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Sat. Mar. 29	Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan- Lecture "Hidden Meanings of the Armenian Church's Feasts and Fasts: Living the Gospel of Christ"	4 PM
Wed. Apr.2	Lenten Study & Discussion-The Beatitudes-Self Portrait of Our Lord	6PM
Sun. Apr. 6	Divine Liturgy –Sunday of Advent Food=Information To Your Cells – Dr. Betty Wedman Women’s Guild Meeting	10:30 AM 12:00 PM 12:30 PM
Tue. Apr. 8	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Wed. Apr.9	Lenten Study & Discussion-The Beatitudes-Self Portrait of Our Lord	6PM
Sun. Apr. 13	Palm Sunday-Opening of the Doors Service Women’s Guild Bake Sale	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Thur. Apr. 17	Washing of the Feet/ <i>Votnha</i> Service Vigil / <i>Khavaroom</i> Service of the Passion of our Lord	7:00 PM 8-9:30 PM
Fri. Apr. 18	Burial Service (<i>Good Friday</i>)	7:00 PM
Sat. Apr. 19	<i>Easter Eve</i> Divine Liturgy/“Jragalooys Badarak”	7:00 PM
Sun. Apr. 20	Easter Divine Liturgy Children’s Easter Egg Hunt	10:30 AM
Sun. Apr. 27	Divine Liturgy Commemoration of Armenian Genocide	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Apr. 28-30	Annual Clergy Conference	
May 1- May 4	Annual Diocesan Assembly	
Sun. May 4	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Fri. May 9	Church Hall Fundraising Gala (RSVP Only)	7:00 PM
Sun. May 11	Divine Liturgy- Mother’s Day Final Day of Sunday School	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun. May 18	Divine Liturgy-Apparition of the Cross	10:30 AM
Sun. May 25	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. May 29	Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ	
Sun. June 1	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. June 8	Divine Liturgy- Pentecost	10:30 AM
Sun. June 15	Divine Liturgy-Father’s Day	10:30 AM
Sun. June 22	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. June 29	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM

St. Hagop Armenian Church
Parish of the Gulf Coast of Florida

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