

A Message from Our Chair...

Did we achieve what we signed up for....Nourishing our Body, Mind, and Spirit?



Yes, I think we did.... It's hard to believe it has been a year as chair of the Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church. One busy year has already passed like the leaves falling off the maple trees. Now it is time to pass the torch to another member to continue the good work for our Church.

It has been a rewarding and great experience to be an integral part of our Church. The Women's Guild is the right arm of the Church. It is the heart, the friendship, the fellowship, and the laughter in the kitchen, the hallways, and in the cultural hall. We accomplished a lot of different things this past year. We tried new things: a Women's Guild booth at the Bazaar, selling an apron with a new pomegranate design, putting the *Hye Dining* DVD on a USB (new format) with a recipe booklet, and yes, another printing of the highly acclaimed Armenian cookbook with all tested recipes by our Guild members. Also included were the for-sure things, like bake sales, making *cheoreg* and taking orders for *soubeoreg*.

My theme this past year was "Nourish Your Body, Mind and Spirit." We did a few meditations in Church and in the Vartan room as well as Yoga. We learned about the art of the Armenian Alphabet. We came together on a Saturday for an inspirational church service, a performance of Mary, Jesus' Mother, where she spoke about motherhood and the challenges of children and life and then followed by a spectacular luncheon. We provided an Easter tea for our parishioners, and had a joint venture with the four churches and the four Women's Guilds to provide nourishment for the Commemoration of the Saints.

We visited our family and friends at Manoogian Manor to brighten up someone's day. We also met a young Armenian woman who is a Michigan State Representative and a voice in our government. We had four successful bake sales, and a lovely membership dinner where honorary members spoke about their experiences with the Guild when they were involved. The Guild worked hard preparing for the Bazaar for several months. The weekend of the Bazaar, Guild members were seen participating and helping throughout the Church campus. At our October meeting, members came together, geared up and participated in a presentation on how to pack for a trip. Their travel experiences abroad were enjoyed by all those who attended. Our Social Concern Committee was also busy packaging boxes for college students as well as any serviceman in USA. I am happy to report sixty-two boxes were sent out to them filled with *cheoreg*, tastes from home, Halloween and love. Our knitting group has been working hard too, knitting baby items for Armenian Missionaries and scarves and blankets for South Oakland Shelter. We are already gearing up for the holidays, and getting ready for more *cheoreg* and *sou boereg* bakes.

December 4th, we will present our biennial Advent by Candlelight. More details will follow in this newsletter.

Thank you to Father Aren and Father Ardash for their support and guidance. I always knew they were a text message or phone call away. A big thank you to our parish administrator, Paul Andonian who always answered all concerns and questions Monday – Sunday: the pipeline was always open. Tamara Martirosyan made sure the Women's Guild information made it into the bulletin. Paul Yousoufian and his catering staff were always there with a smile when the Guild needed something. Lucy Ardash was very kind and gave our out-of-town speaker an impromptu tour of the Museum late in the day. It meant a lot to our speaker, who is Armenian, but never saw our beautiful museum gem and was quite intrigued.

I would also like to thank the Executive Board Members who came together every month for our board meetings: Denise Boyagian, Denise Karakashian, Sara Andonian, Diane Nolff, Edith Baise, Diana Vosgian, Dawn Aginian, Cathy Zwinck, Diane Khachaturian, Yerchanig Joy Callan, Barbara Rupas and Marilyn Dadian, (current Parish Council Liason) and Jackie ElChemmas, (former Parish Council Liason). A very special thank you to Anna Sarkisian the editor of my messages, the producer of the all our flyers, event programs, as well as the colorful signage for the Church Picnic Bake Sale. Also, a big thank you to the Women's Guild Central Council Delegates, Linda Jevahirian; Rozann Vartoogian, and Yerchanig Joy Callan. A big thank you to our nominating committee. Yvonne Korkoian chair, Terrie Karebian, Dolly Matoian, Nora Noraian, Linda Franquist, and Lisa Johnson called our members. I would be remiss if I did not thank Valerie Vosgian, who assisted Diana Vosgian behind the scenes with the attractive newsletter layouts. We very much appreciated their time and dedication to our Guild. I know that the torch will continue to shine a light on our path to do good works for others and for our church.

Lastly, as I have said often before, it would be impossible to list and to adequately thank the all those who came forward to provide the thousands of woman- and man-hours in the kitchen throughout the year!! It is also impossible to adequately thank Yerchanig Joy Callan for her organization, gentle cajoling and motivational emails that made it all happen!

Because of all these hardworking people and the Guild members who did something and stepped up when asked, the Women's Guild torch shined very bright. Without these Guild Members, there would not be a Women's Guild.

Thank you very much for your support throughout my term of office. Your friendship will be cherished forever. I am passing the torch, but will be there to help the next chair take on this role. It truly is an awesome role. Keep the momentum going...be part of something big: the Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church where the beautiful gold dome shines above our Church family!

On Thursday, December 12th, we will be having a brief business meeting and a fun and relaxing evening just before the Christmas Holiday. *Tips for Holiday Entertaining!* Come see some great ideas that everyone can do! I look forward to seeing you here at Church at Advent by Candlelight and our fun December meeting.

Thank YOU ALL very much,

- **Lisa Derderian**



The Women's Guild sends our heartfelt sympathy to Linda Jevahirian on the loss of her beloved mother, Florence Jevahirian.

We extend our condolences to the family of our dear member, Ann "Anna" Manoogian, who has passed away.

It is with sorrow that we send our sympathy to Terrie Karebian, on the passing of her brother-in-law, Dr. David Kontry.

We also extend our sympathy to Patti Javizian, on the loss of her step-mother, Mary Parsaghian.

~ *Asdvadz Hokeen Loosavoreh*

We send our love and prayers to Guild members, Patty Kezelian and Jackie ElChemmas. We wish them peace and comfort as they heal.



Marilyn Sarafian is thrilled to be a first-time Grandmother with the arrival of her granddaughter, Emily Elizabeth Brown. She was born on September 16th to Michael and Heather.

We will continue our yearly gift bag project for the women's shelter, "Alternative for Girls." Please bring any toiletries and small gifts that you have saved and bring them to our November 6th meeting.



Alternatives For Girls

November 2019 St John Women's Guild Newsletter



*Note day and/or
time changes

November 6 th	(Wednesday)	Filling bags for Alternative for Girls collection at 6:30 p.m. Guild Meeting 7:00 p.m. followed by Election.
November 20 th	(Wednesday)	Executive Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
November 24 th	(Sunday)	Guild Bake Sale after Church Service Pre-ordered <i>Sou beoreg</i> pickup, <i>Cheoreg</i> for sale along with New Aprons, Cookbooks & <i>Hye Dining</i> Instructional Video (Flash-drive)
December 4 th	(Wednesday)	Advent by Candlelight 7:00 p.m.
December 12 th	(Thursday)	Guild Meeting 7:00 p.m. followed by a fun evening with Tips for Holiday Entertaining Toy Collection for Children's Hospital (Snow Pile)
December 14 th	(Saturday)	World Medical Relief 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
December 18 th	(Wednesday)	Executive Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
January 8 th	(Wednesday)	General Body Meeting 7:00 p.m.
January 11 th	(Saturday)	Manoogian Manor Visit 11:00 a.m. (Need Chair)

Upcoming Bake Dates

October 29 th	(Tuesday)	<i>Cheoreg</i>	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
November 19 th	(Tuesday)	<i>Sou Beoreg</i>	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.



October Guild Meeting



When our scheduled speaker was unable to attend our meeting, Guild members, Barb Rupas, Denise Karakashian, Marianne Dardarian & Cathy Zwink, quickly stepped in at the last minute. They spoke of recent trips to Italy, gave us tips on packing and showed clever ways to frame vacation photos for display. Their presentations were both informative and fun.

Social Service Committee Annual Care Package Project

Thank you to our Social Service committee who packaged 62 college boxes. Carol Ohanesian and her committee members packed a box full of Armenian goodies! Special thanks to committee members: Dawn Aginian, Linda Assarian, Nancy Berryman, Linda DePietro, Linda Franquist, Cheryl Joboulian, Lisa Johnson, Linda Lutz, Nancy Panaretos, Barb Rupas and Marilyn Sarkesian.



BACK TO THE
BAZAAR
2019



*"Oh Night Divine! "**Advent by Candlelight*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019
7:00 PM

THE WOMEN'S GUILD OF ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH
PROUDLY SPONSORS A VERY SPECIAL EVENING FOR THE WOMEN OF OUR COMMUNITY
TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

WOMEN'S GUILD MEMBERS MAY BECOME TABLE HOSTESSES OR GUESTS
BY CONTACTING SARA ANDONIAN
VIA EMAIL BEGINNING AT 8:00 AM NOVEMBER 1, 2019:

SARAANDONIAN@GMAIL.COM

(IF YOU HAVE NO ACCESS TO EMAIL, PLEASE CALL 248.515.9264
AND LEAVE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER.)

RESERVATIONS CLOSE NOVEMBER 14



Women's Guild members who are interested may wish to bring a new, unwrapped toy to our DECEMBER 12th WG meeting to support

SNOWPILE

A Children's Hospital of Michigan Child Life Services Program benefitting hospitalized children and their siblings.

Some Suggested **WISH LIST** Items:

- Newborn – Rattles, Light-up Toys, Musical Stackers
- 3-5 year olds – Play-Doh, Lego/Duplo Blocks, Little People Play Sets
- 6- 10 year olds – Action Figures, Barbie Dolls, Hot Wheels Cars
- 11-18 years – Sketch Pads, Craft Kits, Nail/Hair Care Items
- All ages – puzzles, board & card games

www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

Our Women's Guild

Past...



Present...



And future...

