

# Women's Guild News      September 2014

St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Hwy Sfld, MI 48075    www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

## Membership Mtg

Wed., Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup> 7 p.m.

SJAC Vartan Room

Diana Alexanian

will speak on

*Natural Approaches to  
Health & Well Being*

## Festival Baking



Chair: Dolly Matoian  
248-737-9055

Every Monday & Tues.

(except Sep. 1<sup>st</sup> Labor Day & Sep. 2<sup>nd</sup>)

@ 9:00 a.m. until the Festival.

Sep. 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23

Evening bake - Monday Sep.

15<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Chair Marianne Dardarian  
248-661-0617

## Land of Noah's Ark Festival Bake Sale

Please label your Armenian or other baked goods (wrapped to sell) with your name, name of item, and Women's Guild. Monetary donations accepted.

## Knitting

Thursdays, September 4<sup>th</sup> &  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. - Noon

SJAC nursery

Chair: Linda Assarian

## *A Note from Your Chairman...*

Dear Fr. Garabed and Ladies of the Guild,

The word that characterizes the essence of the Women's Guild endeavors during the past few months has been "Teamwork." Under the multi-talented leadership of Dolly Matoian we have held, to-date, thirty-seven bake days (we're not finished yet) during the summer and fall. Our thanks to Dolly for teaching and guiding our ladies through the many bake sessions. Dolly was assisted by our highly skilled Bake Leaders, Marianne Dardarian, Joy Callan, Terry Palaian, Yn. Roberta Kochakian, Dawn Aginian, Cathy Atesian, Sandra Jack and Linda Tiffany. Many of our newest members have commented on how much they learned and how enjoyable it was. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to learn from our expert bake leaders. By the opening day of our Annual Festival we will have made large quantities of Bourma, Cheoreg, Katah, Khadayif, Khalkha, Kufteh, Meat Beoreg, Nazoog, Sou Beoreg, Spinach Beoreg, and Yahlanchi Sarma. These items will be sold during the Festival Weekend of September 26 - 28<sup>th</sup>. There is no guarantee that everything will be available throughout the Festival, so make sure you come early to purchase your favorites. Our Women's Guild members, as usual, have exemplified outstanding examples of teamwork as we continue our mission to promote coming together in our faith, witnessing our faith, learning about our faith, and fellowship in our faith.

Respectfully Yours,

Linda Stamboulian

## WG Manoogian Manor Visit on August 16, 2014

When the Women's Guild members arrived at the Manoogian Manor, they were delighted to see the numerous renovations made to the facility. Rev. Father Garabed Kochakian led a service on the occasion of the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God and the

Blessing of the Grapes. Fr. Garabed was accompanied by Diratsou Levon Asadourian, Dn. Rubik Mailian, Dn. Onnig Boyagian, Margaret Lafian, Gary Melikian and other members of the Komitas Choir. Rev. Fr. Garabed offered Holy Communion to the residents of the Manor, and then he blessed the grapes.

The Women's Guild Event Coordinator for this visit was Sandra Jack. She did an admirable job of organizing the event. She assembled ninety bags of grapes for the occasion and made the necessary arrangement for the visit. Women's Guild members, some of whom also served in the choir, who attended were: Sandra Jack, Event Coordinator, Sara Andonian, Charlene Apigian, Judy Hovnan, Yvonne Korkoian, Linda Stamboulian, and Linda Tiffany. Our thanks to everyone who supported this event.

## Farewell and Thank You to Thomas Stamboulian Jr., Church Administrator

Thomas Stamboulian Jr., our Church Administrator for the past five years, will be leaving Michigan and starting a new chapter of his life. In addition to all that he has done to ensure the success and smooth operation of our church, he has also contributed a great deal to the success and operations of our Women's Guild during the past five years. Tom has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, not calling attention to himself, but always willing to serve and help us in any way possible. He has always been there for us. He has done the same for all of the other church organizations as well. Please express your appreciation to him when you see him or email him at [thomas.stamboulian@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.stamboulian@gmail.com). The Women's Guild will miss him greatly. We wish him much happiness in his upcoming marriage to Lucinda Selverian and his move to the Philadelphia area.

### August 17th Church Picnic

#### Bake Sale

An extraordinary array of baked goods was presented in the Vartan Room on August 17th for the Church Picnic Bake Sale. Nora Noraian and Linda Franquist were the very hospitable chairpersons for this event. The Women's Guild raised over \$2,000 for the church. We thank all our members who contributed to the sale. Special thank yous to the following members who signed up to work at the sale: Dawn Aginian, Diane Aginian, Betty Amboian, Linda Assarian, Zabel Belian, Linda Franquist, Dolly Matoian, Rose Najarian, Nora Noraian, Helen Olson, Erika Palaian, Gail Safilian, Linda Stamboulian and Diana Vosganian.

Our two Picnic Bake Sale Chairmen, Linda Franquist and Nora Noraian wish to thank the Women's Guild members for their wonderful baked goods, generosity and help the day of the picnic. Because of your support, the bake sale was a great success!

#### Church Picnic Dinner Servers

Displaying a remarkable spirit of teamwork, our Women's Guild members did an excellent job of serving dinners for the Church Picnic. The dinners were prepared by the Men's Society. The men prepared a delicious chicken, lamb, luleh kebab, veggie kebab, or hot dog dinners, served with pita bread, salad, and either pilaf or bulghur pilaf and watermelon. Our thanks to the following dedicated members who helped with the serving of the dinners, Diane Aginian, Emma Betrosian, Alice Betrosian, Denise Boyagian, Joy Callan, Marianne Dardarian, Judy Hovnan, Linda Jevahirian, Denise Karakashian, Yvonne Korkoian, Rose Najarian, Linda Stamboulian, Linda Tiffany, Nevart Torian and Sue Vian.

#### Cookie Contest

The Cookie Contest, sponsored by the Picnic Committee, was chaired and co-chaired by Terry Palaian and Zabel Belian, respectively. Judges for the cookie contest were Dikran Callan, Brent Palaian, Michael Pifer and Yn. Roberta Kochakian. Cookies were judged on appearance, taste and texture, on a scale of 1-5. Dawn Aginian took first place for her **Crème de Menthe squares**, second place went to Diana Vosganian, for her **Walnut Crescents**, and third place to Carol Aprahamian with **Strawberry Rhubarb Bars**. Recipes will be available at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> General Body Meeting! Hope to see you there!

## Women's Guild Cookbook

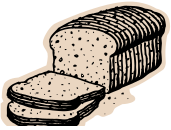
We are happy to announce the Women's Guild Cookbook: Armenian Cuisine: Preserving our Heritage is now in its 3rd printing! Please be sure to obtain a copy for yourself as a gift.

Our best customer is the Daughters of Vartan Lodge from Providence, RI. They have sold 95 cookbooks. All of their profits are going to the Armenian Rehab Center in Jamaica Plains, MA. We commend them for this initiative.

### September 14, St. Nersess Seminary Fundraiser

On Sunday September 14, 2014 the Women's Guild and the Men's Society will host a brunch after Church to raise money for the Seminarians at St. Nersess Seminary. The price is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under five. There will also be a good will offering. The Chairmen of the event are Kim and John Kalajian. Please contact Kim at 248-788-6767 or [kimkalajian@gmail.com](mailto:kimkalajian@gmail.com) if you would like to make a donation or if you are willing to help.

### Festival Baking



We have been baking every Monday and Tuesday since the beginning of June and will continue until the festival in late September. Everyone is welcome to join us for great camaraderie and friendship. Please refer to the Sunday bulletin for more details on what we will be making each week. We would like to thank Dolly Matoian for accepting the responsibility of organizing the bake day sessions for this very important annual **Festival**. We would also like to thank her very capable assistants Almas Derderian, Marianne Dardarian and Joy Callan. We also could not have accomplished the summer baking endeavor without the leaders for each bake session. Our leaders were as follows: Kufteh - Dolly Matoian; Bourma- Yn. Roberta Kochakian; Sou Beoreg - Anita Arslanian; Cheoreg - Marianne Dardarian, Dolly Matoian; Nazoog- Joy Callan; Katah- Terry Palaian, Joy Callan; Khalkha - Dolly Matoian, Cathy Atesian; Khadayif - Yn. Roberta Kochakian; Meat Beoreg -Dolly Matoian; Spinach Beoreg - Linda Tiffany, Sandra Jack; Yahlanchi Sarma -Dawn Aginian. We also, of course, could not have accomplished this task without the dedicated support of our members who came without hesitation each week to assist with all of our baking. For more information, contact Festival Bake Chairman Dolly Matoian at 248-737-9055 or [dmatoian@att.net](mailto:dmatoian@att.net).

### Volunteers Needed for Land of Noah's Ark Festival

In addition to baking for the Festival, we will also need help selling and serving food the weekend of the Festival. The Festival opens Friday September 26<sup>th</sup> and runs through Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>. Dolly Matoian will be the Overall Kitchen and Bake Sale Leader assisted by Anita Arslanian. Please come help sell the food you worked so hard to make all summer. Besides making money for the church, it is rewarding to see how much people appreciate our food.

#### Bake Sale

#### Chairmen

Friday, September 26	Sue Vian	<a href="mailto:suecarmanvian@gmail.com">suecarmanvian@gmail.com</a>	248-414-5246
	Rose Najarian		313-581-3077
Saturday September 27	Joy Callan	<a href="mailto:yerchanigc@yahoo.com">yerchanigc@yahoo.com</a>	248-254-3955
	Terry Palaian	<a href="mailto:tpalaian4@gmail.com">tpalaian4@gmail.com</a>	248-347-3479
Sunday September 28	Linda DePietro	<a href="mailto:tridelt@comcast.net">tridelt@comcast.net</a>	248-335-3472, cell 248-977-7715

The three-day bake sale coordinator will be Linda Stambouljan.

#### Hot Foods

#### Chairmen

Fri., Sat., or Sun.	Dawn & Diane Aginian	<a href="mailto:daginian@yahoo.com">daginian@yahoo.com</a>	248-225-7176
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## Festival Bake Sale Donations

In addition to the baked goods we have been making all summer, members traditionally personally donate their own Armenian or other baked goods. Please have your baked goods ready to sell and packaged if at all possible. Also, please label them with your name, name of item and Women's Guild. This is especially important if you bring them during the week of the festival. Monetary donations are also accepted in lieu of baked goods. Checks should be made out to St. John Armenian Church with "Festival Bake Sale" in the memo portion of the check. Checks may be mailed to St. John Armenian Church, c/o Lilit Grigoryan, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075.

## Baskets for Tin Can Raffle at Festival

Please contact Ara Hachigian at 248-981-3093 if you would like to donate goods or sponsor a basket on behalf of the Women's Guild not to exceed the value of \$25. Some ideas for baskets that have been used in the past are: soup basket, tea basket, Armenian goodies basket or toys/books basket.

## *The Church with the Golden Dome*

Join us Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. for the annual *Armenia-Land of Noah's Ark Festival* kick-off event. This is a Festival Committee sponsored event.



Father Garabed will take us on a tour of the sanctuary and Deacon Rubik Mailian will provide the musical accompaniment. A tour of the Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum, conducted by Lucy Ardash will focus on significant historical and artistic artifacts. An Armenian inspired buffet luncheon will be served at noon.

**New this year!** Following lunch, a **pre**-festival bake sale, showcasing some of the delectable items we have been preparing all summer long, will be held.

Individuals and groups are welcome. Pick up a flyer at the September Guild Meeting or in the Church lobby or at the back door. The donation is \$20 per person. Call Linda Tiffany for reservations – 248-549-7106, on or before Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Knitting

On Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> the Women's Guild knitting group delivered blankets and caps to Botsford Hospital for new mothers in need. Linda Assarian, Linda Lutz, Carol Ohanesian and Cathy Zwinck attended and enjoyed a fun lunch afterward. The group will continue this project in the fall beginning on September 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 12:00 in the nursery at St. John's. In October they will return to meeting on the third Thursday of the month. Please contact Linda Assarian at 248-332-0816 if you would like to join or if you have any questions.

## Social Services Committee

Our Social Services Committee led by Carol Ohanesian will be packaging gift boxes again this year. Please fill out the enclosed flyer to have a box sent to a student or a member of the Armed Forces.

## Alternatives for Girls

Please start collecting the following to make gift bags again this year: winter gloves, socks, perfumes, lotions, jewelry, school supplies, personal items, cosmetic bags, toothpaste, toothbrushes, other toiletries, and Christmas items. We will be making gift bags again this year for the young women residing at the Alternatives for Girls -Detroit shelter. In addition, we will make 10 bags for the girls in Armenia residing at Mer Doon (women's shelter). Moreover, you do not want to miss our October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting when we will have a speaker from Alternatives for Girls.