

Women's Guild Newsletter

October 2023

St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

(248)569-3405

www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

<https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site>

A Message from our chairman...



Dear Women's Guild Members,

What a wonderful Sunday we had on September 10. The khunjook was so much fun. I wanted to be a kid again! Thank you to the committee for working so hard to plan and execute this day of fun.

We need your help at the Bazaar. Both the Hot Foods line and the Bake Sale still have open slots. Contributing to the Bake Sale at the Bazaar is one of our obligations as Women's Guild members. Please see the volunteer link to the SignUp Genius in the newsletter or the baked goods donation link also in the newsletter.

On October 28, please join us for the Gala celebration. We are celebrating 85 years and the Heritage Collection is celebrating 50 years. A flyer is enclosed with all the information about the evening. I hope you will join us.

Lastly, I worry about our brothers and sisters in Artsakh. I know we all want to do something to help them. For now, we can contact our congressional representatives and continue to pray.

Prayerfully yours,

Sara Andonian



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear member Esther Kulhanjian on August 24, 2023. Our deepest condolences to Esther's family and friends.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Virginia Mekjian on September 6, 2023. Our deepest condolences to Virginia's family and friends.

- Asdvadz Hokeeneruh Loosavoreh

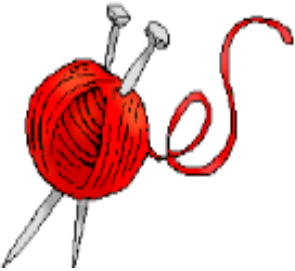


Zaven and Marilyn Dadian are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Zaven to Arpi Dayian, daughter of Vahe and Nora Dayian. He popped the question in August and the big day will be sometime next year! Congratulations!



Congratulations to Denise Chiroyan on the birth of her granddaughter, Talia Ani Conti, on September 8, 2023. Proud parents are Michael and Brigitte Conti.

KNITTING CLUB



The knitting club is back in full force every Thursday from 10am-noon in the Vartan room. The group will get together the third Thursday of every month – no experience necessary – come and learn while making new friends! We are knitting baby blankets for St. Joe's Hospital. Please reach out to Linda Assarian linda.assarian@gmail.com

Alternatives for Girls



Every year the Women's Guild has donated personal hygiene items for girls and young teens who are at risk. With everything going on in the world right now, these girls are more in need than ever. As always, we will be gathering together to pack up the bags before the November general body meeting and elections in the church ballroom. Please start collecting these items now because November will be here before we know it!




The new Women's Guild directories are available. Please reach out to Linda Tiffany (248)549-7106/anytiff@comcast.net if you have not received yours yet.

Newsletter

Do you have some big news you would like to share with the Women's Guild? Please email Nyree Giragosian nyreevgir@gmail.com or call/text (248)231-2547 with the information. Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month.


Sat., Sept. 30th	Bazaar Kickoff 6:00pm-11:00pm – reservations required
Wed., Oct 4 th	College Student/Service Member Care Package Deadline – see flyer
Wed., Oct 4 th	General Body Meeting – 7:00PM ZOOM
Fri., Oct 6 th & Sat. Oct. 7 th	Church Bazaar
Sat., Oct. 14 th	World Medical Relief 1:00pm-3:00pm. Contact Edith Baise (313)673-3325 or ebaise@umich.edu
Thurs., Oct. 19 th	Knitting Club 10am-noon – Vartan room
Sat., Oct. 28 th	Women's Guild Gala Celebration – 85th Anniversary of the Women's Guild and 50th Anniversary of the Heritage Collection.
Wed., Nov. 1 st	General Body Meeting, Elections, Alternatives for Girls collection.
Sat., Nov 4 th	Painting workshop presented by Fr Garabed Kochakian – see flyer.
Wed., Nov. 15 th	Executive Board Meeting
Wed., Dec. 6 th	Christmas Gathering – look for details in November
Wed., Dec 13 th	Executive Board Meeting
Sun., Dec. 17 th	Cookie Sale

JOIN US AND HELP SORT BADLY NEEDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO BE USED LOCALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD.

SJAC VOLUNTEER DAY AT WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY



World Medical Relief donated over \$1.5 million dollars in medical supplies to Armenia in 2021!

The Women's Guild appreciates all of their effort and we encourage our members to volunteer.

Oct. 14th /1:00 – 3:00 pm

CONTACT GREG OR EDITH BAISE AT (313)673-3325 OR EBAISE@UMICH.EDU



Women's Guild Executive Board Elections are upon us (11/1/2023). You may receive a call from one of our nominating committee volunteers asking if you would be interested in running for the Guild Board - Please consider saying yes. It's a great way to become more involved with the Women's Guild and it is not as time consuming as you may think. Reach out to our nominating committee chair Yerchanig Joy Callan with any questions. (248)533-6320/yerchanigc@gmail.com

Any qualified member of the Women's Guild who is a dues-paying member of the local parish may be elected a member of the Executive Committee after one year of membership in the Guild.



BAZAAR
FINAL
BAKING
DATE!

**This is the last week for Bazaar Baking –
all that is left to do is Yalanchi!**

Tuesday, October 3rd 9:00am – noon -Yalanchi (a sit-down job)
(Led by Debbie Green and Sara Gozmanian)

*All are welcome!
Bring your very good hands
No experience necessary!!!*

*We are also looking for volunteers to work at the Hot
Foods and Bake Sale booths– you are welcome to sign
up for both using this QR Code or link!*



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AAFAD2DA1FCC25-20231#/>



*Don't forget about your Women's Guild Membership
obligation for your baked good/monetary donation. Use
this "Sign Up Genius" QR Code or the link below to let
us know what you will be bringing.*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AAFAD2DA1FCC25-baked1#/>



The Women's Guild
of
St. John Armenian Church
EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS

A
Gala
Celebration

The Armenian Heritage
Costume Collection
FIFTY YEARS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023 AT 6 IN THE EVENING
\$85 PER PERSON

The Grand Ballroom
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT
Cocktails • Mezza • Dinner
Armenian Heritage Costume Collection
PRESENTATION

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: SARA - 630.945.4321 • LINDA - 248.250.6020

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 'ST. JOHN WOMEN'S GUILD'
RESERVATIONS USING THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY OCTOBER 15
22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY • SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075

_____ NUMBER OF GUESTS AT \$85 = \$ _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR ENTREE SELECTION: _____ LAMB KEBAB _____ SALMON

St. John Women's Guild's 13th Annual Care Package Project



Please complete the form below with the contact information for your young family members attending college (home or away)/or in the armed services.

Name of student:

Last name _____

First name _____

Currently attending: _____

Address of college student /serviceman:

Street address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Any known **Food ALLERGIES:** _____

Form submitted by:

(WG member): _____

(Other): _____

Thank you for helping us keep our young adults connected to our

St. John Armenian Church Family! 

Any donations to defer mailing costs are appreciated.

Please make checks out to St. John Women's Guild

Mail to → Nancy Panaretos 3160 Pikewood Ct., Commerce Township, MI 48382

ON-LINE Donations may be made via www.stjohnwomensguild.square.site

Please enter College Care Package in the memo.



Alternatives For Girls
© 1998 Alternatives For Girls

Every year the Women's Guild had donated personal hygiene items for girls and young teens who are at risk. With everything going on in the world right now, these girls are more in need than ever.

Every year, we put together gift bags before the November executive board election meeting. This year, we will be gathering together to pack up the bags before the general body meeting and elections on November 1st from 5:30 – 7:00 in the church ballroom.

Alternatives for Girls is asking for:

Body Wash - Deodorant - Toothpaste/brushes

Hair Combs - Individual tissue packets

Bottled water - Socks

- Feminine hygiene products (pads rather than tampons).
- Shampoo and conditioner (could really use hair care products for natural black hair as they never have enough).
- As we get into the cooler months, mittens and gloves will come in handy and foot warmers.
- We also serve young men throughout street outreach (about 5% of the people we meet). Men's body wash and socks would also be appreciated.

Contact Sue Vian with any questions (248)414-5246.

The Women's Guild will send out an email blast as we get closer to with any changes/updates

The Women's Guild
is pleased to announce a painting workshop for our members
presented by Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Art Historian and Iconographer
The Art of Armenian Letters – Ա Բ Գ – Painting our Identity
Saturday, November 4, 2023 9:30 am – 3 pm
St. John Armenian Church Cultural Hall



This workshop begins with a PowerPoint presentation and discussion concerning the history of the Armenian alphabet and how the *Ayp, Pen, Kim* functions linguistically, artistically, and numerically in the tradition of the
Armenian Illuminated Manuscripts

Examples show the decorative capital letters with their unique Armenian forms, all handwritten and painted by scribes and
Icon- Miniaturists

Father Garabed will take you step by step on how to paint beautifully illuminated letters that will be meaningful to you.

Tickets are \$45 and include all materials. A light lunch will be served.

Seating is limited to the first 25 pre-registered members.

Your check is your confirmation and must be received by October 2.

Please make checks payable to St. John Armenian Church Women's Guild

Mail Checks to: Linda Karibian

5225 Wing Lake Road

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Questions? Contact Linda Tiffany 248-250-6020

Khunjook 2023 - A Festival for All!

By Nyree Giragosian and Karen Kalajian



For the second consecutive year, St. John Armenian Church of Southfield, Michigan, transformed its tranquil grounds into a vibrant hub of excitement as it joyously welcomed families and eager church school children back to Sunday School. After a lengthy summer recess, the church grounds buzzed with the joyful sounds of children's laughter, warm embraces, and eager anticipation for a new school year. As the children's smiles lit up the day, they happily reunited with their familiar friends and eagerly extended hands to form new bonds with fellow parishioners, destined to mature into lifelong friends.

The Women's Guild orchestrated a festive Khunjook, a family fun picnic, on Sunday, September 10, 2023. Families enjoyed an inflatable bouncy obstacle course with thrilling slides and a dedicated bouncy house for the youngest attendees. Craft tents offered the children creative outlets for artistic expression, and a colorful photo booth with whimsical props captured precious memories. Over

200 guests enjoyed a raffle of themed baskets, ventured their guesses in a Jelly Belly jar guessing game, and savored the delicious Hunter House Food Truck, serving mouthwatering burgers and crispy fries. The tantalizing scent of freshly popped popcorn wafted through the air, mingling with the aroma of fresh fruits, vegetables, cookies, pretzels, and candy. Against this backdrop, the music of the Nigosian Band, playing spirited Armenian dance music, transported everyone together into a world of delight.

The Khunjook committee worked enthusiastically together to ensure our families would enjoy this delightful day! Thank you, Paulette Apkarian, for your leadership, and thank you to the committee for your tireless dedication, ensuring that this day would be cherished by our church community for years to come. The team's commitment deserves our heartfelt gratitude. A special thank you extends to our dedicated committee members:

Alexandra Apkarian
Paulette Apkarian
Renee Apkarian
Christine Atesian
Marilyn Dadian
Michelle Samarian Ducato
Lauren Reizian-Gershonowicz

Nyree Giragosian
Frances Hagopian
Sarah Hagopian
Kathy Hasse
Karen Kalajian
Dawn Karagosian
Lynne Kojamarian

Donna Lafian
Diana Mardigian
Jenni Morris
Christine Sarafian
Maral Thomas
Kathy Torigian

Our Khunjook event was a resounding success, and it would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of dozens of people. Your dedication to our Women's Guild and St. John Armenian Church is not just appreciated; it is etched in our hearts forever. Our community is a treasure, where support flows, especially towards our youth, given with open hearts and love. Thanks to our remarkable donors who selflessly gave their time and resources, our Free Will Offering event became a true celebration. We would also like to give recognition to the newest member of our family, Marie Semarjian, and her husband Chuck, Armen Arslanian, Lisa Mardigian, Karen Kazarian, Laurie Reizian, and Brian Thomas. Your contributions have made a difference; we thank you.

As we reflect on this year's success, we are already excited about next year's Khunjook and cannot wait to see the joy and anticipation in the eyes of our children once more. Together, we are creating memories that will last a lifetime.









Exaltation of the Holy Cross Women's Guild visit to Manoogian Manor

Saturday, September 23, 2023

We are so fortunate to have Women's Guild member Elise Papazian organize our Feast Day Visits to the Manoogian Manor throughout the year. She would like to share the message below.

"Saturday, September 23rd, St. John Armenian church (with choir members including Stephen Karougian, Marianne Dardarian – organist, George Boyagian – deacon, St. John Armenian Church Women's Guild and Men's Society, conducted services led by Fr. Aren Jebejian for residents of Manoogian Manor honoring the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Fr. Aren, before offering communion, explained to residents how the cross represents teachings of Christ, His sacrificial life, and His never ending love. The next day, on Sunday, September 24th, Manoogian Manor hosted a tea after church in the St. John Ballroom, along with a slideshow, with two short speeches/testimonials – one by Lynn Kojamanian and one myself (only fond memories of dad's 13 months at Manoogian Manor). Feeling unable to calm my thoughts due to a plethora of ugliness in my ancestral homeland, the weekend activities felt timely to gather with folks and remind them they matter! I thank God for you good people in my life – you each make a sweet difference."

Thank you, Elise, all of the Women's Guild and Men's Society members, choir, and clergy, who were able to attend the Manoogian Manor gathering – these visits mean the world to the residents.



Greetings to All

St. John Women's Guild Members

It's time to pay your 2023 annual dues!

Please make checks of \$25 payable to St. John Women's Guild

Mail checks to Paulette Apkarian

7430 Brookberry Court

West Bloomfield, Michigan 48322

or

Credit Card payments of \$26 are payable on

<https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site>

(Includes \$1.00 processing fee)

For questions, please contact Paulette Apkarian at (248) 225-3823

or pauletteapkarian08@gmail.com

Please fill out the form below and mail it with your payment.

2023 _____ 2024 _____

Name _____ Husband's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Women's Guild 2023 Calendar

JANUARY	Fri, Jan 6	Armenian Christmas Luncheon, General Body meeting afterwards
	Sat, Jan 7	Manoogian Manor visit, Armenian Christmas, 11:00am
	Wed, Jan 18	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
FEBRUARY	Wed, Feb 1	General Body meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM
	Wed, Feb 15	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
MARCH	Wed, March 1	General Body meeting, 7:00 pm
	Sat., March 4	Saintly Women's Day program & luncheon, 11:30am
	Wed, March 15	Executive Board meeting after Lenten services, 7:00pm
APRIL	Sun, April 2	Palm Sunday Bake Sale
	Sun, April 9	Easter Sunday Tea
	Wed, April 12	General Body meeting, DATE CHANGE (Holy Week), 7:00pm
	Sat, April 15	Manoogian Manor visit, Easter, 11:00am
	Wed, April 19	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
	Mon, April 24	Armenian Martyrs' Day
MAY	Wed, May 3	General Body meeting, 7:00pm
	Wed, May 17	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
JUNE	Sun, June 4	Hokehankist for Women's Guild Members, Tea after services
	Wed, June 7	Membership Dinner
	Wed, June 21	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
	Thurs., June 22	Summer Outing – Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum
JULY	Sat, July 22	Manoogian Manor visit, Transfiguration of Our Lord, 11:00am
AUGUST	Wed, Aug 16	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Sun, Aug 13	Church Picnic Bake Sale, after services
	Sat, Aug 19	Manoogian Manor visit, Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, 11:00am
SEPTEMBER	Wed, Sept 6	General Body meeting, 7:00pm
	Sun, Sept 10	Khunjook/Family Fun Day
	Wed, Sept 20	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
	Sat, Sept 23	Manoogian Manor visit, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 11:00am
OCTOBER	Wed, Oct 4	General Body meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM
	Fri & Sat, Oct 6-7	Bazaar Bake Sale & Hot Foods volunteers
	Wed, Oct 18	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
	Sat, Oct 28	Anniversary Gala: WG 85th & Heritage Costume Collection 50th, Evening Event (NOTE: DATE CHANGE)
NOVEMBER	Wed, Nov 1	General Body meeting, Elections & Alternatives for Girls collection
	Wed, Nov 15	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
DECEMBER	Wed, Dec 6	Christmas Gathering – details in November
	Sun, Dec 17	Christmas Cookie Sale, (pre-order) after services
	Wed, Dec 13	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm