#### Women's Guild Newsletter

#### November 2022

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...

Another successful Bazaar! Thanks to all the members who brought something for the Bake Sale, made a donation, or came and volunteered - you all helped make the weekend a great success.

It's election season and soon we'll have a new executive board. Let me make an additional nomination: Renee Apkarian for Member of the Week. Inside this newsletter you'll see photos of her in the church kitchen prepping Motor City Mitten Mission lunch, and another where she's making mas. Sadly, at each of these Women's Guild events she was the *only* member there.

I know Renee would have had more help if members had gotten a reminder of the events. I apologize for not sending out an e-blast.

We've been working on our calendar of activities for next year. The events include a Saturday Saintly Women's Day program, the Women's Guild 85<sup>th</sup> and the Heritage Collection's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary evening event, the return of the Christmas Cookie Sale, and many more. Look for the calendar and list of circles coming out soon.

Last week a friend and I were talking, and she mentioned that as we get older, it can be difficult to make new friends. I had to smile because as a WG member all I have to do is join a new circle! How lucky I am to be part of this cultured, intelligent, considerate, sometimes feisty, sometimes obstinate, but always caring, group of women.

Carol Cholmakjian



Our deepest sympathies to Karen Mooradian on the passing of her dear mother-in-law Shakay Mooradian on September 30, 2022.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Peter Rupas, beloved husband of Barbara, on October 3, 2022. Dearest son-in-law of Nina Sarkisian, brother-in-law to Anna Sarkisian, Linda Houhanisin, and Lisa Derderian and uncle to Sara Sarkisian Bell. Also, dear cousin to Dolly Matoian, Marge Nardell, Janice Megerian, and Judy Mardossian.

The Guild was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Fr. Nersess Jebejian, dear father of our own Fr. Aren, on October 27, 2022. We express our deepest sympathy to Hayr Soorp and his family. May God enlighten his soul.

-Asdvadz Hokeeneruh Loosavoreh

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Well wishes to Linda Tiffany who recently injured her ankle.

Jane Hovsepian recently spent some time in the hospital after a fall that resulted in broken ribs. She is currently in rehab at Maple Manor in Novi, Mi and would appreciate your prayers as she rests and heals. Please know you are missed and thought of often.



Congratulations to Dr. Gary and Mariann Zamanigian on the marriage of their son Drew to Erin Harwood on July 30, 2022. Proud grandmother is Jane Sarkisian and cousin is Lindsay Sahakian.

Congratulations to Nancy and Tom Banks on the marriage of their daughter Amanda to Anselmo Gallegos at St. John Armenian Church on September 3, 2022.

Best wishes to John and Denise Pochas - their daughter, Allison, married Jason Learst on September 13, 2022 at Artist Point, Washington. Allison is also the niece of Elise Landis.

Congratulations to Mark & Katherine Haase on the marriage of their daughter Megan Ani to Nicholas Michael Cococcetta on September 24, 2022 at St. John Armenian Church. Megan is also the grandaughter of Alberta Godoshian and niece of Christine Sarafian.



John and Denise Pochas are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Christian to Sarah Feiten. He popped the question in September and the big day will be sometime next year! Congratulations!

#### Membership Dues



Just a friendly reminder that membership dues are \$25 and can be mailed to:

Paulette Apkarian 7430 Brookberry Ct., West Bloomfield, MI 48322 OR

can be paid on our website <a href="https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site">https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site</a>

Do you have an announcement you would like to share with the Women's Guild??? If so, please email Nyree Giragosian, <u>nyreevgir@gmail.com</u>, the news you would like to share and we will include it in an upcoming newsletter. <u>The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.</u>

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Tues., Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Katah Bake Day – 9:00 am – Yerchanig Joy Callan (248)533-6320		
Wed., Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alternatives for Girls drop off – 5:30 pm – contact Sue Vian for details		
	(248)414-5246/suecarmanvian@gmail.com		
Wed., Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	General Body meeting and elections – 7:00 pm		
Wed., Nov. 9th	Guild Gatherings – "Let's Bake a Lemon Meringue Pie" with sisters Denise		
	and Paulette.		
Tues., Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sou Boureg Bake – 9:00 am -Yerchanig Joy Callan (2480533-6320		
Wed., Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm		
Wed., Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Advent by Candlelight – Sara Andonian (248)515-9264/		
	andoniansl@gmail.com for reservations		
Sat., Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> World Medical Relief 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Contact Edith Baise (313			
	3325 or ebaise@umich.edu		
Wed., Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Guild Gatherings – "Making Boregs with Mary".		
Wed., Dec. 21st	Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm		
Sat., Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve Services 11:00 pm		

# Guild Gatherings

Denise Karakashian and Paulette Apkarian would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported Guild Gatherings with their time and talents. They have enjoyed every minute of this project, from its' creation to viewing each of the exciting videos.

However, it is time to pass the torch. If you are interested in chairing this worthy project, please contact Carol Cholmakjian. Denise and Paulette will be happy to meet with you and present all the tools necessary to present these videos to our members. Thank you for your





The Knitting Club will be meeting on the third Thursday of the month from 10:00 amnoon at the church in the Ararat room. *No experience is necessary* and all are welcome! We will be knitting scarves to support the Motor City Mitten Mission. Contact Linda Assarian for more information. linda.assarian@gmail.com

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#### **Our Plarning Outreach Program Needs Your Help**

Plarning is a form of crocheting with plastic bags to make blankets and pillows for the homeless. The shelters hand them out faster than volunteers can make them. It's very easy and you can find the demonstration on our YouTube Guild Gatherings page. Please reach out to Edith Baise about how to participate (313)673-3325.



#### **BAKE DATES FOR NOVEMBER BAKE SALE**

Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am – Katah Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am – Sou Boreg

Contact Yerchanig Joy Callan if you can make it! (248)533-6320/yerchanigc@gmail.com



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.

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> /1:00 – 3:00 pm

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

### Women's Guild BAKE SALE BOX!



The box has a variety of office supplies, sticky labels, menu stand to hold price list or last-minute info ("Choreg sold out"), and 2 dozen card holder stands to display. Thank you, Carol Cholmakjian, for putting this together! The box can be found in the Women's Guild room downstairs, below the sanctuary.



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. As many of you recall, we normally put together gift bags before the November executive board election meeting – this was put on hold the past few years due to COVID. This year, we will be gathering together like we used to and pack up the bags before the November general body meeting and elections from 5:30 – 7:00 in the church hall.

#### **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 November 2nd with any changes/updates

## The Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church

PRESENTS

# Advent by Candlelight

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 7 pm

Women's Guild members may make reservations for tables by email only beginning Tuesday, November 1 at 8 am.

SJACWGADVENT@GMAIL.COM

There will be a limited number of tables as well as eight individuals per table.







Non-member women of the community may make reservations beginning Tuesday, November 8.

## Women's Guild Annual Care Package Project

Last month, the Women's Guild Social Services committee packed 88 boxes filled with good wishes, tasty goodies and a few fun necessities lovingly donated by the



members of the Social Services Committee to send to send to our college students. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year the Women's Guild put together these generous care packages, giving our students a reminder that their church is thinking of them.

A Special thank you to our Social Services Committee:

Carol Ohanesian – chair, Linda Assarian, Nancy Berryman, Linda DePietro, Linda Franquist, Cheryl Joboulian, Lisa Johnson, Denise Karakashian, Linda Lutz, Nancy Panaretos, Barb Rupas, and Marilyn Sarkesian.

The students are already looking forward to next year's care packages!!!







### Friday September 30th and Saturday October 1st

Another successful Church Bazaar in the books!!!

We overcame the lack of kitchen time and were able to still make tons of sou boureg, katah, choreg, and khadayif - the weekend was a screaming success!

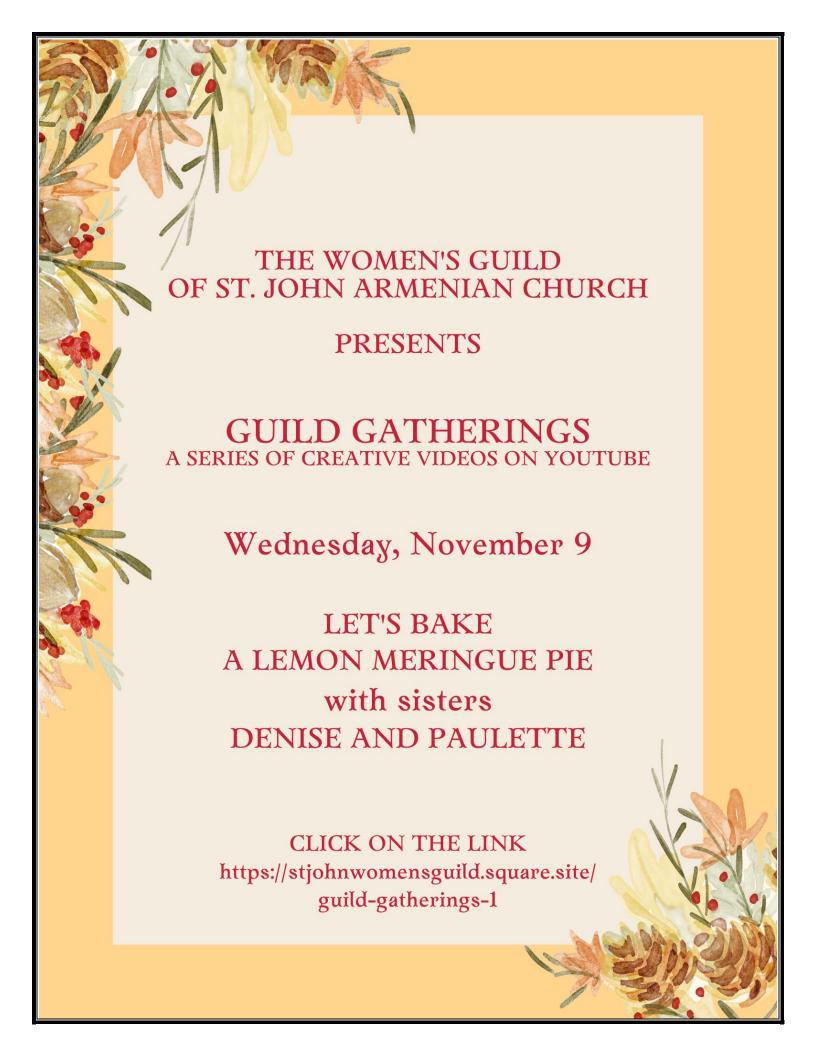
Much appreciation to Dawn Aginian and Denise Boyagian taking on the hot foods all weekend and Rose Najarian and Sue Vian for chairing the bake sale Friday night. We couldn't have done it without all of the following volunteers and donations — thank you, thank you, thank you!!!



Last month we recognized our baking volunteers – this month we would like to thank our Bazaar event volunteers along with those who made donations.

BAZAAR VOLUNTEERS (Kitchen, Bake Sale, Hot Foods) - Dawn Aginian, Sara Andonian, Denise Boyagian, Karen Bullion, Carol Cholmakjian, Lillian Durham, Nyree Giragosian, Alberta Godoshian, Frances Hagopian, Sarah Hagopian, Gayle Sarkisian-Hoplamazian, Sandy Jack, Linda Jevahirian, Lisa Johnson, Karen Kalajian, Linda Karibian, Nancy Kevonian, Yn. Roberta Kochakian, Mona Kurjian, Donna Lafian, Karen Mangune, Tammy Messer, Karen Mooradian, Rose Najarian, Suzanne Nazoyan, Diane Nolff, Nora Noraian, Joyce Obenhoff, Erica Palaian, Terry Palaian, Nancy Panaretos, Elise Papazian, Judy Parks, Terry Parks, Paulette Schmidt, Diana Shoushanian, Debbie Stamp, Linda Tiffany, Kathy Torigian, Sue Vian, Joyce Yeghissian, and Debbie Zazaian.

DONATIONS (Baked Goods and Monetary) - Dawn Aginian, Diane Aginian, Elizabeth Amboian, Ann Marie Ameriguian, Shoushan Ameriguian, Sara Andonian, Charlene Apigian, Carol Aprahamian, Cathy Atesian, Christine Atesian, Sara Bell, Mary Boyadjian, Denise Boyagian, Carol Cholmakjian, Marianne Dardarian, Linda DePietro, Paula Derbabian, Lisa Derderian, Diane Ekizian, Linda Kemian Franquist, Nyree Giragosian, Sarah Hagopian, Linda Houhanisin, Patty Javizian, Linda Jevahirian, Linda Karibian, Nancy Kevonian, Yn. Roberta Kochakian, Gloria Korkoian, Yvonne Korkoian, Esther Kulhanjian, Mona Kurjian, Donna Lafian, Karen Mangune, Dolly Matoian, Karen Mooradian, Rose Najarian, Diane Nolff, Joyce Obenhoff, Orjan Cholmakjian Oswald, Erika Palaian, Terry Palaian, Nancy Panaretos, Judy Parks, Barb Rupas, Michelle Samarian, Marilyn Sarkesian, Anna Sarkisian, Nina Sarkisian, Paula Schmidt, Linda Stamboulian, Linda Tiffany, Jennifer Toomajian, Sue Vian, Debbie Zazaian, and Cathy Zwinck.





The Motor City Mitten Mission is a Michigan 501c3 Non-Profit Organization dedicated to helping the homeless, the needy, the sick, and those striving for a better way of life while educating, partnering, and collaborating with a number of other organizations, schools, churches, clubs, and businesses. As homelessness continues to be a chronic issue for so many Americans, resources to help these people are seriously lacking. Some assistance that the Motor City Mitten Mission provides are meals, clothing, blankets, personal care products, mats and pillows as well as help facilitate services by other local organizations that can provide additional services such as housing, household items and furnishings, health & fitness wellness, mental health services, medical and dental services, legal assistance, financial assistance, education, job training and placement, etc.

This year, our Women's Guild donated 100 meals (\$300.00) for this worthy cause. On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the food was prepared in our church kitchen by Fr. Armash, Guild member Renee Apkarian along with members from our Men's Society. The lunches were picked up and delivered by the Motor City Mitten Mission and distributed to the needy. St. John Armenian Church and the Men's Society has been working with the charity for several years feeding the homeless. As you may remember, The Motor City Mitten Mission is the organization Edith Baise and many of our members donate plarn to for blankets as well as our Social Outreach circle organizing the blanket collection at last year's Christmas dinner.

We hope to continue this partnership in the years to come – making a difference in the lives of those in need.





### Mahs Preparation



On Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, Renee Apkarian along with the help of our own front office Anna (without her help, Renee would have been there all day!) made enough Mahs to get us through the spring! Thank you, Renee and Anna!!!

We would like to thank Rosann Attar for putting together the Sunday School 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students bagging day – they were able to bag 6500 bags!

Renee would also like to thank Cynthia Apkarian, Reagan Apkarian, Scott Apkarian, Cameron Sims (Brother Rice), Matt Jenkinson (Country Day), and Andrea Karagosian for bagging 2500 bags of Mahs this week with her – currently in the St. John kitchen freezer!







For those of you who might be interested in helping out in February for the next Mahs baking session – it's very easy!!

If you can use a regular rolling pin, you can roll Mahs!

# In the Season of Thanks and Giving

Your whole family and the entire St. John volunteer family are invited to a

### Special Appreciation Event

The Clergy and Parish Council would like to acknowledge the love and dedication of our St. John Armenian Church volunteers, who have given of their time, talent and treasure to our many events and endeavors.

Friday, November 18, 2022 at 7:00pm St. John Armenian Church

#### Mezza • Tavloo • Chess • Fun

Please RSVP (text or call) to

Craig Tarpinian 248-974-1313

248-345-8404

Sako Ghasarian Or Correne Akarakcian 248-672-5736



Have you come across any old Women's Guild photos lately??? If so, please email them to Nyree Giragosian, <a href="mailto:nyreevgir@gmail.com">nyreevgir@gmail.com</a>, along with member names/event and any other news you would like to share and we will include them in an upcoming newsletter.

The deadline is the 20th of the month.

#### From December 1966 Newsletter:

"Installation of new board members will take place at our December 7 meeting. May God grant them good health, wisdom and His guidance in order for them to perform their new duties to the best of their capabilities. Congratulations to: Mary Tirakian, Chairman; Alice Chavdarian, Vice Chairman; Arshalous Heckman, Recording Secretary; Gladys Tafralian, Corresponding Secretary; Virginia Mekjian, Treasurer; Agnes Norian, Assistant Treasurer; Sima Kuchukian, Isabelle Cholakian, and Alice Mikaelian, Advisors; and Margaret Hacherian, Ex-Officio."





The names are not listed in the order the women are pictured – Can you match the names to the photos????

Thank you Carol Chomakjian for sharing!!!

Women's Guild 2022 Calendar Including Event Chairs				
Thurs, Jan 6	Armenian Christmas Luncheon Take Away Noon	Wed, July 27	Summer Outing - Detroit Tour of Historic Churches, Marilyn Sarkesian	
Thurs, Jan 6	General Body meeting 7:00pm Zoom	Sat, July 30	Manoogian Manor visit, Transfiguration of Our Lord, 11:00am	
Date TBD	Manoogian Manor visit, Armenian Christmas, Elise Papazian, Cancelled	Wed, Aug 17	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm	
Wed, Jan 19	due to COVID  Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm,	Sat, Aug 20	Manoogian Manor visit, Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, 11:00am	
	ZOOM General Body meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM	Sun, Aug 21	Church Picnic Bake Sale, Edith Baise	
Wed, Feb 2		Wed, Sept 7	& Alice Argnian  General Body meeting, 7:00pm	
Wed, Feb 16	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM	Sun, Sept 11	Khunjook/Family Fun Day, Paulette Apkarian	
Wed, March 2	Saintly Women's Day observance 11:00am/Luncheon/ General Body Mtg, Jackie ElChemmas	Sat, Sept 17	Manoogian Manor visit, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 11:00am	
Wed, March 16	Executive Board meeting after Lenten services, 7:00pm, <b>ZOOM</b>	Wed, Sept 21	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm	
wed, March 10		Sept 30 – Oct 1	Bazaar Bake Sale, Sue Vian & Rose	
Wed, April 6	7:00-7:30pm Fellowship & Book Exchange, 7:30pm General Body meeting		Najarian Fri, NEED CHAIR Sat; Hot Foods, Denise Boyagian & Dawn Aginian	
Sun, April 10	Palm Sunday Bake Sale, Marilyn Dadian, <i>outdoors</i>	Wed, Oct 5	General Body meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM	
Sun, April 17	Easter Sunday Tea, Nyree Giragosian, outdoors Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM Manoogian Manor visit, Easter, 11:00am	Wed, Oct 19	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm	
Wed, April 20		Wed, Nov 2	Alternatives for Girls drop-off 5:30pm, Sue Vian	
		Wed, Nov 2	General Body meeting and Elections 7:00pm	
Sat, April 23		Wed, Nov 16	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm	
Wed, May 4	General Body meeting, 7:00pm. Speaker Dr. Christine Matoian, Women's Health	Wed, Nov 30	Advent by Candlelight, Sara Andonian	
		Wed, Dec 14	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm	
Wed, May 18	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm			
Wed, June 1	Membership Dinner, Belinda Kabodian & Shoushan Ameriguian	COMING 2023		
Wed, June 15	Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM	Saturday, October 21, 2023 85 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Women's Guild		
Sun, June 26	Hokehankist for Women's Guild Members, Tea after church, Paulette Apkarian	and 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Heritage Collection <i>Evening Event</i>		
Sat, July 23	Armenia Fest Royal Oak Farmer's Market 5-10pm, Denise Boyagian			