

St. John's Armenian Church, 22011 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

(248)569-3405

[www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)



goodbye, august  
hello, september

### A Message from our Chair...

As a retired school teacher, September always signaled a change for me. With the fall came a new school year and everyone, once again, shared the morning or afternoon commute with school busses and parents chauffeuring kids to and from school and associated activities. This year, the change isn't quite the same but fall, in all its beauty, will still show itself as we have always known it. Take new appreciation in the gorgeous colors that will soon paint the landscape and those cool, crisp, clear days ahead reminding us that the glory of God is still with us, the world is still turning, and we are greatly blessed.

I hope you are enjoying the fourth round of phone calls from a board member. We miss everyone and it is a priority to make personal contact with members periodically. Likewise, please feel free to call any of us if you have questions, concerns or just want to catch-up. Even though we can't meet in person, we still plan to hold elections in November. We'll have to get creative to make that happen! The nominating committee is starting their work to get a ballot ready. Please consider running for executive body, nominating committee or delegate when asked. We need **YOU** to keep the Guild operating even in these unprecedented times.

How about this little tidbit- Guild Gatherings has racked up over 1200 views! We have volunteers lined up to produce videos through the rest of the year and beyond. Do you have an idea for a video for Guild Gatherings? Contact Paulette Apkarian at 248-225-3823.

Baking news: Many thanks to Joy Callan who has been working diligently to make arrangements so we can **SAFELY** hold baking sessions for the Bazaar. Be sure to read more about it in the newsletter. Once you read the guidelines that have been set up, you may feel more comfortable about helping out on a bake day.

COVID still holds us hostage. As we wait and hope and pray for a vaccine, don't let the anticipation of the future allow you to lose the present. It is in the present when we see the hidden opportunities to Build the Body of Christ. Since being forced to slow down my frenetic pace of life, I find that my appreciation for each new day has been heightened. The things I cherish are just a little bit clearer. I want that to remain even after the pandemic.

Let's give thanks for what we still have rather than dwell on what we're missing. Stay well everyone.

*Denise Karakashian*



We are deeply saddened to share the news that our dear member, Shirley Ann Sarkisian, passed away on July 16, 2020. We extend condolences to her brother, Edward and his wife Virginia, and to Howard Fundukian, Shirley's loving companion.

Our deepest sympathies to Y. Patsy Rogers for the loss of her dear sister, Araxey Barsamian on August 12, 2020.

- Asdvadz Hokeen Losavoreh



We send our get well wishes to Emma Betrosian and Sally Kabodian. As you heal and rest, know you are missed and thought of often.



Congratulations to grandparents Aralynn and Dicran Haidostian on the birth of their grandson, Jack Armen, born to proud parents Allison and David Baron on June 28, 2020.

Liz and Kent Johnson happily welcomed their 10th grandchild to the family when their grandson, Luke Matthew Skubik, son of Kari and James Skubik, arrived on July 6, 2020.

### **BAZAAR GRAPE LEAVES REQUEST**



We will have a labeled box in the back of the church freezer for the collection of grape leaves. We plan to use the leaves Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to make Yahlanche for the Bazaar that weekend. The church will be open Mon.–Wed. 9am-5pm for drop off. Please contact Dawn Aginian with any questions (248)225-7176 or [dawnaginian@gmail.com](mailto:dawnaginian@gmail.com)



### **Welcome our newest Women's Guild members!**

**Lorrie Melkonian Keila**  
23700 Overlook Circle  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025  
248-514-1900  
[LMKDA@comcast.net](mailto:LMKDA@comcast.net)

**Lucine Tarman**  
515 Oakland Avenue  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
248-275-8944  
[lucine@tarmanco.com](mailto:lucine@tarmanco.com)

### **We have a few more directory corrections to add:**

Carole Bagdasarian - add 248-225-6873, [Carole.bagdasarian@comcast.net](mailto:Carole.bagdasarian@comcast.net)

Linda Franquist - change – 2003

Anita Kachadurian - correct - 700 Napa Valley Drive, #135 Milford 48381

Virginia Mekjian - correct - 5601 Hatchery Road, #120 Waterford, MI 48329  
248-681-8730

Debbie Ohanian - add - [dkohanian@gmail.com](mailto:dkohanian@gmail.com)

Shirley Ann Sarkisian - passed away - 7/2020

Sandra Williams - retired to Florida/ resigned



If you have an announcement you would like to share, please email Nyree Giragosian [nyreevgir@gmail.com](mailto:nyreevgir@gmail.com) or call (248)231-2547

Wed., Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Women's Guild ZOOM membership meeting 7:00pm
Wed., Sept. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Women's Guild Executive Board Meeting 7:00pm
Fri. and Sat. Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	Bazaar - see Bazaar flyer for information
Wed., Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Guild ZOOM membership meeting, 7:00pm
Wed., Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Women's Guild Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm
Wed., Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Guild membership meeting <b><i>and</i></b> ELECTIONS 7:00pm



## Women's Guild On-line General Body Meeting



**Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 7:00pm**

Thanks to the Zoom Cloud Meetings computer application, we will be able to conduct our monthly meeting online virtually. Zoom allows us to have a meeting with video and audio. The Zoom app is free to download to your computer, tablet, or smart phone.

We had a fabulous turnout at the July 1<sup>st</sup> ZOOM meeting – hope to “see” all of you on September 2nd!!!

*An email will be sent with a link to join the meeting.*



**THE WOMEN'S GUILD**  
OF  
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH ~ SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

*/PRESENTS*

## ***'GUILD GATHERINGS'***

**~ A SERIES OF CREATIVE VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE ~**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
GROWN-UPS AND KIDS PLAN A CREATIVE WORKSPACE  
WITH SUE AND HEGGY, THE PUPPET

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**  
COMFORT FOODS – SOUPS AND STEWS  
BY YN. ROBERTA

**CLICK ON THE LINK!**

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgaajJ5B015V\\_fCalkqdiHwLZU3qTyV71](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgaajJ5B015V_fCalkqdiHwLZU3qTyV71)

Each published video will remain on the *Guild Gatherings* site to be viewed  
as often as desired.





A decorative border of pink roses with green leaves frames the text. The roses are arranged in a continuous line around the perimeter of the page.

*Congratulations to all of our  
Women's Guild Members  
celebrating membership anniversaries.*

*We are so sorry we were unable  
to have the annual membership dinner  
in June and honor you  
in our customary fashion.*

*Fortunately, some of our members were able  
to stop by our recipients' homes and  
safely deliver tokens of the  
Guild's appreciation for their service.*

*Take a look at the next two pages for pictures!*





Carol Bagdasarian – 10 Year Honoree



Kathy Steck – New member



Fran Hagopian - New member



Anita Kachadurian- Honorary member





Alice Mekjian - 40 Year Honoree



Sally Kabodian – Honorary member



Diane Ekizian – 25 Year Honoree  
(pictured with Denise Karakashian)



Dolores Krikorian – 10 Year Honoree





## ***Blessing of the Grapes***

### ***Visit to Manoogian Manor***



Women's Guild members made our annual Assumption of the Holy Mother of God Blessing of the Grapes visit to Manoogian Manor on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The service was held outdoors with appropriate social spacing and face masks. Thank you, Denise Boyagian, for organizing our visit and for providing the grapes which were distributed to the residents. Our thanks to Father Aren, Der Armash, Deacon Rubik, and Deacon Onnik for presiding over the service. We will be expanding our visits from three per year to five on the Saturday after each major feast day – the next one will be September 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.







This year's annual St. John's Armenian Church Bazaar is going to look different. With everything that is going on in the world right now, we have had to be creative with how we do things. This year, the Bazaar will consist of pre-sale, pre-paid, pre-packaged baked goods using drive thru pickup October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

We've heard from many of our church volunteers and friends regarding the possibility of preparing for our upcoming "Virtual Bazaar". Many of our giant circle of volunteers are still hoping for a return to the good old days before they venture out. Given your heartfelt responses, here is the official Bazaar Baking Plan:

Our Bazaar menu of baked goods will include choreg loaves, choreg rolls, katah loaves, katah quarters and khalkha. If you are interested in making a baked goods donation for our annual bazaar, and you would like to make any of these items in your home, here is what we ask of you. Please contact Joy Callan by September 5 with what you will make and how much. The official church recipe will be provided to you along with a template for weight and size.

Also, it has been our Bazaar tradition, to have a much-anticipated bake sale table full of the very special baked goods that our volunteers provide. Those items include nazoog, simit, khurabia and variations of khalkha. Those items can be made with your favorite recipe.

This year, we will not be able to receive cupcakes, cookies, cakes, candies, bourma, pakhlava and pie. Or you may choose to follow our other tradition, making an in-kind monetary donation.

*(Baking Plan continued)*

Our own Dawn Aginian will be making her famous yalanchi and will set a date and be thrilled to entertain much needed rollers. Remember, this is a total sit down (well-spaced) job.

We are asking that you deliver your freshly baked treats to our church. All you have to do is contact Lisa Mardigian. She will be happy to meet you at the kitchen doors and receive your donation. She will be available to help you with your drop off from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, from now until the end of September

Your first contact will be to:

Joy Callan -

248-533-6320 or yerchanigc@yahoo.com.

Your next contact (for yalanchi) will be to:

Dawn Aginian

248-225-7176 or dawnaginian@gmail.com.

And then, your last outreach  
(as in reaching out of your car window at the  
kitchen door) will be to:

Lisa Mardigian - 586-808-2202

So, friends, start your engines, errr ovens, and give a call. Stay well. Stay healthy.  
Thanks for all you do.

***Please don't forget your monetary donation in lieu of baking  
as part of your Women's Guild obligation***



# BLAST from the

# PAST

Michael Boucher found this treasure in his mother-in-law Alice Chavdarian's personal effects and feels the Guild should have it. So many familiar faces, some dearly departed, many still here. Such a wonderful reminder of all of the people our Women's Guild has touched over the years – giving us hope for the future. Thank you, Michael, for having us in your thoughts.

