



ST. HAGOP ARMENIAN CHURCH

Community of Tampa-St. Pete, Florida

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October 1, 2024

Dear «First_Name»,

As always, we pray this greeting finds you and yours well as we announce St. Hagop's 2025 annual stewardship campaign and invite your participation in it.

This year's campaign is unique, beginning with an inspirational visit by the Primate of the Eastern Diocese, His Grace Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan. Please make note of the following schedule of events your parish council approved for our 2025 annual stewardship campaign:

Date	Event
October 6	Primate's Visit/Badarak
October 13	Stewardship Sermon 1
November 3	Parishioner Testimonial 1 (Stepan Aghekyan)
November 17	Parishioner Testimonial 2 (TBD)
November 18	2025 Pledge Cards Mailed
November 24	Stewardship Sermon 2
November 28	Thanksgiving Day
December 1	Pledge Sunday
December 15	Parishioner Testimonial 3 (TBD)
December 22	Deadline to Return Pledge Cards

Holy scripture teaches us that God created earth for us, and we are now stewards of His creation, with an obligation to use the gifts bestowed to us in a manner that would please Him. 1 Peter 4:10 instructs us as follows: *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.* Being a good steward by offering a gift proportionate to our means is one way of expressing our love for God and our gratitude to Him.

During 2024 St. Hagop received 111 stewardship pledges, representing several hundred parishioners and friends of our church, totaling \$171,170. Your stewardship gifts provided St. Hagop the means to fulfill its essential operations and reasons for being: offering worship services, performing Armenian Christian sacraments, outreach, and providing Armenian Christian education, to name a few. Moreover, these funds enabled St. Hagop to tend to essential property maintenance needs, such as replacing our church's roof. Beyond supporting the many ministries fundamental to serving our parishioners, your pledge monies allowed St. Hagop to provide financial relief to our disadvantaged brethren in the homeland and diaspora, and to sponsor numerous secular and nonsecular Armenian cultural events.

We would also like to take this opportunity to restate our broader view of stewardship. Namely, the bounds of stewardship go well beyond monetary giving, and we encourage and welcome your service in St. Hagop's many ministries. Please visit our web site and/or contact either of us if you have questions or would like to further discuss stewardship.

Yours in faith,

Michael Shahnasarian, Ph.D.
Stewardship Chairman

Der Hovnan Demerjian
Pastor, St. Hagop Armenian Church

