



Volume 27, Number 8
September 2018

The Cathedral Messenger

A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

Looking Back 85 Years: How St. George's Big Dinner Began



Prohibition was on its way out, as state after state voted to repeal the 18th amendment. In (dry) Kansas, the Legislature had just impeached two elected state officials for their role in the \$1.5 million Finney Bond Scandal.

These headlines dominated Wichita papers in late 1933, as did Charles Lindbergh, Machine Gun Kelly, and Shocker football. With the Great Depression deepening, Wichita charities pleaded for donations (“Don’t let our own folks go hungry”) while conservatives worried that Roosevelt’s New Deal spelled the end of democracy.

Also on the front pages was a nightly “human interest” column written by Victor Murdock, long-time editor of the Wichita Eagle. On November 17, 1933, he describes the exotic dishes of “far Syria” that were being served “here in Wichita today” at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nemetallah Farha.



The early YWCA building at 140 N. Topeka, where a “Syrian dinner” was held in 1933. Courtesy WSU Special Collections.

The first line of his article, however, is the one that interests historians of Wichita’s now-famous Lebanese dinner. Murdock writes,

At a Syrian dinner given at the Y.W.C.A. in Wichita recently, there appeared on the menu a particularly appealing pastry called baklawa.

Who organized this 1933 dinner, and why? Unfortunately, he doesn’t say (perhaps he wasn’t even there). But his glowing descriptions of Mrs. Farha’s kibba, lebna—and, of course, bak-

lawa—mark the beginning of Wichita’s love affair with Lebanese cuisine.

The Role of the American-Syrian Ladies Club

Wichita had dozens of women’s clubs in the twenties, but few were as prestigious as the Daughters of the American Revolution. In 1921, seven members of the local DAR chapter approached a group of Syrian housewives—most of them recent immigrants who barely spoke English—about starting a club.

continues pg 5

MEMORY ETERNAL

Harry J. Kouri, 8/8

Vince Skaff, 8/11
(brother of Missy Cohlma)



"Mostly Moms" Bible Study



A group for
moms and other
interested women

Studying the Gospel of Mark,
Chapter 9 & following

Beginning Wednesday, September 12, 1:30pm
and continuing every other week.
Led by Fr. Paul.

At the home of Reina Nabbout
2848 N. Cypress Ct.



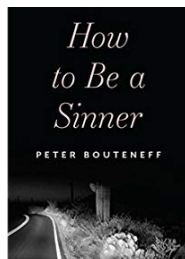
Women's Faith & Growth

Join us Thursday
September 27, 7:15p

in the Youth Center
for an evening of fellowship & faith.
Studying book by Peter Bouteneff:

"How to be a Sinner"

Leader, Vasiliki Sherry



Save the Date

November 16-17

Women's Retreat

with Fr. Josiah Trenham
(Sandy Sipp for details)

MABROOK! BLESSINGS!

BAPTISM

Claire Michelle Kubina was baptized, 8/19
(daughter of Anthony and Lindsay)

BIRTH

Ezra Curtis Vineyard, 8/3
(son of Kyle and Rebekah)

Monroe Claire Ayesch was born 8/17
(daughter of Ryan and Sara)

CHRISMATIONS

Tim O'Halloran, Greg and Susan Reed, 8/14

MARRIAGE

Emmanuel Maginas and
Melissa Likiadopoulos, 8/19

MANY YEARS!

St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral
& Christian Churches Together
presents

Very Reverend
Father Joseph
Huneycutt

Speaking on
"Life Illumined"

a presentation from the
Orthodox Christian perspective
as a part of the Christian Churches
Together 2018 Convocation

Wednesday,
October 3, 2018

Daily Vespers at 7:00 PM
Presentation to follow
in the Cathedral



St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral
7515 E 13th St • Wichita, KS • 316.636.4676



SEPTEMBER FASTING



During this period, the normal fasting traditions
are observed: abstain from meat, poultry and
dairy products on Wednesdays and Fridays.

2018 TEEN GOYO OFFICERS

JOEY MAKBOUD	PRESIDENT
CALEB DOOM	VICE-PRESIDENT
DAVID SPENCER	TREASURER
HANNAH DOOM	HEAD HISTORIAN
ANNA MOSLEY	HISTORIAN
CELLE KHALLFE	HISTORIAN
ZYADA MEKONNEN	HISTORIAN
ANTHONY NABBOUT	SERGEANT AT ARMS

Studying from The Books of Ephesians Philippians Colossians

TEENS JOIN US every Wednesday night in the Youth Center after Vespers 7:15p.

St George Cathedral Church School 2018-2019

Fall semester theme:

**"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST
WHO STRENGTHENS ME"**

PHILIPPIANS 4:13



PreK-K
Monaica Ledell
Kayla Vineyard
Naomi Polk

1st/2nd
Kelly Reinert
Christina Ashton

3rd/4th
Libbe Coons
Vickie Coons

5th/6th
Candace Leming
Rebecca Likiardopoulos

7th/8th
Rami Dahdal
Misha Warren

9th/12th
Nick Oldziej

Registration

**SUNDAY,
September 2nd
September 9th**

Classes Begin

**SUNDAY,
September 16th**

Welcome Home



Greg and Susan Reed and Tim O'Halloran were received to the Cathedral by Chrismation on August 14th. Tim's wife Jan has been a member of St. George since April 30th, 2016. Greg and Susan will be relocating in the near future to Holy Apostles Church in Bowling Green, KY

Mabrook! Blessings!

CONTINUING CATECHESIS

Prophecy or Heresy?

An Examination of Popular Evangelical Teachings on Biblical Prophecy

September 19:

Prophecies and the End Times:
The Evangelical System – Jay Mullinix

September 26:

Is the State of Israel the Fulfillment of
Biblical Prophecy? – Fr. Paul

October 10:

The Rapture and Reality – TBA

October 17:

The Millenium: Will Jesus Reign on Earth
for 1000 Years? – Fr. Paul

All presentations will take place on
Wednesday evenings
following Vespers at 7:15p



PLEASE JOIN US IN A CELEBRATION LUNCHEON IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY, IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. FOR

HERITAGE Sunday

SEPTEMBER 16



THE ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT

HERITAGE SOCIETY

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE MADE A COMMITMENT TO THE CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT.
WON'T YOU DO THE SAME?

MEMBERS:

His Grace Rt. Rev. Bishop BASIL
V. Rev. Paul & Kh. Jeannie O'Callaghan
Rev. Dn. David & Jennifer Sebitts
Mr. Mark Ayesh
Mrs. Sherri Ayesh
Mr. Lindy Bayouth
Mrs. Sally Bayouth
Mrs. Judie Castrisos
Mr. Dennis & Mrs. Janet Cohlma
Mrs. Nancy Cohlma
Mr. David & Mrs. Debbi Elkouri
Mr. Bill & Mrs. Shirley Farha
Mrs. Brenda Farha
Mr. Christopher & Mrs. Genevieve Farha
Mrs. Joan Farha
Ms. Julie Farha
Ms. Laura Farha
Mrs. Leilah Farha
Dr. Vincent Farha
Mr. W.G. Farha and Mrs. Mallory Farha
Mrs. Sheena Gordon
Mr. Basil & Mrs. Patou Hourani
Mrs. Geri Jabara
Mr. Harvey & Mrs. Missy Jabara
Mr. Tom Jacob

Dr. Sam & Mrs. Jacqueline Kouri
Dr. Glenn & Mrs. Nancy Kubina
Mrs. Alice Laham
Mr. Doug & Mrs. Gayle Malone
Dr. Kent & Mrs. Sandy Murray
Mr. Peter Tevis
Mr. Constantine & Mrs. Magdalen Vloutely
Anonymous

DEPARTED MEMBERS:

Mr. Lindy Andeel
Mr. Tony & Mrs. Grace Barkett
Ms. Sally Bayouth
Mr. Tom & Mrs. Shirley Castrisos
Mr. Bruce Colver
Dr. George Farha
Mr. Ralph & Mrs. Nina Farha
Mrs. Vickie Farha
Mr. Zack Farha
Prof. Fran Jabara
Mr. Philip Laham
Mrs. Sherry Morrow
Mr. Ralph Razook
Ms. Mary Shadid
Mr. Paul Wulf & Dr. Taissia Reinhadt-Wulf

If you have made a commitment to the Cathedral in your estate planning and your name does not appear above, or to learn more about making a such a commitment, please contact Fr. Paul, or Deacon David, Chair of the St. George Cathedral Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees.

"It's as easy as adding one line to your will"

By gifting a percentage of your estate or a fixed amount to the Cathedral Endowment,
you will provide for the future needs of our community.

The Heritage Society: *Giftng Future Generations with the Heritage of Faith*



Looking Back..continued

“These were all the top women in Wichita, who belonged to the finest organization,” recalled Jamelia Najim. Her mother, Mrs. Shaker Cohlma, was a founding member. “They came to the women and said, ‘We’d love to have you ladies belong and we would love to work with you.’”

The American-Syrian Ladies Club met weekly at first. The Syrian women would display their sewing and fancy work while their American counterparts offered English lessons, sang patriotic songs, and lectured on child hygiene.

Over time the focus shifted to music and culture. In 1933, a week before Murdock’s column appeared in the Eagle, the Club announced its dazzling November program: a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan’s “Madame Butterfly.”

By now meetings were held monthly, in members’ homes. When it was the Syrian ladies’ turn to host, all the women got together days ahead of time to cook Lebanese food “and sweets and stuff,” according to Marguerite Farha, who was a young bride in 1929.

“And these ladies were so impressed with it,” she recalled. “They said, ‘Listen, we think this is great. . . You really should sell this food.’ And so we decided to rent the YWCA” for the first Syrian dinner.

“Each one made pots of Lebanese food, took it to the YWCA and sold it for a quarter a plate,” said Jamelia Najim. In those days, rooms rented for \$2 to \$3 a week, a new Studebaker cost \$645, and Cut-Rate Foods, the Farha brothers grocery, advertised coffee for 24 and ½ cents a pound, the lowest price in town.

Because of the lack of refrigeration, most of the food had to be prepared on the day of the dinner. “They’d bring the lamb in there,” Marguerite Farha recalled, “and cut the whole animal in half. And I’m no bigger than a mite, but I’d get up there and cut the shoulders loose and the thighs.

“I cut all the parts into pieces and give it to the ladies so they could cut it up and get it ready [to cook]. I had to skin it, because none of them would dare touch those big knives!”



Matriarchs of St. George on the steps of the new St. George Church in 1950. Proceeds from their Syrian dinners helped pay for the church. Courtesy Mary Razook.

Mrs. Dollie Farha recalled that first dinner as more a gesture of appreciation to the American-Syrian Club members than a fundraiser. After all, the ladies had no idea how Syrian food would be received by the general public. When 100 guests showed up, the dinner turned a profit.

Soon, the men of St. George approached the women, asking for their help to raise money for a new church. To kick off their fundraising effort, Mrs. Saleema Bayouth went to the younger working girls and asked them to give her “one dollar a week” from their wages.

“They bought silverware, they bought dishes, they bought pots and pans” with that money, according to Marguerite Farha.

As the dinner became a more regular event, the venue moved from the YWCA to the basement of St. John’s Episcopal Church. The older ladies often commandeered the kitchen at Fr. George Cohlma’s house for cooking, while the younger women transported the dishes to the church to serve.

The funds they raised eventually helped pay for the new church hall, finished in 1948. The women furnished its kitchen with the cutlery and cookware they had purchased over the years. Fifteen years after it started, the “big dinner” now had a home—and a new era began.

The late Marguerite Farha and Jamelia Najim shared memories of the dinner in 2000. Special thanks to *Brenda Farha, Jean Cohlma, and Toni Sadler* for their help with the story.

KENYA MISSION TRIP

PART 1 OF 2
BY MATTHEW ASH

It was unseasonably chilly when our St. George Kenya Mission Team arrived at dawn during the Kenyan winter. We would later find out this is the coldest it has been in recent memory. We were all tired but excited to be on the ground and we were looking forward to whatever God had in store for us.

After contending with lost luggage at the airport for several hours, we were greeted by Fr. Gregory, the Vicar General, the Bishops' representative, and Wilson, who is Bishop Neofitos' assistant and a reader in the Orthodox Church. Fr. Gregory and Wilson welcomed us with a warm smile and blessings from the Bishop. Fr. Gregory stopped on our 2-hour drive to Nyeri at Caffé Leo where we were treated to chai, coffee, and small cakes. Both Wilson and Fr. Gregory were beyond gracious and kind to this group of mostly strangers. We were already feeling loved and cared for and that would only continue and deepen during our time there.

We arrived in Nyeri and got settled in our rooms. It was there that we met Sophia and Esther, the two women who would take care of us for the two weeks we were there. That first evening, Bishop Neofitos joined us for dinner. He talked about what we would be doing each day and he encouraged us in word and prayer. He was joyful in his speech and encouraging of both this mission as well as the overall mission he has for the Orthodox Church in Kenya. We were beginning to see the picture he was painting of his tireless



work for the people in his diocese and surrounding areas on behalf of the Orthodox Church. Again, our tired bodies, yearning for sleep, were a contrast to our joyful anticipation of waking up early and meeting the children and people we would be spending time with the next twelve days.

On Sunday, we arose before dawn as we were scheduled to depart for our 3.5 hour drive to St. Catherine in Meru, Kenya at 6AM. Meru was not originally on the radar for our team. However, in his discerning wisdom, Bishop Neofitos wanted us to visit Meru for a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and meet our Kenyan brothers and sisters there as well. After the 3.5 hour drive we arrived in Meru. I remember the collective gasps at both the beauty of where we were in Meru with the rolling hills of tea and the groves of banana trees and from the measured drive on the cliffside on rocky, weathered, dirt roads.

Divine Liturgy at St. Catherine was both familiar and new for many of us. The Kenyan people are a little more animated in both body and voice when celebrating the Liturgy. What a sight to behold watching Titus Sipp and Subdeacon Athanasios serve. After communing, the singing and dancing grew louder and larger until we were all pulled from our places to join them as the choir sang in the most beautiful rhythmic tones, which were both familiar and new – ancient Orthodox tones and ancient African voices filled the church and was carried aloft with the burning incense.

Community Support

by Traci Spencer

we'd love to have you join us!

"for I was hungry and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me" — Matthew 25: 35-36

**Next Meeting
September 11th**
12:00 noon in the Conference Room.
We would love to have you join us!!
We meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents with our community. Please contact Traci Spencer at 371-5599 if you would like to be involved.

Completed Projects

CHILDREN FIRST

St. George volunteers met in the St. George Gymnasium on Saturday, August 18th to put together 100 hygiene bags, consisting of full size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, nail clippers, etc. to be distributed to school age children in need. Children First provides a basic needs pantry for kids to get their basic needs met which might otherwise keep them from attending school.

YOUNG AT HEART BINGO

On Tuesday, September 18th from 11:30-1:00 Community Support will be having BINGO, catered food, and fellowship for members 60 years of age and older. There will be lots of great prizes so hope to see you there!!

CASH FOR CLASSROOMS

In September, the Community Support Committee will be meeting with Principals from the following schools in USD #259: Anderson Elementary, Enders Open Magnet Elemen-



LORD'S DINER

On Sunday, August 19th, St. George volunteers served the homeless in our community at the Broadway location. St. George serves at the Lord's Diner the 3rd Sunday of every month. Please let Pat Milburn know if you can help serve at 265-1380 or sign up on the Community Support Bulletin Board.

tary, Enterprise Elementary, and North High and will contribute \$500 for each of their Cash for Classroom programs. We are thrilled to partner with these schools again and continue to help meet children's basic needs to help them have a successful educational experience.

What's Coming Up ?

LORD'S DINER

On Sunday, September 16th, St. George volunteers will be serving the homeless in our community at the Broadway location. Please let Pat Milburn know if you can help serve at 265-1380 or sign up on the Community Support Bulletin Board.

CHILDREN FIRST

The Community Support Committee will be providing toiletries and personal hygiene kits for Children First in August. Children First is an organization that supports and provides for underprivileged children in the Wichita Community. These kits will help stock their Basic Needs Pantry and will be distributed to students beginning with the 2018/2019 school year in August. Our done in a day project will take place at the beginning of August- date to be announced in next month.

The Cathedral Messenger

St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral
7515 East 13th Street North
Wichita, KS 67206-1223
www.stgeorgecathedral.net

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wichita, KS
PERMIT NO. 734

the Treehouse 2018
LABOR RUN
Running for moms
so babies can bloom!

SAT. • SEPT. 15
8:30 A.M.
SEDGWICK COUNTY PARK

FINISH



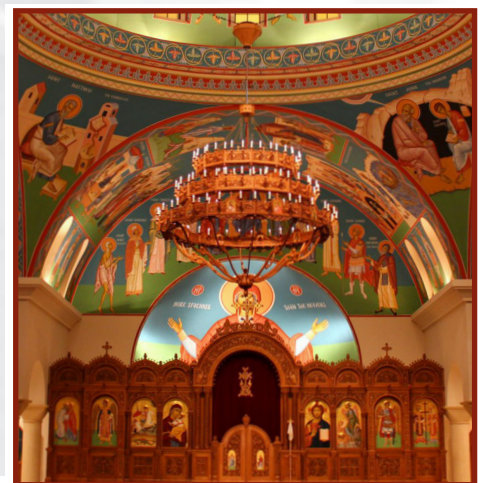
St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral

The **85th** Annual Lebanese Dinner & Food Sale *2018*

Saturday, October 13th, 4-8 p.m.
Sunday, October 14th, 12-7 p.m.

- Dine-In or Drive Thru
- Cathedral Tours throughout the day
- Country Kitchen with Ethnic Specialties & Homemade Goodies

Adults - \$18 • Children - \$12
(age 10 & under)



Tickets & Information • 316-636-4676

7515 East 13th St • www.stgeorgecathedral.net

St. George Cathedral 85th Annual Lebanese Dinner

PRE-ORDER FORM

Orders must be placed no later than
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018
(Limited quantities are available)

Make orders by mail, phone, fax or e-mail to:

St. George Cathedral • 7515 E. 13th Street • Wichita, KS 67206
Phone: 636-4676 • Fax: 636-5628 • E-mail: gina@stgeorgecathedral.net

Pick up orders at the Cathedral on:

Saturday, October 6th

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 7th

12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**(Orders NOT PICKED UP by Tuesday, October 9th by 12:00 p.m.
will be cancelled and money REFUNDED)**

ITEM	PRICE	QTY.	AMOUNT
Kibba Pan (12 pcs.)	\$18.00	_____	_____
Cabbage Roll Pan (Limited amount available)	\$18.00	_____	_____
Baklava Pan (20 pcs.)	\$18.00	_____	_____
Meat Pies (pkg. of 8)	\$8.00	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____ Evening phone: _____

E-mail: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Name of person filling order: _____ Date order picked up ___/___/___

Cash Check # _____ Amount _____

COUNTRY KITCHEN



Let's whip up some made-from-scratch goodies. Homemade labels and express check-in forms are available in the Cathedral office or at coffee hour. Questions? Please contact Val Learned (371-4866).



DONATION DROPOFF SCHEDULE:

Friday, Oct. 12, 1:00 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 12:00 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Please take all items to the Cathedral.



*The
Country
Kitchen*

Express Check-In Form

Each year the community looks forward to the items found in the Country Kitchen. Your baked goods, ethnic specialties, jellies, canned items, candies, are a very important and wonderful addition to the annual dinner. Thank you for your hard work!

Drop your goodies off on **Friday, October 12th from 1:00 to 4:00p.m. or on Saturday October 13th from 12:00 to 2:00p.** Please label your goodies prior to bringing them to the church. Labels are available in the Cathedral office and in the coffee hour. Non-perishables may be dropped off in the church office during the week prior to the dinner.

Don't have time to wrap your goodies? The Country Kitchen chairwomen will do it for you.

HOMEMADE FROM THE KITCHEN OF: _____

ITEMS	SIZE OF PACKAGE	QUANTITY	PRICE	NOTES	PERMISSION TO REPACKAGE?
EXAMPLE: CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES	1 DOZEN	6	\$6.50	WITH NUTS	YES