

# *in* Touch

Volume 21, Issue 8

August 2013



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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Hospitality  
Worship  
Facility

Education



Gearing up for a new year.  
Find your place; use your gifts and talents.

Philanthropy  
Stewardship  
Communication



Lord, You know that men are flesh and blood; forgive them their sins and pour out Your blessing on all. — St. Haralambos

## Gather Items for October Rummage Sale

Use the month of August to clear some space at home and support an upcoming sale to benefit St. Haralambos parish. Starting Sept. 8, parishioners can drop off items to support our efforts for the first weekend in October parish rummage sale.

Virtually all clothes, household items and more can be donated for the rummage sale. The only items not being accepted are electronics or shoes.

The sale will be held Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day.



## Join the 2013 OCMC Teaching Team to Uganda

From Sept. 23 until Oct. 7, OCMC is sending a Teaching Team to Uganda. This team will offer workshops on Christian Stewardship to both clergy and laity in four regions of Uganda. OCMC is seeking team members who will be strong advocates for stewardship to teach on this team in Uganda. This includes offering presentations on topics that introduce stewardship, self-sufficiency, and self-reliance to the faithful there. People with skills in teaching development, fundraising, and self-sustainability concepts are encouraged to apply to this OCMC Teaching Team. If you feel called to serve on this team, please contact [teams@ocmc.org](mailto:teams@ocmc.org). To find out more about the team, visit [http://www.ocmc.org/about/view\\_team.aspx?TeamId=107](http://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=107).

## Sunday eBulletin

Have you been getting the weekly Sunday bulletin sent to your mailbox? If not, just send the church your email address and we'll be happy to add you to the list.

Especially helpful when travelling or sick and homebound, the Sunday eBulletin gives you the hymns and readings for the Sunday liturgy, as well as a listing of parish events and activities during the week. It's another way to help improve communication within our parish family.

Do you know a family member or friend who would enjoy receiving the Sunday eBulletin? Let them know it is available each week and we'd be happy to include them on our weekly mailing.

The Church office email address is [Office@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com).





## A New Year Ahead

Are you coming to the Church on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 9 am? We're asking all able-bodied men and women to join the Maintenance Crew for the morning and enjoy fellowship together while helping take care of our building maintenance needs. There will be additional maintenance days scheduled every couple of months, so we hope it becomes a tradition: one that brings families together, and one that keeps our buildings looking clean, and in good shape.

If "Repair and Maintenance" doesn't excite you or (more to the point) make use of your gifts and talents, have you thought about what does? Is it helping with education, philanthropy, worship, hospitality or communications? There are members of this parish who are involved in all these areas because that is how they put their interests or talents to good use.

This is a never-ending process in the Church; not simply finding volunteers, but finding the right people for the right job. Our congregation is continually changing: some move away while others are moving in; some are retiring and others are just starting a family. And everyone in the Church has some God-given gift or

talent that is waiting to be put to good use!

It is also good stewardship of our Church and of ourselves. A good steward (caretaker) understands the responsibility of taking care of everything he has been given, beginning with himself. As Christians we understand that our bodies are special, temples of the Holy Spirit given to us at our baptism, so we have an understanding that we should take special care of our bodies.

A recent advertisement asks the question: Which is running better these days – your car or your body? Most of the people responded, "My car!" Disregarding illness, how many of us would respond the same way?

Being a good steward means caring for all that God has given us, including our bodies, our souls, our gifts, talents, and our time. How do we take care of or manage our gifts, talents and time? The short answer is by making the most effective use of them, but this is something that takes careful consideration and preparation.

Many books and seminars on time management are available, and different techniques work for

different people, but the general point of agreement is that we have the responsibility for taking control of our time each day. That means saying 'no' to certain people and projects so we can say 'yes' to others; it means saying 'no' to purchasing certain things so we can say 'yes' to purchasing others.

With respect to gifts and talents, some of the biggest obstacles people run into is either not knowing where they can help, thinking their help is not needed or not believing that they have anything to offer!

Ask any member of the Parish Council about putting your gifts and talents to use; they'll be happy to let you know! Talk to people who participate in various ministries and find out how you can get involved.

The new Church Year begins next month along with many opportunities for ministry (putting your God-given gifts to use). How about looking into where you can help make a difference – both to yourself and to your Church?

***Talk to people who participate in various ministries and find out how you can get involved.***



**St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox  
Church**

www.stharalambos.org

**Rev. Michael Pallad**

### Sunday Worship

Matins: 8:45 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

### Office

623-486-8665  
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383  
Office@StHaralambosAZ.com  
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com  
*Hours*  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Parish Council

Roy Christian  
David Durgam  
Dennis Georgen  
Timothy Harvey  
Dean Milonas  
Russel Skocypec

Tony Panousopoulos  
Peter Vardalos  
Dorothy Vordos  
Lee Vordos  
Ken Wrona  
Russell Zook

## Thank You

Father Michael and all my friends, I want to thank you with all my heart for your good wishes and visits. I am home now and it will take some time to recover, but your love and care will be with me. Thank you, Argyro Vasquez

## Community Prayer

Please continue prayers for the safe release of Archbishop Paul Yazigi of Aleppo and Syriac Orthodox Archbishop Yohanna Ibrahim of Aleppo, who were kidnapped at gunpoint on Apr. 22, and no word on their whereabouts or release has been given. For further information please visit: <http://www.antiochian.org/2013-abductions-bishops>

## The Facts

By Dennis Georgen, Parish Council President

Over the summer months I was able to enjoy some time away from Phoenix's heat visiting family. You may have heard about one of our stops, Roswell, which is a surprisingly nice little community in central New Mexico. Over the July 4th weekend, they host the annual Alien Days Festival. In addition to a carnival, vendors and live music, there was an alien costume contest, 5K, and parade. There were also a number of lectures given by individuals who are absolutely convinced that the story of the crash of an alien spacecraft in 1947 is true. While the speakers were all quite believable, I remained unconvinced... except for one thing. Seems to me that the Air Force did attempt to cover something up! Not saying what it was... could have been a secret weapon, or an experiment gone wrong... who knows? But, they went through too much effort for it to have been just a weather balloon!

Unlike the Air Force in 1947, I am not going to try to cover anything up.

Last year we sold our excess land at 75th and Greenway, and with additional cash

applied, re-financed the mortgage on our property, bringing the balance down to \$720K. At the time that the mortgage was refinanced, it was our intention to continue to pay the higher original loan payment amount in hopes that we would be able to erase the mortgage on our property within 10 years. It was and still is a worthy goal.

At mid-year, our net income is negative by ~\$34,300. While action has been taken to control our expenses, our total income is down from our budget projections. Expenses of ~\$142K are on target when comparing year over year and against our 2013 forecast. However, our income is off from 2012, leaving our cash reserves very nearly depleted at this point.

As a result your Parish Council has voted to temporarily suspend making additional principal payments of ~\$3,000/month towards the mortgage until such time as our financial position improves.

Your continued generous giving as Stewards of His Church and support of our Orthodox presence in the West Valley will be greatly appreciated.

## Attention Young Singers!

Announcing the formation of the Phoenix-area Youth Choir to participate in the 2014 Folk Dance Festival in Anaheim, California. Auditions for the choir will be open to young people between the ages of 14-25 from the four Phoenix-area Greek Orthodox parishes. Dancers planning on registering for FDF are also welcome to participate in the choir; there is no additional registration fee. For further information, please contact Fr. Michael.



## St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Reni Milonas, President

The Mending Hearts Sewing Circle will begin to make the Heart Huggy pillows on Aug. 1 at 10 a.m. in the Social Hall. Sewing experience is not needed.

Our next meeting will be a potluck on Sept. 10 at 6 p.m..

## Greek Festival

By Pam Lemons, Festival Chairman

The annual Taste of Greece is just around the corner. If you'd like to be included as a festival supporter in the program, please send your sponsor form and payment to the church as soon as possible. And, if you are able to volunteer

to help with food preparation, set up, festival weekend activities or clean up, please fill in the volunteer form also included in this month's InTouch. We need everyone's smiling face and participation to assure a successful Festival.

## Sunday School

By Martha Stithem, Sunday School Director & Teacher

As the summer months draw to a close soon, it is time to start preparing for the new ecclesiastical year and the start of Sunday School on Sept. 8. The Sunday School Ministry needs the support and participation of not only the parents, but also other Parish members as well. This ministry offers a wonderful opportunity for Parish stewards to share their Time, Talent, and Treasure for the Glory of God.

It is my hope and prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide more of our church stewards to the holy work of teaching and helping our children grow in the Orthodox faith and church. Currently, there is a need for teachers, substitutes, and snack volunteers. For anyone who has an interest in teaching, but can't commit to every Sunday, that's okay. Becoming part of a teacher pool is a great option. Let me

know of your interest and we can work out a schedule that works for you. I can be reached by email [mjstithem@cox.net](mailto:mjstithem@cox.net) or phone 623-936-5896. Please consider sharing your Time, Talent, and Treasure in the Sunday School Ministry as you are able.

On Aug. 6, we will be celebrating the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. To learn more about the biblical story and icon of this feast visit the website, [www.goarch.org/special/listen\\_learn\\_share/transfiguration](http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/transfiguration).

On Aug. 15, we will be celebrating the Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. Families can learn more about the biblical story and icon of this feast by clicking on, [www.goarch.org/special/listen\\_learn\\_share/dormition](http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/dormition).

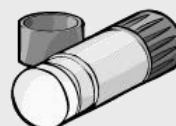


## Name Days

Many years/*Chronia Polla* to those named after the following saints:

- St. Teodosios of Argos (7th)
- St. Laurentios (Laurence) (10th)
- Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th)
- St. Stamatios (16th)
- St. Theophanes of Mt. Athos (19th)
- St. Irenaios (23rd)
- St. Moses the Ethiopian (28th)

The Youth Group and Sunday School are in need of donations of glue sticks. If you could help out, please bring any donations to the counter in the preschool room. Thank you!



## Birthdays



- Al Cuccorelli (2)
- Gianna Selles (2)
- Irene Nathanson (4)
- Dorothy Ayan (5)
- Phillip Bell (7)
- Georgia Savaidis (7)
- Ali Yaghooti (9)
- Pierce Retsinas (11)
- Raymond Wirsing (11)
- Tom Langas (13)
- Aphrodite Devolites (14)
- Tania Ballas (15)
- George Christie (16)
- Alexis Tremoulis (17)
- Fr. Michael Pallad (18)
- Thalia Zorbas (18)
- Valla Wrona (19)
- Michael Fulghum (22)
- Tyler Savoy (22)
- Anna Yacyshyn (22)
- Nick Cuccorelli (23)
- Parker Rosekrans (24)
- Evanthia Vardalos (25)
- Val Danos (27)
- Louis Pappas (30)
- Yvette Nicholas (31)

If you don't see your name, or those of family members, and would like to be included on the monthly birthday listing, please send the information to the church office.

## St. Christopher's Bookstore

### Jesus Calling, Enjoying Peace in His Presence by author Sarah Young

Of course we know that prayer is essential to connect to our Savior. Too often however the direction feels one way...we are doing all the "talking". This daily devotional is unique in that it teaches us to listen to what Jesus has to say to us, rather than focusing on what we ask or say to Him. The intent is how to be silent and open to His messages and calling.

Written as if Jesus Himself were speaking, the words make us more aware of His presence and reminds us to trust and allow God's Will to occur. Easy to read and beautifully bound this book will help those wanting to practice the art of listening to God.

Following is just one sample from many beautifully moving messages:

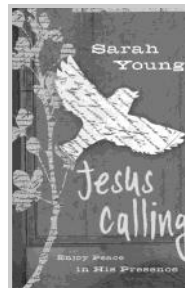
*"I have loved you with an everlasting Love. Before time began, I knew you. For years you swam around in a sea of*

*meaninglessness, searching for Love, hoping for hope. All that time I was pursuing you, aching to embrace you in My compassionate arms.*

*When time was right, I revealed Myself to you. I lifted you out of that sea of despair and set you down on a firm foundation. Sometimes you felt naked—exposed to the revealing Light of My Presence. I wrapped an ermine robe around you: My robe of righteousness. I sang you a Love song, whose beginning and end are veiled in eternity. I infused meaning into your mind and harmony into your heart. Join Me in singing*

*My song. Together we will draw others out of darkness into My marvelous Light."*

Also of value is the book's introduction where author Sarah Young shares her quest and describes the spiritual journey which changed her life. If you long for your prayer to change from monologue to dialogue this devotional is just for you!



## Caring Friends

In an open letter over a year ago, Warren Buffet stated that of the three gifts we have: time, talent, and treasure, time is the most valuable. He explained that talent can be learned, and treasure can be gained or lost. Time is irreplaceable, in this life. Of this most valuable of our gifts, I invite you to give some to the

homebound through the Caring Friends Ministry of St. Haralambos Church. If you feel called to visit those who are sick or lonely this is a fine place to start. Contact the church office or Irene Nathanson directly for more information. I know from experience this donation of time is worthwhile, low anxiety, and fulfilling.

## Orthodox Study Group

The orthodox study group will be taking some time off in August and will resume meeting again in September, date to be announced.



# SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383 • Tel.: (623) 486-8665 • Fax: (623) 486-5290  
Web: [www.stharalambos.org](http://www.stharalambos.org) • E-mail: [Office@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com) • [FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com)

Spring, 2013

Dear Friends,

The planning has begun for the 2013 “Taste of Greece” Food and Dance Festival at St. Haralambos Church in northwest Peoria. Celebrating 26 years in Peoria, this annual event is slated for October 25, 26 and 27, 2013 at the Church grounds located at 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road. The “Taste of Greece” is the only Greek Festival in the greater west/northwest valley and thousands of residents and visitors attend each year. If you haven’t had the opportunity to attend our event, please check out our website at [www.peoriagreekfest.com](http://www.peoriagreekfest.com) for a peek at what we have to offer.

We are seeking sponsors and supporters to help offset Festival expenses and have enclosed a Sponsorship Form for your consideration. A limited number of sponsorships are available offering company benefits and recognition throughout the festival weekend. For your information, St. Haralambos Church is an Arizona tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation and the Federal tax ID number is 86-0594146.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 623-486-8665. Thank you in advance for your consideration and we hope that you will join us for a spectacular weekend of homemade Greek cuisine, pastries, live entertainment and family fun on October 25-27 at the Peoria Greekfest. OPA!

Sincerely,

Pam Lemons  
Festival Chairman

**ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**2013 "TASTE OF GREECE" FOOD AND DANCE FESTIVAL**

October 25, 26 & 27, 2013

**SPONSORSHIP FORM**

**Company/Individual Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INDICATE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

Check One	Type	Amount	Benefit
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOLD	\$10,000	Company name/logo in all promotional materials, news releases, billboards, event website, corporate tent and sponsor-provided banner displayed at event, verbal recognition during event; 10 free admission & dinner tickets. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SILVER	\$5,000	Company name/logo in all promotional materials, news releases, event website, booth sponsor banner, recognition in event program, verbal recognition at the event; 6 free admission & dinner tickets. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	BRONZE	\$1,000	Booth sponsor banner displayed at event, name/logo recognition in event program. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLYMPIAN	\$500	Business card/logo recognition in event program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATHENIAN	\$100	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARTAN	\$50	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	BOOSTER	\$25	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (please specify - food, gift card, etc.):	\$ _____	Name recognized in event Program

***Please provide logo or business card in .jpg format or camera ready artwork .***

Email artwork to: office@stharalambosaz.com

***Respond by September 30, 2013 for inclusion in the event program.***

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!**

**Please return completed form to:**

Attn: Peoria Greekfest/Taste of Greece Festival

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Peoria, AZ 85383

*For tax purposes, St. Haralambos Federal Tax ID Number is: 86-0594146*



# AUGUST 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Beginning of 14-day Fast	<b>2</b> 7:00pm Office of Supplication	<b>3</b> 9:00am Church Maintenance
<b>4</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Great Vespers	<b>6</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy The Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Office of Supplication	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>12</b> 7:00pm Office of Supplication 8:00pm Parish Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Great Vespers Assumption Church Scottsdale	<b>15</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy Dormition of the Holy Theotokos	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>26</b> 7:00pm Executive Council	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy The Beheading of John the Baptist	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

# SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

Saint Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

**PARENT INFORMATION** Completed by (please check): Mother\_\_\_\_ Father\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT** (other than parent or guardian)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILDREN**

Name	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	GRADE (Secular School)

**MEDICAL INFORMATION** Please list medical problems, allergies, restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTEER HELP IS NEEDED!** Please make your selection(s) below:

Snack Coordinator (Scheduling, shopping, set up & clean up)

Snack Volunteer (Set up & clean up)

Pick one or more Sundays of the month e.g.: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th: \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas Program Director

Christmas Program Volunteer

Holy Friday Retreat

**Teacher**

**Teacher Assistant**

**Substitute Teacher**

Select age group:  Pre-K (age 3 - 4 yrs)

K - 3rd Grade

4th - 6th Grade

7th - 8th Grade

9th - 12th Grade

FOR OFFICE USE: