

Jesus Taught Us How to be Together



WE PRAY TOGETHER



Hanoon Hor, yev Vortvo, yev Hokvooyn Srpo.

Dear Father in heaven, we are here in Sunday School with our friends to learn to love you and be the church together. Amen.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



It was that time of year. The snow was falling and piling up in Sarah's back yard. She was having fun making a snowman when her dad asked, "Sarah, can you help me shovel the snow?" She answered, "Yes, daddy," and began the job.

Soon, Sarah heard her friend Nick,

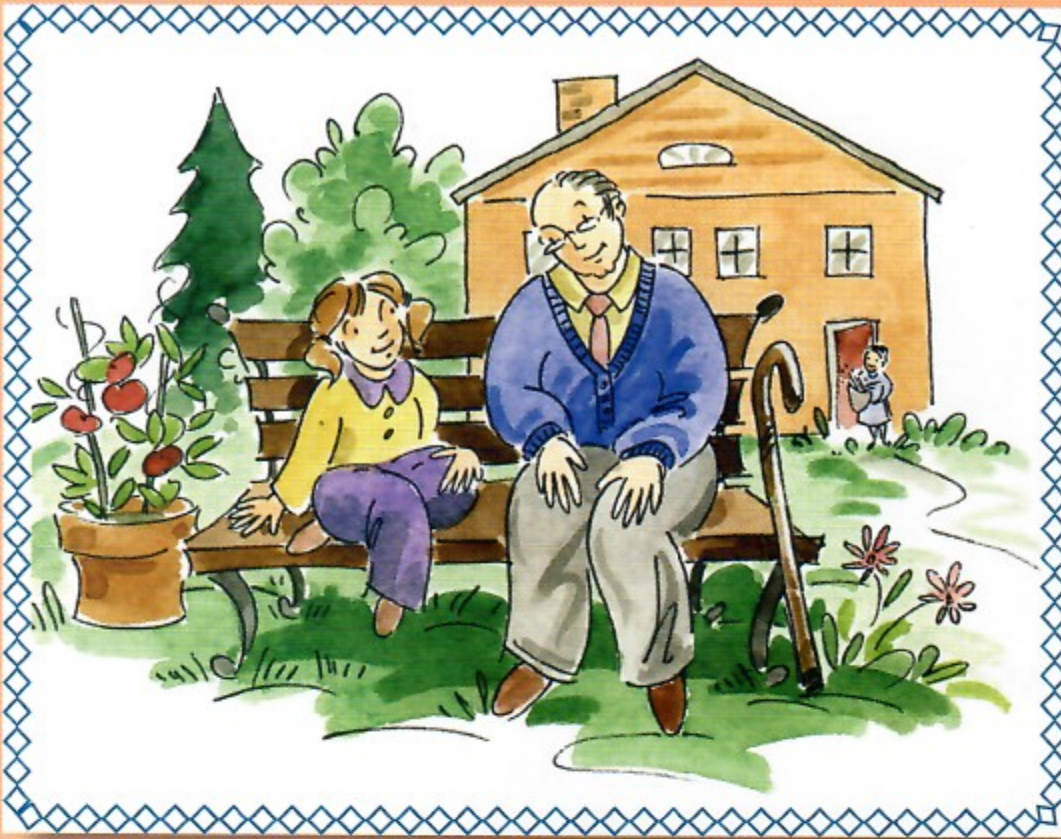
from next door, shouting, "Sarah, what are you doing? Do you want me to help you?"

Sarah was happy to see Nick. "Yes, thanks." Together, Sarah and Nick had fun shoveling and playing in the snow. The job was done – thanks to the help of a friend.

GOD'S WORD TO US

Jesus said, "You cannot live in this world thinking only about yourselves. All of you belong to the family of God, and you must take care of each other. And whenever a few of you come together, create a holy place for the Lord."

Ephesians 2:19

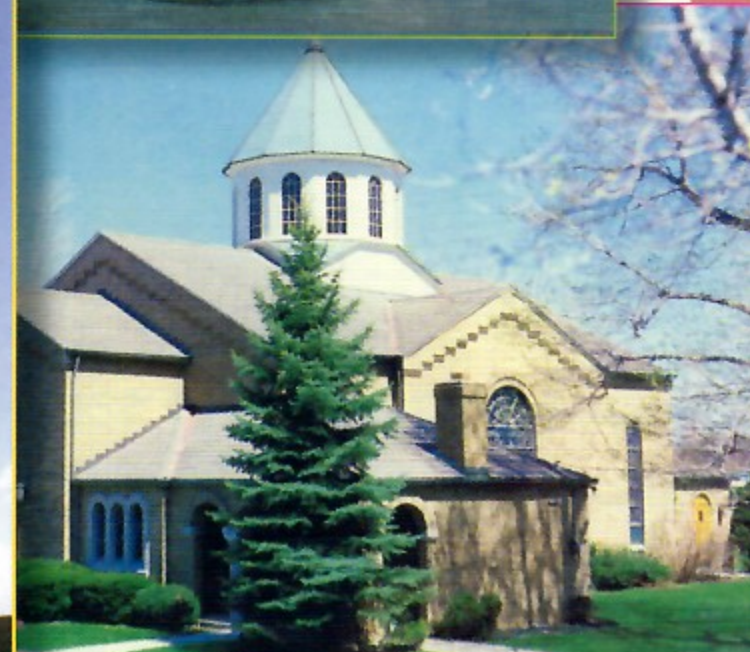
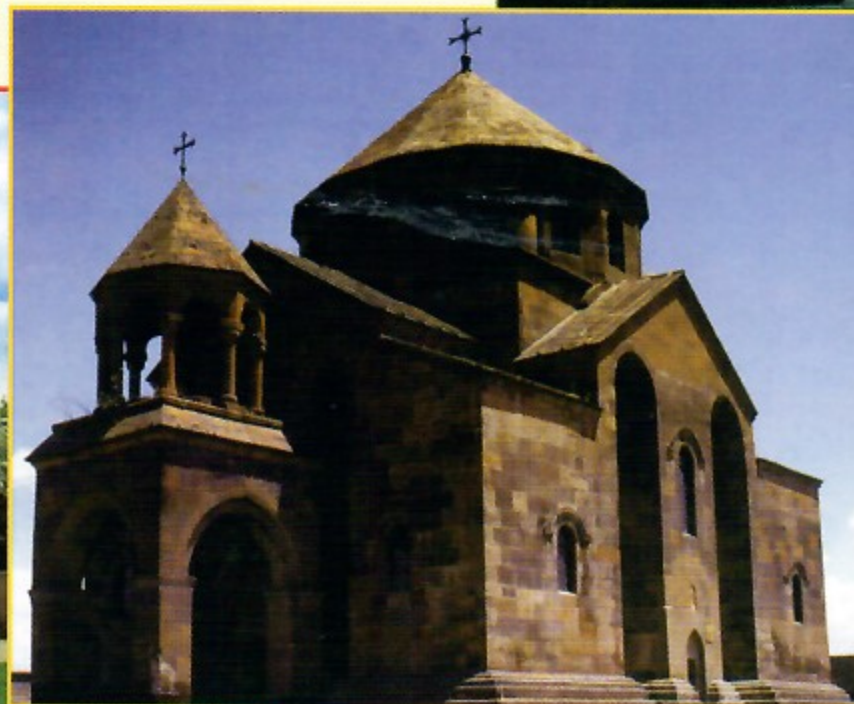
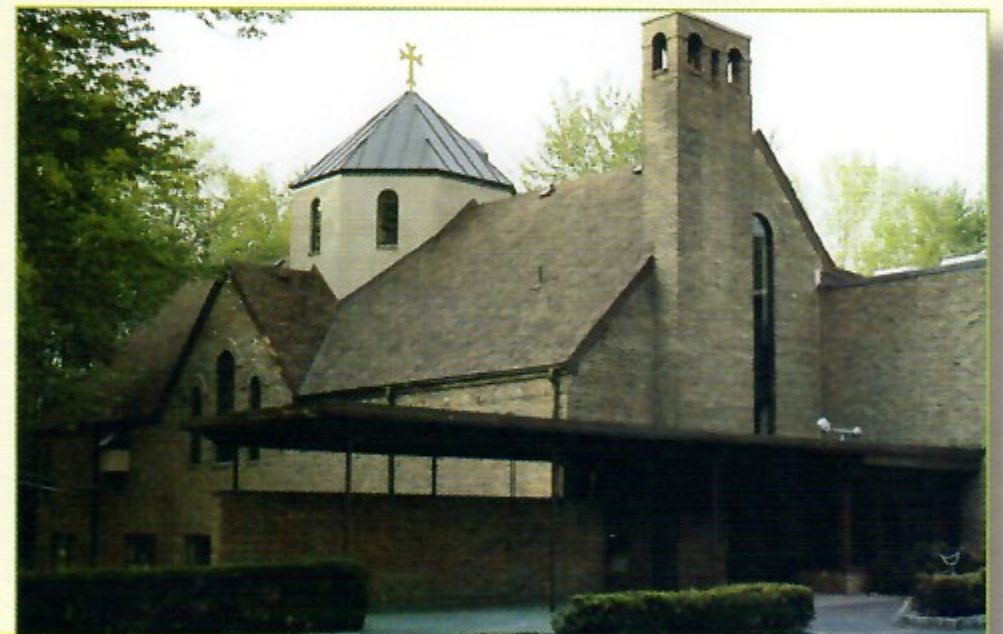


OUR ARMENIAN WAY

Jesus said that when two or more people gathered in his name, they would be creating a holy place for the Lord.

Many people came to America from Armenia to begin a new life. One of the first things they did was raise money to build Armenian churches. They wanted a special place to gather with other Armenians to feel close to God.

These people were also thinking about you. They wanted you to have a special place where God is present. The church is that special place because God is with us in the prayers we say and the hymns we sing.



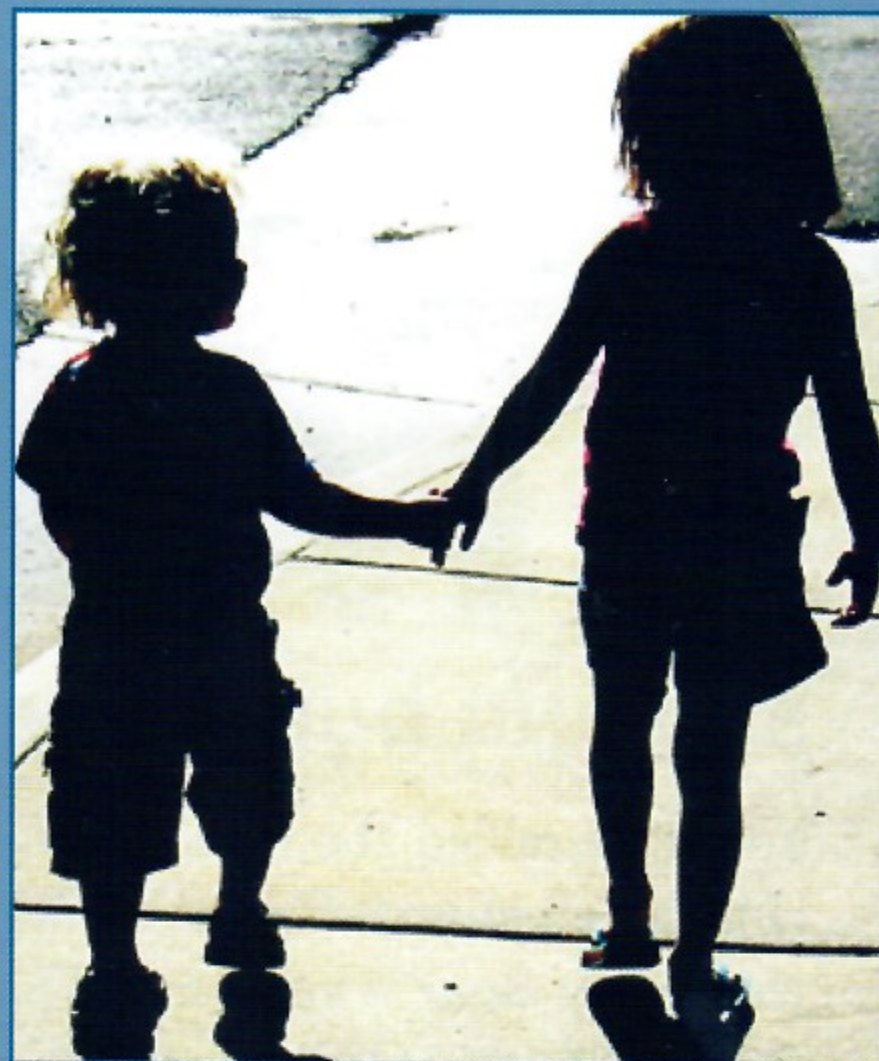
WE LEARN ABOUT GOD

There are many verses in the Bible that teach us about taking care of each other. Here are just a few of them. These are called “one anothers.”

Jesus tells us *to love* one another as brothers and sisters.

Jesus tells us *to help* one another.

Jesus tells us *to forgive* one another.



WE CELEBRATE



Every Sunday at church, we share a special greeting. The Kiss of Peace is shared with all the people in the church as it has been for hundreds and hundreds of years.

During the Kiss of Peace, we turn to the person standing next to us to share the greeting. One person leans over the right shoulder of his or her neighbor and says: “*Krisdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.*” (Christ is revealed among us.)

At the same time, the person receiving the greeting answers: “*Orhnyal eh haydnoutiounun Krisdosee.*” (Blessed is the revelation of Christ.)

God wants us to have a pure heart. When we share the Kiss of Peace, we are reminded of him and his words.



FAMILY PAGE

SHARING OUR FAITH

Today we talked about the meaning of being together in church as a church family. “*Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there.*” This week’s lesson addresses the need for people to be together, to worship together and to spread the word of God.

In keeping with that theme, we talked about the greeting or Kiss of Peace (Voghchooy) which is passed among the congregation during Holy Badarak. The Kiss of Peace is a greeting delivering a message of hope. *Christ is revealed among us. Blessed is the revelation of Christ.*



LIVING OUR FAITH

Over time, many Armenian churches have been built because God wants us to be a community, a church family. He also wants us to be at peace with others and with ourselves. In sharing the Kiss of Peace, we are reminded of him.

With your child:

1. Practice the Kiss of Peace at home.
2. Attend Holy Badarak and pass the Kiss of Peace as a family. Explain to your child that the Kiss of Peace signifies the oneness with God of all the people in the church as they spread the joyful news.

