



# YETTEM ԵՊԵՄ



Հրատարակուիլիս Եղեմի Ս. Աստուածածիկ Քայաստանեայց Եկեղեցոյ  
A Publication of St. Mary Armenian Church Yettem, California  
Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian, Parish Priest

August 2022

## Why Should We Forgive Others?

*“A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.” Proverbs 17:22*

Why should we forgive others? Just understanding how to do something doesn't necessarily give us the desire to do it. However, once we understand that we have a vested interest in this act of mutual forgiveness, we might be much quicker to forgive others.

Yes, there is a condition to receive forgiveness, it's determined by our willingness to give it. We should forgive others as we want to be forgiven. Why? Because this is what God uses as a measuring stick to our receiving *His* forgiveness.

*“For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” ~Matthew 7:2*

We must become forgivers in order to be forgiven. However, this forgiveness thing goes far beyond the . . . *we forgive/we get forgiven* principle—not that that isn't more than reason enough. There is yet another huge benefit to forgiving others, we will also be blessed in the here and now as well!

There are a number of both physical and psychological benefits to the act of forgiveness. By learning to let go of anger and resentment we will receive, what God calls, a merry or sound heart. We will experience less depression and anxiety, less stress and bitterness, as well as becoming more hopeful, confident, peaceful, and just plain happier!

Let's take a closer look at some of these physical benefits. How about better health, both physical and mental? Everything from stronger immunity and quicker healing to drastically all around fewer health problems — fewer headaches, backaches, neck aches, insomnia, and even heart problems, the list goes on and on. Why do you think chronic illness is referred to as dis-ease? There are tons of Bible verses that correlate our spiritual heart condition to our physical health condition. In the Bible, the mind is literally referred to as the heart. Let that sink in!

*“A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rotteness to the bones.” Proverbs 14:30*

Nevertheless, the biggest reason to forgive others is so God can also forgive us. If we can determine how much forgiveness we will receive according to how much we forgive others, we might want to consider forgiving everyone for everything unconditionally!

What is forgiveness...?

Forgiveness is letting go of our reaction to someone else's words or actions. It's the conscience act of allowing others to make mistakes. It's forgetting what they've done to us and then turning it all over to God. We can't ever forget, not until we give it up to God. By putting God in the mix we no longer have to be judge and jury, we can remove ourselves from the entire situation; forgive, forget, and just be happy.

Are you going in the right direction . . . are you following Jesus? He is the King of forgiveness. He forgives us even though we've all wronged Him by sinning.

(Continued on the back page)

***Parish Notes***

**BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP**

THIS AUGUST 2022 BULLETIN  
IS SPONSORED BY

***LUCILLE MARGOSIAN***

“I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR THE  
MONTHLY BULLETIN IN MEMORY  
OF ARON MARGOSIAN”

**WEEKLY BULLETINS SPONSORSHIP**

ALL THE JULY WEEKLY BULLETINS WERE  
SPONSORED BY:

***THE BUCK SARABIAN FAMILY***

IN HONOR OF

WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN  
PHYLLIS TAMOUZIAN’S  
BIRTHDAY ON JULY 15<sup>th</sup>

**CONDOLENCES**

On behalf of our St. Mary Parish family, we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Carol Maranian who entered her eternal rest on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Viewing and a Home Service will be held on **Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM** at **Miller Memorial in Visalia** and a **graveside service** will follow at the **Visalia Cemetery** at **12:00 noon**.

We also extend our thoughts and prayers to Lesta Ekizian and family on the loss of her sister, Joyce Bedrosian. Joyce passed in May 2022. She resided in the San Diego area. She has one daughter Pamela Dirkes of Clovis, California.

**BAPTISMS**

June 26<sup>th</sup>

***Brissa Berlynn Allen***

Brissa is the daughter of Nathan Boyd Allen, Sr.  
and Koharig Helen Donabed

July 2<sup>nd</sup>

***Brielle Alyse Yoshida***

Brielle is the daughter of Philip and Kristin  
(Poochigian) Yoshida. She is the granddaughter  
of Julie Poochigian and the late Jerry Poochigian  
and Lloyd and Mary Yoshida

**ALTAR FLOWERS DONATIONS**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

***Lloyd and Mary Yoshida***

in honor of their granddaughter,  
Brielle Alyse Yoshida’s baptism on July 2<sup>nd</sup>

July 10<sup>th</sup>

***Alan, Marceen, Nick and  
Shant Farsakian, and***

***Mark, Linda, and Ben Wall***

in memory of Souren Sam Farsakian

July 24<sup>th</sup>

***The Pilavian and Peters Families***

in honor of Rose Marie Margosian receiving the  
Hye Spirit Award

July 31<sup>st</sup>

***Gerard and Sylvia Garoian***

in memory of their family members

**HOKEHANKIST REQUEST**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Requiem Service Requested  
by Marilyn Zerounian  
in memory of her grandfather

***Boghos Simonian  
and***

***Uncles Armenag and Charlie Simonian***

July 10<sup>th</sup>

***Souren Sam Farsakian***

five years after his passing,  
requested by

Alan, Marceen, Nick and  
Shant Farsakian, and  
Mark, Linda, and Ben Wall

July 31<sup>st</sup>

***Kurken and Satenig Garoian  
Mugerdich and Cheristan Bezdigian***

***Diran and Zanazan Garoian***

***Edward and Gladys Tejerian***

***Mildred Tejerian***

***Tom Tejerian***

requested by Gerard and Sylvia Garoian



## PARISH COUNCIL CORNER

*Psalm 100 verse 2 reminds us to "Serve the Lord with Gladness".* That verse could have very well been the theme for our day on July 24, 2022. The day started with His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian serving as the celebrant for the Divine Liturgy. Our very capable altar servers and a full and beautifully sounding choir added to the specialness of the day.

Dustin Vartanian was elevated to the rank of sub deacon during the ordination service. Dustin has worked diligently to learn the parts of the Holy Badarak and has committed much to memory. He has demonstrated tremendous growth and confidence since his ordination to the rank of Tabir slightly over a year ago. Dustin has studied individually, with Father Mashdots, and at the St. Nersess Armenian Seminary Deacons' Training Program in the Western Diocese directed by Rev. Father Gomidas Zohrabian to improve his skills. Dustin serves faithfully here in Yetteem and also in Fowler.

Also on that Sunday, the Diocesan-sponsored Hye Spirit awards were bestowed upon two very deserving individuals who have served selflessly for many years. Rose Marie Margosian has provided clerical assistance in the church office for many, many years helping with mass mailings. For numerous years, she and George hosted the Yetteem Cabaret a major fundraiser that supported church operations. Rose Marie is the type of person who works quietly in the background in her service to our church whether it is chairing a food line at a Food Festival Luncheon, labeling to-go lunches or assembling decorations for luncheons in the corner of the hall. Rose Marie and George paid for the current altar curtain many years ago and she has continued to pay any expenses to repair or replace motors and rigging. If not in church physically, she makes sure to attend remotely at home or at Shaver.

When Laurie was nominated for the Hye Spirit Award this year, many were amazed that she hadn't been recognized earlier. Born into a family devoted to dedicated service to the church, Laurie has been very involved since birth. First Sunday School, then church choir, ACYO locally and at the Diocesan level, church camp, Sunday School teacher and superintendent, Parish Council member, Parish Assembly officer, Anniversary Book committee member and/or chair for the 65<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup>, and a voting member for countless years. And when first told of the honor, Laurie responded that she was "humbled" by the nomination.

All three of these individuals give freely of their time and know the importance of service to the church and ultimately to God. We are blessed to have Dustin, Rose Marie and Laurie as members of our parish!  
*Myron Sheklian – Parish Council Chair*

## LADIES SOCIETY NEWS

Our Ladies' Society hosts the Sister Churches Luncheon this year, scheduled for September 17. The invitation flyer is ready and will extend to all the denominations of Armenian churches in the Central Valley. We've settled on a speaker, a luncheon menu, table decorations, a welcome drink refreshment, and a favor for our guests.

Grandparents' Day is coming up September 11. Tina Peters and Donna Torosian have plans well underway. Don't miss traditional bishi, not to mention basturma and soujoukh. Oh boy.

*Choreg* wrap up: Saturday June 25. Debbie Sheklian chaired the affair. The dough recipe came from Laurie Menendian by way of Araxie Menendian by way of Yeretsgin Kaghtserig Kalfayan and so direct from Chomakhlou. Among the early arrivals was Myron Sheklian, who used the big mixer machine in the hall to knead the dough. It had risen just right by about 9:30 when the whole team was streaming in. Debbie Sheklian, Myron Sheklian, Laurie Menendian and sister Mari Louise Menendian, Margie L. Davidian, Sandra Vartanian, sisters Shari Ananian and Julie Bair, Yeretsgin Maral Khanjian, Linda Farsakian-Wall, Janice McWilliams, Madlien Hebesha, Judy Skaff and her daughter Adrienne Poochigian and her daughter-in-law Lynn Skaff.

The dough is cut into size for a single choreg, then rolled long and thin with our palms. The trick is braiding into the familiar final form. It's an art. Everybody got pretty good at it. Baste with egg and into the oven for 20 minutes. We ended up with about 70 dozen, bagged and frozen. Der Mashdots kindly transported fifty dozen to Hye Camp, and we have plenty left for our Asdvadzadzin bake sale. Unfortunately, (fortunately?), one tray was in the oven a little bit too long. Got a little too brown. Everybody got to taste the result of our labor! Delicious! Cooks' privilege! And we were done before noon! What a day!

Our last meeting was June 4, we take a hiatus in July, and the next meeting is August 6. Let's all come together again. We welcome non-members to come and see what we are all about. The fellowship is gratifying, and the support to the church is strengthening.

Birthday wishes to our members born in August: Georgia Davidian, Gina Ananian, Debbie Sheklian, and one more, me.

*Mari Louise Menendian  
Ladies Society Chair, 2022*

**HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS**

(June 27, 2022 – July 24, 2022)

**For Repose of Bryan Yahnian's Soul**

June 26<sup>th</sup>

*David and Lisa Krause*

*Steve and Ann Yahnian*

**For Repose of Boghos Simonian, Armenag and**

**Charlie Simonian's Souls**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Marilyn Zerounian*

**For Repose of Souren Sam Farsakian's Soul**

July 10<sup>th</sup>

*Alan and Marceen Farsakian*

*Mark and Linda Wall*

*Chuck and Susie Simonian*

**THANK YOU FOR JULY 24<sup>th</sup> LUNCHEON**

Luncheon Sponsorship

*The Peters and Pilavian Families*

Program Printing Sponsorship

*The Buck Sarabian Family*

in honor of Rose Marie Margosian

Congratulatory Cake Donation

in honor of this year's honorees

*David And Lisa Krause*

**MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS**

*Sandra Choboian*

*Lucille Margosian*

*John And Sharon Kaprielian*

*In memory of Aron Margosian,  
four years after his passing*

We want to congratulate my Sister-in-Law Rose Marie Margosian, who is a very special Aunt in the Margosian family. We are excited she received the Hye Spirit Award.

Our best wishes from

*Lucille Margosian & Family.*

*John, Sharon & Ara Kaprielian; Kasper,*

*Danielle & Theo Hovannisian; Karon Penny;*

*Doug, Shana, Kayvan, Olivia & Avi Penney;*

*Carrie, Margo, Amos, Maria & Zoie Margosian*

*Mari Louise and David Menendian*

Congratulations to Laurie Menendian from her siblings for her Hye Spirit award.

*"By her deeds shall she be known, as she honored the legacy of her parents and grandparents. She truly has the spirit of a Hye".*

**ADDITIONAL MOTHERS' DAY**

**DONATION**

*Margie L. Davidian*

**ADDITIONAL FATHERS' DAY**

**DONATIONS**

*Margie L. Davidian*

*Marilyn Zerounian*

**BAKE SALE**

The Ways and Means Committee bake sale will be held on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> immediately following the day's worship. Your favorite Armenian delicacies will be available: choreg, simit, nazoog, bread sticks, plus lots more.

**WAYS AND MEANS**

The Ways and Means next meeting will be via Zoom **Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.**

**PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council's next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.**

**ACYO**

ACYO meeting will be held after church services on **Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Sunday School will resume on **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**PASTORAL VISITATIONS**

Father Mashdots is willing to make informal visits. Please call the church office if you are interested.

**RAFFLE**

Our seventh church raffle of 2022 was held on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to...

(\$150) Mari Louise Menendian

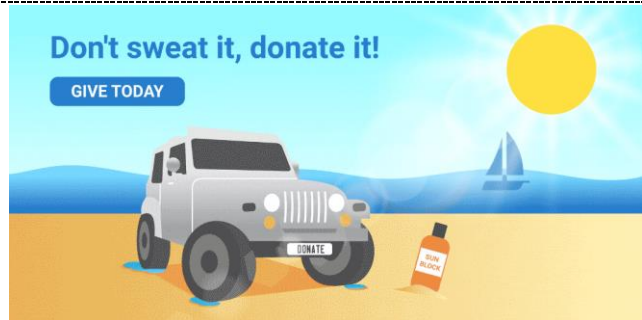
(\$100) Sark Davidian, Jr.

(\$50) Anderson Earp

Our **eighth raffle drawing** will be held on **Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.** The drawing will also be streamed on Facebook. Thank you to our Ways and Means Committee for this great fundraiser for our church. If you would like tickets, contact Tina at (559) 967-2593 by phone or text.

### **BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP**

If you would like to sponsor either the weekly bulletin for a minimum donation of \$25 or the monthly bulletin for a minimum donation of \$200, please call the church office at (559) 528-6892.



Are you still trying to figure out what do with that vehicle that's been sitting in your driveway for months? Don't sweat it – donate it! We accept cars, trucks, RVs and even boats! It's easy, pick-up is free, and your gift is tax-deductible. Call Linda Farsakian-Wall @ 559-786-1419 for more information.

### **ALTAR FLOWER INCREASE**

Effective May 2022 Peter Perkins has increased the price of delivery of altar flowers to our church. The new cost for two altar flowers is \$125. If you choose to supply your own flowers already in vases, they must be here at church before 10:00 AM on Sunday.

### **PAYPAL**

You may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yetem website ([www.stmaryyettem.org](http://www.stmaryyettem.org)) and click on the "Donation" button on the bottom of the Home Page. You may donate for general donations, yughakins, hokehankists, pledges, membership dues, in lieu of flowers, or pay for altar flowers you have ordered on behalf of the church.

### **COOKBOOK**

A second edition of the "Treasured Recipes from the Garden of Eden" has been made available. These cookbooks make a great gift. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, call the church office at (559) 528-6892 or Debbie Sheklian at (559) 733-4417. The cost of the cookbook is \$30 or \$30 plus shipping if mailed.

### **DONATIONS**

It seems that every month we are challenged with unexpected expenses such as cars running into our property, compressors going out on air conditioning units and replacing old equipment. Checks may be mailed to the church office, or you may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yetem website ([www.stmaryyettem.org](http://www.stmaryyettem.org)). You may donate for General Donations, Yughakins, Pledges, Membership Dues, In Lieu of Flowers, or pay for Altar Flowers you have ordered for the church altar. An envelope has been attached for your convenience.

### **ST. MARY MEMORIAL WALL**

The St. Mary Memorial Wall was started in 2001 and has been a huge success. Currently there is **space for 28 additional names** at a **donation of \$200/name**. Contact Jim Soxman: ph. 559-936-2227 or email: [jimbeasoxman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimbeasoxman@sbcglobal.net).

The week of July 17-21 Father Mashdots was serving as Chaplain for the Western Diocese Armenian Church Summer Camp. Campers enjoyed homemade choreg (num nums) provided by our St. Mary Ladies Society that Der Mashdots delivered.



*This picture taken by Janice McWilliams that was also present!*



*Pictures provided by Father Mashdots of campers*

# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

## AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Ladies Society meeting in the Majarian Hall at 11:30 AM
7 Barekendan of the Fast of Assumption	8	9	10	11	12	13 Showers of Radiance of Holy Etchmiadzin
14 Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God Asdvadzadzin Parish Council Luncheon Ways and Means Bake Sale 8 <sup>th</sup> Raffle drawing	15 Remembrance of the dead	16	17 Ways and Means meeting via Zoom at 7 PM	18 Parish Council meeting via Zoom at 6 PM	19	20
21	22	23 Sts. Joachim & Anna, Parents of the Holy Mother-of-God	24	25	26	27
28 ACYO Meeting after Church Services	29	30	31			

9

### Sunday Schedule:

Morning Service (Matins) 9:30 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:15 AM

### Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday  
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

### Father Mashdots can be reached at:

559-528-6892 – Office  
559-528-6897 – FAX  
818-293-9098 - Cell

ST. MARY ARMENIAN  
APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
OF YETTEM



**AUGUST 14, 2022**

# ASDVADZADZIN

## BLESSING OF THE GRAPES



**DONATION**  
\$20 for Adults  
\$12 for  
Children  
under 10

Divine Liturgy will be  
celebrated at 10:15 AM

- LUNCH WILL FEATURE:**
- Chicken Kebab
  - Cooked Carrots
  - Rice Pilaf
  - Dinner Roll
  - Salad
  - Desserts

**PLEASE RSVP BY  
AUGUST 9TH**

 [lunches@stmaryyettem.org](mailto:lunches@stmaryyettem.org)

 (559) 528-6892



COME READY TO  
SING, LEARN, PLAY &  
PRAY BECAUSE...



***SUNDAY***  
***SCHOOL IS***  
***BACK!***

FIRST CLASS OF THE YEAR IS  
SEPTEMBER 11TH @ 11AM

REMEMBER: SUNDAY SCHOOL  
MEETS EVERY 2ND & 4TH SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER- JUNE

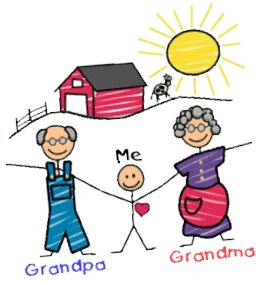


Contact Tracy Valencia  
With Any Questions @ (559) 528-6892





St. Mary Yettem - Ladies Society



Annual Brunch  
in Celebration of



*'Grandparents' Day'*

**Sunday, September 11, 2022**

*Immediately following church services in the Majarian Hall*

∞ **Enjoy a Delicious Brunch**  
**featuring—Beeshee and**  
**Traditional Grandparents Day foods** ∞

**\*\*Cost \*\*Adults(\$15) \*\*Children(\$10)\*\***

**-To Reserve a Table or Seat(s)-**

**E-mail: [lunch@stmaryyettem.org](mailto:lunch@stmaryyettem.org) –or–  
Call the Church Office —(559) 528-6892  
by Wednesday, September 7**

**{Sunday School will honor our Grandparents'}**



**RESERVATIONS are Requested**

**Celebrate our dear Grandparents**



Please Join Us As We Gather Once Again For Our  
**Sister Churches Luncheon**

Hosted By

The Ladies Society of Saint Mary Armenian Church, Yettem

Saturday, September 17th. 2022 11:30 a.m.

Yettem Church Hall 14395 Avenue 384, Yettem California

Donation \$30.00 per Guest

Please Send Your Reservations Along With Payment by September 12th.

To:

Saint Mary Armenian Church / Office

P.O. Box 367

Yettem, CA 93670

We Look Forward to Sharing an Inspirational Afternoon with Our Sisters From

First Armenian Presbyterian Armenian Church, Holy Cross Armenian Church

Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church

St. Gregory Armenian Church

St. Paul Armenian Church

&

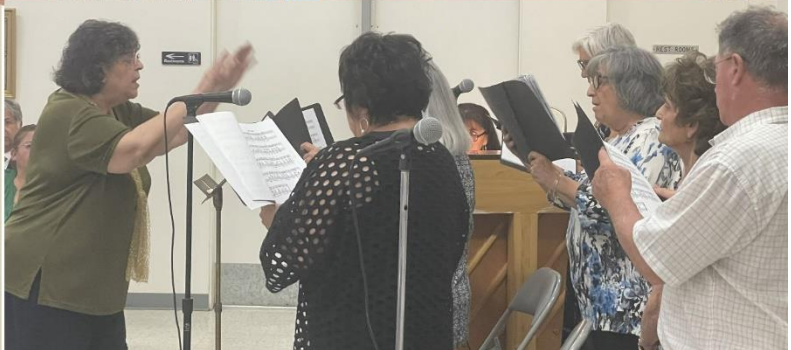
Sts. Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Church

*Yettem  
1911-2022*

Contact Linda Farsakian-Wall @ 559 786-1419 With Any Questions



# Yettem Pastoral Visit - July 24, 2022



(Continued from the front page)

In order to forgive someone, you don't have to accept what they've done as acceptable behavior. Forgiveness doesn't mean what the other person said or did is right. You're simply making a choice not to live in a state of anger or resentment—you're allowing them to make a mistake, and you're consciously choosing to move on and forget.

Sometimes, especially when the guilty party doesn't even try to change their behavior or apologize, it may seem impossible to forgive. But with the aid of the indwelling Spirit, you can choose to forgive and let it go, not allowing yourself to be obsessed with their wrongdoing or allowing it to continue to affect your life.

It's said that it is easier to forgive an enemy than a friend. We expect to be hurt by our enemies, but not by our friends. When a friend does something mean, it hurts us far more than from a stranger. We instantly feel betrayed. These are the times we need to run to God for assistance. These are also the instances that are, nine times out of ten, nothing more than miscommunications.

Communication is difficult at best, especially in this day of emails, messaging, and texting. And honestly, this is one of Satan's favorite ways to mess up relationships—to prompt people that care about each other to get angry and walk away. These are the times we need to swallow our hurt feelings, ask God for some help to find forgiveness, and quickly reconcile.

Anger is exhausting...!

I don't want to waste any more time in a state of anger or upheave. If someone hurts my feelings, I usually say a silent prayer for them and simply move on. If someone I care about continues to be hurtful, I bring it to their attention as kindly as I can, and then give them, (and their unwarranted behavior) up to God.

When people act out inappropriately, there's usually something going on in their lives that we don't know about. They probably need our prayers more than we realize.

Our words are powerful! We all need to think twice before speaking. However, our emotions usually lead us into an argument when someone says something hurtful. Refrain from responding. Silently call to God for help, and then immediately pray for that person. You might be very surprised as to the results. God wants us to be at peace with everyone, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*" Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24*

Find forgiveness in your heart toward everyone. Give them up to God and He will take care of the situation far better than bombarding them with our anger-filled words.

*I'm sorry, and I forgive you* are two of the most powerful statements a person can speak, and also two of the least spoken. Sincere sorrow and genuine regret bring emotional healing and spiritual cleansing, and heartfelt forgiveness sets us free! Apologize when you are wrong, forgive often, and you *will be* blessed.

God has the perfect game plan for every situation. He wants us to freely forgive others and receive His blessing. Satan, however, wants us to get angry, argue, and turn away every relationship we have . . . because He knows there is great power in the joining of loving hearts. When we join together in loving relationships with other believers, God is also there to empower us.

Linda Wright

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St. Mary Armenian Church  
P.O. Box 367  
Yetter, California 93670  
Return Service Required

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