



Summer 2022

LIGHTHOUSE PAROS



www.wayofhope.am

REFLECTIONS on Visits to NE-USA

By Tatevik Ghazaryan in Armenia

Several times I have had opportunity to visit the USA and meet with Hope Armenia Ministries board members and many faithful Christian brothers and sisters. It has been very interesting for me to get to know American Christians, to share experiences, pray together, and share the Word of God.

Communicating with them, you understand that yes, nowadays there are many challenges and temptations in all spheres of life. But what I've noticed is that even though there are many difficulties these days, American Christians are doing their best to share their faith where they are and also farther in the world, and support ministries like ours with prayer and finances.

The words of our Lord are firm for all those who follow Him.

Loving and trusting the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ will help us overcome all difficulties in this stormy sea and keep moving forward with His grace. I am thankful to God and all the people who share their lives with me in the USA. This gives reassurance and confidence as we help lead to personal faith people of many ages coming to our programs at HOPE office in Yerevan, LIGHTHOUSE center in Sevan, and village schools throughout Armenia. Thank you all for your prayer and support.

Welcome to Armenia with Project PAROS!



Summer Youth Day Camp Team

REFLECTIONS on Psalm 122:1

By Dr. Kaarina A. Ham in NE-USA

All across Christendom, with the Psalmist we say, **I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord!** Whenever royal ceremonial events come into focus online from St. Paul's Cathedral in London, I for one wait hopefully to see if the phenomenal choir and organ will strike up this marvelous introit!

This composition by Hubert Perry, written for the coronation of King Edward VII in 1902, is perhaps the best-known setting of this wonderful text in the musical repertoire of the Anglican church. Numerous composers such as Henry Purcell and William Boyce have also set the words to music.

Taken further, the content of the psalm is a prayer for the peace and prosperity of Jerusalem. A clear parallel was drawn to England by William Blake in his poem (printed in 1801) **"And did those feet in ancient time"** which Parry set to music in 1916, and is known to us through the film **Chariots of Fire**.

Coronation splendor aside, it's to the theme of **actually going into the House of the Lord** that my heart wanders in hopefully post-pandemic times. We seem to be hearing lately how much

the Church has suffered during Covid, and how it probably won't recover. On the contrary, our prayer is that, having endured such adverse and unwelcome economic, political, vocational, social, psychological, spiritual effects from this lingering blight, **people will hunger and thirst anew for Christian fellowship**---in particular for **caring and committed "face time," which is found vibrantly within the Church!**

May God through His Spirit revive hearts to know, follow, and worship Him faithfully, as the writer to the Hebrews admonishes (10:25): **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as we see the day [of our Lord's return] approaching (Hebrews 10:25).**

May churches across our land feel keenly a new wave of revival in the days ahead, leading many earnestly to the House of the Lord. And may such revival be felt also in Armenia, where God has called us to teach His Word «to participants in HOPE ministries «from the age of 5 to the age of 80» (as staff member Mher puts it)---even in treacherous, disheartening times as these.

CONTENTS

Reflections on Visits to NE-USA	1
Reflections on Psalm 122:1	1
Perspectives on HOPE.....	2
17 th NE Annual Meeting	2
Project PAROS 2023	2
Autumn Ministries 2021	3
Winter-Spring Ministries 2022	3
Summer Ministries 2022	3
Reflections on Life in Armenia.....	4

NE-USA:

HOPE Armenia Ministries

P.O. Box 94
North Brookfield, Massachusetts
01535 USA
Website: www.wayofhope.am
Facebook: https://bit.ly/2Ulc3XS
Youtube: hopearmeniaministries

Board Chairperson
Sharon Combs

Executive Director
NE Prayer & Support Group
Project PAROS Summer Teams
Dr. Kaarina Ham

Cell: +(978) 549-9797
E-mail: kaarinaham@gmail.com

Armenia:

Way of HOPE

P. O. Box 41
0010 Yerevan, ARMENIA
Office tel. (+37410) 32 04 64

Administrator/Ministry Coordinator
Tatevik Ghazaryan

Operations Manager
Suren Khangaldian

Computer Technician/Media
Tigran Apikyan

Ministry Assistant/Special Events
Mher Nahapetyan

Young Adult Ministry
K. Tigran Mkrtchyan

Perspectives on HOPE



Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? *The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed. . . Psalm 2:1-2.* Don't these verses hit the mark in the language of King James (KJV) about the behavior of many earthly rulers down through the centuries! In setting themselves up against the Kingdom of God, people to their peril can only **imagine a vain thing.**

This refrain is aptly rendered in movement 40 of German-British Baroque composer (1685-1759) George Frederic Handel's "Messiah." It's echoed in Acts 4:25b,26 as early believers prayed for boldness after their release from bondage, as earthly leaders had once again "set themselves" against those speaking for the Kingdom of God.

In verses 9-12 of Psalm 2, we see that kings and judges of the earth are admonished to be wise and serve the Lord with fear. Powerful admonition for our times, as we observe rulers clearly raging against one another.

We find the antidote to evil rampage in verse 12: *Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.* In contrast with their plans to defy God, and lest they bring disaster on themselves; the Psalmist counsels kings and rulers to pay homage to the Sovereign Lord instead, which is surely His due.

In the end, as the Psalmist puts it in another well-known passage (33:22): **Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone.** Despite the complex intrigues bewildering us from kingdom to kingdom, nation to nation, ruler to ruler---it's as simple as that. May His Kingdom come, His will be done---especially in our post-Soviet, spinning-out-of-control region.

Kaarina

Kaarina A. Ham, Ph.D.
Executive Director



NE Annual Meeting

2022
Saturday, 30 April
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Mission of Grace Church - Gardner, Massachusetts USA

After zooming around together for a couple of years, our HOPE Family on the USA side was very grateful to the hosts at Mission of Grace Church in Gardner for making this a welcome in-person event! Aren't we all pleased to be enjoying face-to-face fellowship in the Body of Christ. By God's grace, may the lingering pandemic be fully abated, and may we increasingly put into effect this longing and privilege of being faithful in local fellowships, in clear testimony to those around us that we are followers of the Lord Jesus.





Tentative dates: July 1 – 17, 2023
Projected cost: US \$2,400

APPLICATION PROCESS 2023

- 16 January last date applications will be received (current passport required)
- 30 January \$1,300 full flight payment due (tentative)
- 27 February short-term mission schedule
- 27 March what to bring
- 24 April team preparations
- 20 June \$100 travel insurance (approximate)
- 1 July \$1,000 accommodations, transport, and expenses in Armenia

Further information:

HOPE Armenia Ministries
Project PAROS 2023
Summer short-term Mission Opportunity

WELCOME TO ARMENIA!
ՀԱՅԿ ԳԱԼՈՒՍ ՏԱՅՄԱՆՍՆԱԼ

www.wayofhope.am

Dr. Kaarina A. Ham 673 Franklin St., Apt. 310B kaarinaham@gmail.com
Executive Director Worcester, Massachusetts [\(978\) 549-9797](tel:9785499797)
HOPE Armenia Ministries 01604 USA [dr.kaarina](https://www.facebook.com/dr.kaarina)

AUTUMN MINISTRIES 2021



KIDS' PLANET

Varser village school, Gegharkunik region



BASICS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

Sayat-Nova village school, Ararat region



FAMILY PROGRAM

Sasunik village, Aragotsotn region



FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM

Ditavan village school, Idjevan region

WINTER-SPRING MINISTRIES 2022



KIDS' PLANET – Kanachut village school, Ararat region



KIDS' PLANET – Vardashen, Ararat region



BASICS – Varsar, Sevan region



FAMILY PROGRAM – Karin village, Aragotsotn region



SUMMER MINISTRIES 2022



KIDS' PLANET DAY – LIGHTHOUSE center, Tsovaguygh village near Lake Sevan



1ST SUMMER YOUTH DAY CAMP
Kanachut village school, Ararat region

2ND SUMMER YOUTH DAY CAMP
Nizami village school, Ararat region



HOPE FAMILY ANNUAL EXCURSION – Aghavnavank Church, Tavush region (built 11th – 13th centuries)



After the 44-day Azerbaijan-Karabakh War of 2020, the situation in the region remains tense. From time to time conflict situations ignite, both in Karabakh and on the state border of Armenia. In May 2021,

Azerbaijani troops violated the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia, occupying quite a large area, giving reason to unspecified borders. The Armenian side appealed for help to Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, and Tajikistan, with whom it is in a military bloc, but the so-called bloc did not respond. Although there is a Russian peacekeeping contingent in Karabakh, the Azerbaijani side tries to occupy new territories from time to time.

In February 2021, when it was cold in the region, the gas pipeline feeding Karabakh was blown up in the territory under the control of Azerbaijan, Karabakh was deprived of natural gas for almost 20 days, which was a great humanitarian disaster for local Armenians. The 2020 Covid-19 pandemic and the 44-day Karabakh war have weakened the economy of Armenia, as in the world market. The prices of many basic goods have risen in Armenia, and due to restrictions, the volume of cargo transportation and merchandise has dropped sharply.

By starting a war against Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Russia violated the already fragile peace of the region. The economic sanctions

launched by the West against Russia also indirectly affect the economy of Armenia, because Armenia is in the same economic block with Russia. Having been in allied relations with Russia for almost 30 years, Armenia maintains political neutrality towards the Russian-Ukrainian war, and has abstained from voting on the political resolutions adopted against Russia in the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Many Western analysts accept the politically neutral position of Armenia, this position is also accepted in Ukraine.

Tension continues in the region, as Azerbaijan with the help of Turkey is constantly trying to make claims to the sovereign territories of Armenia in the form of a communication corridor that they believe should be under their control. Armenia has already announced that this demand is unacceptable and is a red line. The demarcation and demilitarization of Armenia's state borders has not yet been resolved. Inflation and the prices of basic necessities are rising.

Armenian authorities have announced a peace agenda in the region. Armenian-Turkish negotiations without mediators have started with the agenda of opening the Turkey-Armenia border once again and establishing their diplomatic relations.

A commission has been set up concerning the issue of specifying the borders of Armenia and Azerbaijan. In solving these problems, the United States and Europe have carried out positive activities which support the process of popularization of Armenia and increasing the role of Armenia in the region.



Armenian territory after the 44-Day War in 2020

PRAISES

1. Resuming in-person programs
2. Great Kids' Planet Day-LIGHTHOUSE
3. Two fine Summer Youth Day Camps
4. HOPE Family Excursion to Tavush region
5. God's protection with summer travel

PRAYER CONCERNS

1. Monday evening "core group" Bible study
2. Follow-up programs in village schools
3. New autumn programs
4. Stronger US dollar in Armenia
5. God's protection with travel

HOPE NEWS



Celebrating Dr. Kaarina's 70th Birthday



Suren, Tatevik, Mane, Avetis enjoying their new home

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the harvest of your righteousness. II Corinthians 9:10

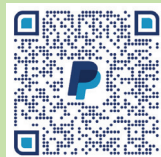
Return this portion with your gift
Please consider prayerfully a gift in support of our mission in Armenia

Monthly pledge \$ _____
Other gift (please specify) \$ _____
Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Go to our website link:



Make checks payable to:
HOPE Armenia Ministries



Thank You for Giving

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone / Cell _____
E-mail _____

Mail to:
HOPE Armenia Ministries
P.O. Box 94
North Brookfield, Massachusetts 01535 USA