

2011

Christmas Newsletter

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Merry Christmas!

Dear friends and partners,
May this Christmas fill up your life with love, compassion, tolerance, peace and happiness. Let the joy and peace of Christmas be with you all through the Year. May you and your families have a happy and blessed festive season and New Year filled with hope and prosperity. We wish you a season of blessings from heaven above. May the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ bring you and your family endless prosperity, blessings and peace of mind that you truly deserve. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



The Armenians celebrate this day as a major Christian religious holiday on January 6, together with the Epiphany (baptism) and attend church services in their neighborhoods. Part of the ritual is the "Blessing of Water, when water is blessed with the holy chrism symbolic of Christ's baptism.

The most beautiful and meaningful parts of the holiday occur at home and in church. Many families go to church on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning and greet each other with Christmas Greetings. Merry Christmas in Armenian is translated as "Qristos tsnav ev haitnetsav, Orhneal e haitnutiun@ Qristosi", which means Christ is born and revealed, Blessed is the revelation of Christ.

Then they sit down to enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner. According to tradition, the main dish is fish and rice prepared with butter. Wine is served with dinner.



Make your Christmas gift, change one more life

This year, Santa Claus gave his wonderful gift to Arman Arzumanyan and his family. The family will spend their Christmas and New Year in their new Habitat home.

The family felt blessed and their happiness was doubled when Arman's son-Alex was born.

The housing situation of the family dramatically changed when they were selected to partner with Habitat. They completed their half-built home in Aknaghbyur village of Tavush region. Before becoming a Habitat partner family, they shared home with the family of Arman's brother and his parents.

The Arzumanyans are grateful to all of the generous and compassionate volunteers who have invested their time

and energy into completing their home. "We will soon put up a Christmas tree and Santa Claus will come and bring us the gifts we asked him in our letters", says Sofi, Arman's elder daughter.

For the first time the family was given the opportunity to make their dream of a simple and decent home a reality.

There are many more families in Armenia who deserve owning a simple and decent shelter. Please help us give the gift of dignity, hope, and a brighter future – wrapped up in a home where a family like the Arzumanyans can celebrate Christmas day in warmth and safety. Help us turn hope into homes! Just now make your Christmas gift and change one more life:

USD:<http://www.habitatforhumanity.org/donate/armenia>

EUR:<https://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk/SSLPage.aspx?pid=513>

GV teams hosted in 2011

GV 11402 (Canada)



Credit Suisse team



Women Build



Faith Build



Volunteer and change someone's life

Global Village trips to Armenia and working hand in hand with Habitat partner families is often a life-changing experience. Team members work alongside with members of the host family, host community, and local volunteers. Thus, partnering with Habitat, team members help build a true global village of love, decent homes, communities, and hope!

Impact the lives of many families in Armenia in need of decent and affordable shelters to call home. Travel to Armenia with a purpose: lead a team or join a GV house building trip to Armenia. Observe and contribute to Habitat for Humanity Armenia's work first hand and build hand-in-hand with a family living in substandard housing conditions. Lead a team to Armenia or join one of the following trips below and make a difference in the life of an Armenian family:

- May 13 to 26, 2012
- May 25 to June 4, 2012

With your help, we aim to show the world how a country can truly rid itself of substandard shelter and encourage families to grow into all that God intends. The need for scaling up simple, decent shelter for families in need in Armenia is urgent and desperate. One night in a house with a leaking roof is one too many, one day in a domik with temperatures fit for an oven is one too many, one seismically unstable house brought down by a tremor is one too many.

Thank you for supporting Habitat for Humanity in its mission to help families in Armenia that desperately need a simple, decent place to live and thrive.

To join a Global Village trip, please contact: Habitat for Humanity International, Europe and Central Asia, the Global Village Program:

gv.europe@habitat.org

www.habitateurope.org

A Call to Action

To be able to support more families, HFH Armenia is seeking help among its friends and partners. Since 2000, we have served more than 850 families and we aim to increase this number to 1000 by the end of FY 2012. We believe that together we can achieve this, thanks to your support through donations, tithes and your volunteers' efforts. We welcome any size of contribution which will immediately go toward serving families.

Donate today and make a difference in the life of an Armenian family who desperately need a simple, decent place to live.

Your gift plays a vital role in helping Habitat for Humanity achieve its mission to build simple, affordable houses in partnership with low-income families in need. Donate online following the links below:

USD: <http://www.habitateurope.org/donate/armenia>

EUR: <https://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk/SSLPage.aspx?pid=513>

Tithe!

Send your checks to: HFHI
Attn: Affiliate tithe
121 Habitat street,
Americus, GA 31709-3498 USA
Please include "815000, Armenia"
in the memo section of the checks
Thank you!

Contact

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