

NORFOLK PRESBYTERY

BAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.  
BAYSIDE, VIRGINIA.  
1 9 6 2

CHURCH HISTORY.

PASTOR: Rev. John E. Johnson, D.D.

ELDERS: Mr. Robert L. Coleman, Clerk  
Mr. R. Harry Boyce  
Mr. Lee Hamrick  
Mr. Donald M. Hanson  
Mr. William H. Hiatt  
Mr. Luther J. Howell  
Mr. Douglas S. Murray  
Mr. Earl S. Sellers

*Mr. Wm. N. Stokes*  
*Mr. Virgil Hopkins*

DEACONS: Mr. E. C. Brake, Chairman  
Mr. G. G. Moore  
Mr. Paul W. Edgerton  
Dr. Robert L. Motyca  
Mr. J. W. Parrett  
Mr. Frank Sampson  
Mr. James W. Sands  
Mr. Jackson L. Tignor  
Mr. B. Jesse Davenport

TRUSTEES: Mr. George L. Guthrie. Mr. J. Alvin Holland.  
Mr. Ernest D. Ney.

ORGANIST - - - - Mrs. William L. Dentler.

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CHURCH HISTORY (Continued)

Nineteen Hundred Sixty-two brought continued growth to our church membership: 41 were added on profession of faith, 2 were added on reaffirmation, 11 were added by certificate, making a total of 54 additions.

Nineteen were transferred to inactive roll, and nine were dismissed to other churches. Total losses during the year, 28. Total communicants on roll during year, 321. Net communicants on roll at end of year, 293.

There were 19 adult baptisms and two infant baptisms during the year 1962.

The Financial Report is as follows:

Total to all benevolences - - - - -	\$ 2,507.00
Current expenses - - - - -	14,787.00
Building Fund - - - - -	11,757.00

Grand total, all contributions - - \$29,051.00

On January 6, 1961, death claimed our fellow member and co-worker, Mr. C. A. Foust. Al was one of our Deacons, was chairman of the Adult Bible Class, and had a burning interest in the growth of his Adult Class and of our Bayside Church. We have missed him.

On June 22, 1961, another of our beloved members, Jimmy Armstrong, died very suddenly. His loss was felt by the entire congregation; his warm friendliness and good humor endeared him in a special way to all. Jim, a native of Belfast, Ireland, became one of us and served as Ruling Elder and Clerk of the Session at Bayside Church.

Our Church bulletin of July 2, 1961, carries the following letter to our congregation, from Jimmy's widow, our own "Flo Armstrong":

"To the Beloved Members of Jimmy's 'Wee' Church at Bayside:

On September 19, 1957, Jimmy and I left Aruba, Netherlands, Antilles, on retirement to the United States. We arrived in Miami, but didn't know where to turn to look for a home. However, God's guiding hand brought us to Bayside and Dr. Johnson, to the 'wee' church.

I want you to know how much Jimmy loved you all. He thought if he had travelled the nation, he could not have found a better spot or finer, friendlier people. You are the best people he had ever met, and I think the last 3½ years were the happiest in his life.

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Sallie and I wish to thank you all very much for the love and support you have shown to us. We hope we may be worthy of it. We felt you were all behind us these past few days, and so our sorrow was made easier to bear.

Thank you again and God bless you.

Always,

Flo Armstrong  
(Mrs. James Armstrong)"

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CHURCH HISTORY (Continued)

On Wednesday afternoon, November 8, 1961, a Committee, including Mr. J. A. Holland, Mr. Lee Hamrick and the Pastor, met with the Home Mission Committee of Norfolk Presbytery and requested exchange of the building site on Shore Drive for the five acre site on Ewell Road at Bayside Road. The request was granted. This is to be the new site for our new church.

The Building Committee, with Mr. William Stokes, Chairman, met Wednesday, November 16, 1961, to get things moving.

In December, 1961, the congregation approved a raise in the Minister's salary, from \$4,800.00 to \$5,500.00.

The goal for the Building Fund at the end of 1961 was \$1,000.00. This goal was reached.

The Deacons asked that special attention be given the Building Fund on the fourth Sunday of each month. In March, 1962, we passed the \$24,000.00 mark. We press on!

April 15th, Palm Sunday, was a great day for our Church: 42 were received into membership; 2 by letter, 2 by reaffirmation, and 38 upon confession of faith including 17 by baptism.

The Session authorized a congregational meeting to be called on April 29th for the purpose of electing five Deacons:

Mr. Paul W. Edgerton,  
Mr. James W. Parrett,  
Mr. Frank Sampson,  
Mr. James W. Sands, and  
Mr. Jackson L. Tignor.

Because of the need for replacing many of our worn hymnals, and looking forward to the new sanctuary, the officers, in May, approved giving each family in the Church an opportunity to provide one or more copies of "The Hymnbook" at \$2.00 per copy. At the morning service, July 29, 1962, 200 copies of "The Hymnbook" were dedicated to our use.

Donors: The Pioneers contributed \$15.00 toward this cause;  
The Men of the Church gave 25 copies;  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Graham Jr. gave 25 copies, in memory of Grace Graham;  
Many members contributed two copies - some as memorials.

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CHURCH HISTORY (Continued)

Thomas L. Johnson, a member of this Church, preached on July 15, Tom's last Sunday before departing for France where he will be the exchange student from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, to the Reformed Seminary of the University of Montpellier in Southern France.

The Session asked Commander Donald M. Hanson, U.S.N., official director of "Handclasp" operation for overseas relief, to supply the pulpit in August, in the absence of the Minister.

We welcomed to our Pulpit, September 9th, Merwyn S. Johnson, a member of this Church and a rising senior at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond.

The Building Committee met Tuesday evening, September 23, with the Architects, Williams & Tagwell, who have been approved by the Presbytery. The Session directed that a congregational meeting be called after the regular morning worship, Sunday, September 30, for the purpose of approving the Architects and authorizing the Trustees to sign the contract with them.

October 8: Our Building Fund had passed the \$28,000.00 mark; by the end of December, it had climbed to \$34,400.00.

We thank God for our consecrated members who have worked diligently and faithfully to make this year one of spiritual enrichment and one of going forward to increase our witness in this community.

*Lila T. Johnson*

Historian (Mrs. J. E. Johnson)