

Presbyterian Women of Bayside Presbyterian Church  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
2007

**Overview:**

**Pastors** The Rev. Dr. Richard Keever: Pastor  
The Rev. Benjamin Skidmore, Associate Pastor for Outreach  
The Rev. W. Guy Delany: Part time, Interim Associate Pastor (to October)  
The Rev. Daniel Dickenson, Part time, Interim Associate Pastor (since October)

Presbyterian Women of Bayside work under the leadership of a coordinating team consisting of the officers, program chairpersons and chairpersons of the 7-8 circles (two circles merged in September). Presbyterian Women activities are coordinated and planned from a September through May time frame; the coordinating team also serves from September through May.

We have 577 women in the church membership of 1,170, with 138 as active circle members. We have 7-8 circles, with two general gatherings and install officers in May. Nineteen women were on session and ten attended Christian Women United events.

We collect and file the bulletins, newsletters, and special publications. We subscribe to *Horizon* and *Presbyterian Outlook* and follow the *Horizon's Bible Study Guide* in all circles.

**The coordinating team for September, 2006 through May, 2007 was as follows:**

**Officers:**

|                |                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Moderator      | Debra O'Connell                   |
| Vice Moderator | Peggy Damuth                      |
| Secretary      | Patty Brown                       |
| Treasurer      | Suzanne Hanley                    |
| Historian      | Libby Nybakken Graves             |
| Enablers       | Pat Armstrong & SherNita McFarlin |

**Program Chairpersons:**

|                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Food Pantry         | Audre Cannell & Judy Crossman |
| Spiritual Nurture   | Cathleen Ritzo                |
| Ecumenical Missions | Karen Minson                  |

**Circle Chairperson's:**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Circle #2  | Peggy Reed & Judy Crossman                 |
| Circle #3  | Libby Nybakken Graves & Mary Jane Borchers |
| Circle #4  | Michele Parker                             |
| Circle #6  | Jean Reid & Linda Allen                    |
| Circle #7  | Betsy Davis & Becky Wheeler                |
| Circle #8  | Marie Parr & Shelba Blossom                |
| Circle #9  | Nancy Montgomery & Kathie Roberts          |
| Circle #10 | Robin Stenger & Rose Ann Wehr              |

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**The coordinating team for the September 2007-May 2008 is as follows:**

**Officers:**

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Moderator      | Peggy Damuth             |
| Vice Moderator | Michele Parker           |
| Secretary      | Angela Marcotte          |
| Treasurer      | Suzanne Hanley           |
| Historian      | Libby Nybakken Graves    |
| Enablers       | Office abolished in 2007 |

**Program Chairpersons:**

|                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Food Pantry         | Audre Cannell & Lynne Owen |
| Spiritual Nurture   | Cathleen Ritzo             |
| Ecumenical Missions | Diane Towler               |

**Circle Chairperson:**

|            |                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Circle #2  | Peggy Reed & Judy Crossman            |
| Circle #3  | Libby Nybakken Graves & Virginia Hill |
| Circle #4  | Michele Parker                        |
| Circle #6  | Linda Allen & Jean Reid               |
| Circle #7  | Becky Wheeler & Betsy Davis           |
| Circle #8  | Shelba Blossom & Marie Parr           |
| Circle #9  | Kathie Roberts & Nancy Montgomery     |
| Circle #10 | Robin Stenger & Rose Ann Wehr         |

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

**Coordinating Team:** The coordinating team meets the last Monday of the month, August through April, approximately 2 weeks before the circles meet. The meeting opens with a devotion from the Spiritual Nurture Chairperson. Each officer and program chairperson gives a report. The Moderator discusses responsibilities of each circle for upcoming events and the Treasurer reports on current expenses and contributions. Each circle chairperson reports on the activities and prayer concerns of circle. A newsletter is prepared by the Secretary that includes a devotion, prayer concerns, a calendar of events, the Treasurer's report, and any other important news. This is distributed to all circle members at each of their monthly meetings.

**Circle Meetings:** The circles meet once a month-- 5-4 during the day; 3 in the evening --from September through May. Five of the circles meet at the church and two meet in circle member homes. The Horizons Bible Study used for the January-May 2007 period was "In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis" and for September to May 2008, "Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth." Our pastors rotate leadership of a class each month for the circle study moderators to enhance their leadership in the Bible study. Each circle collects money for the General Fund, the Least Coin contribution, Sunnyside, their own "Sunshine Fund," and whatever special projects they have chosen



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**PWC Events:** Two events that include all circles each year are the Spring Gathering and the Fall Gathering, held in the Fellowship Hall over brunch. The Spring Gathering is a wonderful get-together for everyone as an ending to our PW year with the installation of officers for the coming year. This year it was held on 28 April at 9:30 a.m., with an attendance of 44. The Fall Gathering was held on 15 September at 9:30 a.m., with an attendance of 29. Members welcomed the opportunity to reconnect with each other and review the new Bible study. The Rev. Dr. Richard Keever, gave an excellent overview on our 2007-08 Bible study books, "Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth," which were on hand for sale and distribution.

PWC hosted the Church Women United Human Rights Celebration from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the Fellowship Hall. On 8 September. The circles provided a light brunch, set up, and cleaned up. Ten or eleven attended the program as their chores allowed. Peggy Damuth joined the head table. This was a good occasion for Bayside attendees and workers to socialize with other caring Christian women in the area.

**PWC Contributions to the church.** One of the major charities at our church is the Food Pantry, which is run expertly by our Food Pantry Chairpersons, Audre Cannell and Judy Crossman (until September) and Lynne Owen (after September). They train and coordinate volunteer shoppers to work Monday through Friday throughout the year. These shoppers are called on their assigned day to shop if necessary. Contributions are made to the Food Pantry through congregation donations. Circles also contribute staples for the Food Pantry each month.

Circles joined other church committees to orchestrate a dinner on 16 September in celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rev. Keever's pastorate at Bayside. PWC was in charge of the set up and clean up. Given the hundreds of guests who attended, this was a herculean endeavor which was carried off with great success. Many had returned to the state for this occasion. They, and others, came with their children and grandchildren to celebrate.).

PWC provided the food for two farewell receptions on 14 October, honoring the Rev. Guy Delany's work with us as a temporary interim associate pastor. One reception followed the 8:30 service; the other, the 11:00 service. This provided the opportunity for all of our members to thank him for his ministry. He was the youngest "elderly" associate pastor we have had, encouraging dance classes, visiting the hospital and home-bound, and enthralling the youngest of our children with his "What's in the Box," where individual children volunteered to fill a box with something special and bring it to the children's time in the worship services to serve as the basis of an extemporaneous discussion on the contents. The Rev. Daniel Dickenson, a long time minister at Lafayette Presbyterian Church in Norfolk and respected advisor to the residents at Westminster-Canterbury Retirement Complex, replaced Guy in this temporary position.

PWC was not directly involved with the renovation of the music wing of the church to create a new office and more storage, but many of our members participate in our music program and helped in the effort.



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There were many other events in 2007 in which all circles participated. The Lenten dinners were held each Wednesday at our church from February 21 through March 28. At each dinner, one or two circles assumed the responsibility for selling tickets, setting up tables, serving dinner, and cleaning up after the dinner. Another regular event was the new member reception. Before each monthly session meeting, PWC provided a light supper for those new members whom the session was receiving. This practice was changed in October, and PWC is not certain of our responsibility, if any, in the new welcome ceremonies.

The PWC circles rotate the responsibility of tidying, updating, and replacing materials in the pew racks throughout the year. When necessary, individual members purchased pens to replace those that wander off with great regularity. This year, the PWC brochure was redesigned and updated. Each circle provided a brief description of itself and meeting times and places for the brochure. It will be revised every fall.

Each circle chooses a first year college student in September who is a member or friend of our church. They provide correspondence, small gifts, and words of encouragement to these youth who are away from home. This is a very well received activity that helps these young people know that they have special friends who are praying for and thinking of them.

Another activity enjoyed by all the circles is the Angel Tree Gift Tags at Christmas. Each Christmas, our church buys hundreds of gifts for people of all ages who, otherwise, might not receive any. Each circle purchased several gifts, in addition to those that their individual members provided. This is why we actively recruit shoppers and women with children who know what all these requests are and how best to meet them.

This year, the PWC purchased wreaths and window arrangements to decorate the church for the Christmas season, rather than coordinate volunteers to make them. It is hoped that some arrangement can be made to share in this new expense, but we will cheerfully shoulder the cost if no other arrangements are made.

**Individual Circles;** All circles provide love, nurturing, and support of their members, which is a very important part of our ministry. Often we call on members of different circles as we visit those who are home or hospital bound and their families; providing meals, transportation, errand running etc; and just plain visiting. In addition to the activities noted above, they buy Easter lilies, Christmas poinsettias, flowers, cards, and gifts for members. They also host receptions for funerals of circle members and their families.

In addition, each circle assumes responsibility for individual projects—many of which pass “under the radar.” One circle oversees the operation of the church library, scheduling volunteers, updating computers, creating library procedures, soliciting donations of books and journals, such as the Journal of Presbyterian History, and providing general upkeep. Another keeps the PWC Bulletin board current. Circle #2 used a memorial gift to purchase brass easels for displays in the foyer. All of them sent memorial gifts to Bayside and to Sunnyside Links, supplemented the PWC’s donations to Zuni, Makemie Woods, Keim Center, and The Dwelling Place, as well as supporting a myriad of individual causes. All of these benevolences were in addition to the collective PWC



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financial support of local, regional, national, and international offerings and causes listed below as an addendum.

Some of this PW success at outreach and mission efforts is due to the fact that the circles also make time to socialize and connect spiritually with each other at lunches, dinners, retreats, and other outings, both throughout the year and during the summer hiatus. Some use these opportunities to formulate officer and circle goals for the year and then to evaluate how well they were met. In most cases, individuals and circles exceeded their expectations and felt enriched by the introspection the process required

We have many members of Presbyterian Women in our church who are wonderful leaders. One member from Presbyterian Women each year serves on the Search Committee for new elders. Others serve as chairs and members of congregational committees. They are listed at the end of the report, as are the nineteen women who served as elders during 2007.

Last fall, PWC instituted a "Woman of Faith" award to be given annually to one of our many outstanding women who provide a model of faith and service to which all Christians aspire. So large was the backlog of deserving women that serious discussion was given to honoring more than one. Judy Crossman was the sole recipient in 2007 and will be honored at our Spring Gathering. (See attached brief biography at the end of the report?)

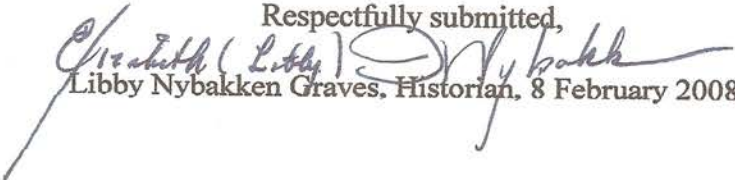
To honor the retiring Moderator, Debra O'Connell, for her contributions not only as a tireless and talented worker for PW in most of its offices and activities, but also for her work in the community, we presented her with an Honorary Life Membership at the Fall Gathering of 2007. (See attached brief biography at the end of the report)

Many PWC members volunteer in all areas of the church; such as serving on ministries; volunteering in the church office; participating in the vocal and bell choirs; preparing and serving food to the homeless; supervising youth working on Saturdays; assembling the church newsletter; teaching Sunday school, volunteering in the nursery, decorating the church at Christmas, providing food for Habitat for Humanity workers, and just filling in wherever they are needed. Ms. Emma Chapman is perhaps the most obvious example of these "worker bees".

The Presbyterian Women had a very exciting, nurturing and enriching year under the wonderful leadership of Debra O'Connell, serving out her second year as Moderator in the spring and Peggy Damuth, moving up to begin her tenure as moderator in the fall.

Although we present no formal awards to them, we are very grateful for our Pastors for their leadership, and the assistance from the church office staff, Marty and Rita. We could never have done our work this year without them. We are a wonderful group of caring women who join together to enrich the lives of many in our organization, church and community.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Libby Nybakken Graves, Historian, 8 February 2008

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## YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**January, 2007 Beginning Balance** **\$4,222.57**

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>I. General Offerings</b> | <b>\$1,179.43</b> |
| Least Coin                  | \$126.18          |
| Thank Offering              | \$269.00          |
| Sunnyside Links             | \$80.75           |
| Birthday Offering           | \$426.00          |
| Mission Pledge              | \$277.50          |

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>II. Benevolences</b>                            | <b>\$ 2,050.00</b> |
| Bayside Minister's Benevolent Fund                 | \$200.00           |
| Bayside Church Youth Mission Project               | \$250.00           |
| Church World Service                               | \$100.00           |
| Dwelling Place                                     | \$200.00           |
| Edmarc Hospice for Children                        | \$200.00           |
| Friends of Union Theological Seminary              | \$100.00           |
| Keim Center for Pregnancy Crises                   | \$100.00           |
| Makemie Woods                                      | \$200.00           |
| Migrant Ministry                                   | \$100.00           |
| Zuni Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands | \$200.00           |
| Presbyterian School of Christian Education         | \$100.00           |
| Union Theological Seminary—Student Aid             | \$100.00           |
| Virginia Beach Christian Women United              | \$100.00           |
| Zuni Presbyterian Training Center                  | \$100.00           |

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>III. Operating Expenses</b> | <b>\$1,593.59</b> |
| Poinsettias                    | \$14.00           |
| Horizon Magazine               | \$18.00           |
| Bible Study Books              | \$779.00          |
| Honorary Life Membership       | \$75.00           |
| Spring Gathering               | \$49.39           |
| Fall Gathering                 | \$175.10          |
| Postage                        | \$8.20            |
| Church Christmas Wreathes      | \$475.00          |

**December 31, 2007 Ending Balance** **\$4,308.34**



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**PWC SESSION LEADERSHIP** (8 officers: 11 members)

Clerk of Session                      Helen Spore  
Assistant Treasurers                Barrie Jeffcoat  
   Caroline Rawls  
Administrative Support::        Ernestine Middleton, Moderator  
    Members: Betsy Kennedy & Mary Opitz  
Community Service... Penny Brown, Moderator  
    Members, Susan Hudgins & Terri Wilkins  
Education:..... Bobbie Brenton, Moderator  
    Members; Margaret Bobst & Melissa Ludwick  
Evangelism..... Christine Pascuzzi, Moderator  
    Members; Carolyn Graham & Ruth Anderson  
Witness  
    Member: Mary Jo Kennedy  
Worship..... Berny Wallace, Moderator  
    Members; Judy Crossman & Ashley McLeod

**PWC ELDERS (19)**

| <u>Name</u>         | <u>Class of</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Ruth Anderson       | 2010            |
| Margaret Bobst      | 2009            |
| Bobbie Brenton      | 2008            |
| Penny Brown         | 2008            |
| Judy Crossman       | 2009            |
| Carolyn Graham      | 2009            |
| Susan Hudgins       | 2010            |
| Barrie Jeffcoat     | 2008            |
| Betsy Kennedy       | 2010            |
| Mary Jo Kennedy     | 2010            |
| Missy Ludwick       | 2010            |
| Ashley McLeod       | 2010            |
| Ernestine Middleton | 2010            |
| Mary Opitz          | 2009            |
| Lynne Owen          | 2010            |
| Christine Pascuzzi  | 2008            |
| Sandra Ronan        | 2009            |
| Berny Wallace       | 2008            |
| Terri Wilkins       | 2008            |

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**PWC: MEMBERS ON CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES**

**Nominating Committee (4)**

Emily Rudiger  
Kristyn Taylor  
P.D. White  
Peggy Damuth  
Berny Wallace

**Gifts and Furnishings Committee :**

Chair: P.C. White

**Music Ministries:**

Chair: Catherine M. Grant

**Coordinating and Planning Council:**

Chair: Barrie Jeffcoat

**Administrative Support Ministry:**

Chair: Janet Joyce Martin

**Community Service Ministry**

Chair: Connie Schriber

**Congregational Care Ministry**

Chair: Annette Conley

**Education Ministry**

Chair: Bobbie Brenton

**Evangelism Ministry**

Chair: Christine Pascuzzi

**Witness Ministry**

Chair: Bonnie Prrestridge

**Worship Ministry**

Chair Berny Wallace

**NECROLOGH2007**

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Birth Date</u> | <u>Death Date</u> | <u>Church</u>         |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Virginia Briggs      | 9/2/1922          | 1/4 2007          | Bayside Presbyterian, |
| Katherine Flora      | 8/31/1935         | 1/24/2007         | Virginia Beach        |
| Virginia Garner      | 12/8/1926         | 8/10/2007         | "                     |
| Margaret Harrell     | 10/15/1913        | 12/12/ 2007       | "                     |
| Mary Hutcheson       | 8/29/1923         | 8/1/ 2007         | "                     |
| Barbara Joyce        | 9/25/1917         | 8/30/2007         | "                     |
| Ruth Lewellyn        | 8/9/1928          | 9/12/2007         | "                     |
| Catherine McClanahan | 8/15/1924         | 11/9/2007         | "                     |
| Zara McClenahan      | 6/11/1929         | 5/1/ 2007         | "                     |
| Doris Morelen        | 7/17/1936         | 6/30/ 2007        | "                     |
| Beverly Tehel        | 9/9/1953          | 12/10/2007        | "                     |