

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Presbyterian Women of Bayside Presbyterian Church

Virginia Beach, Virginia

2010

OVERVIEW:

Pastors: The Rev. Dr. David Rollins, Pastor (September-January)
The Rev. Dr. George Fitzgerald, Temporary Supply Pastor (January-September)
The Rev. Eleanor Norman, Temporary Supply Associate Pastor (March-January)

Presbyterian Women of Bayside works under the leadership of a Coordinating Committee consisting of the officers, program chairs and chairs and co-chairs of the seven circles. PWC activities are coordinated and planned from a September through May time frame; the coordinating team also serves from September through May.

PWC has 108 active members in 7 circles. We have two general gatherings in the fall and spring, and install officers in May. Nineteen women were on the session, all of whom headed or served on session committees, along with PWC members who were not currently on session.

PWC is also heavily represented on all of the major standing and ad hoc committees and representatives to other church councils, which attest to the regard in which these women are held by the congregation.

PWC collects and files the weekly bulletins, copies of the weekly newsletter, the monthly newsletters, and all special publications of PWC and Bayside Church. We subscribe to *Horizon* and *Presbyterian Outlook*, contribute the *Journal of Presbyterian History* to the library, and follow the *Horizon's Bible Study Guide* in all circles.

The Coordinating Committee for January, 2010 through May, 2010 was as follows:

Officers:

Moderator	Peggy Damuth
Vice Moderator	Michele Parker
Secretary	Angela Marcotte
Treasurer	Suzanne Hanley
Historian	Libby Nybakken Graves

Program Chairs:

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

Circle Chairs and Co-Chairs

Circle #2	Judy Crossman & Janet Straddeck
Circle #3	Libby N. Graves & Virginia Hill
Circle #4	AnnaLisa Michalski & Jennifer Costello
Circle #6	Jean Reid & Betsy Thigpen
Circle #7	Peggy Damuth & Chris Pascuzzi
Circle #8	Marie Parr & Paula Jesberg
Circle #10	Diane Towler & Jane Copeland

The Coordinating Committee for September 2010-December 2010 was as follows:

Officers:

Moderator	Michele Parker
Vice Moderator	Betsy Davis
Secretary	Angela Marcotte
Treasurer	Suzanne Hanley
Historian	Libby Nybakken Graves

Program Chairs

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

Circle Chairs and Co-Chairs

Circle #2	Judy Crossman & Janet Straddeck
Circle #3	Libby N Graves & Diane Linkous
Circle #4	Jennifer Costello & Angela Marcotte
Circle #6	Linda Allen & Dana Williamson
Circle #7	Chris Pascuzzi & Ruth Boynewicz
Circle #8	Marie Parr & Paula Jesberg
Circle #10	Diane Towler & Jane Copeland

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

Coordinating Team: The coordinating team meets the last Monday of the month, August through April, approximately 2 weeks before the circles meet. It consists of officers, program chairs and circle chairs. The meeting opens with a devotion from the Spiritual Nurture Chairperson. Each officer and program chair gives a report, followed by reports from the chairs of each circle. The Moderator discusses the responsibilities of each circle for upcoming events and the Treasurer reports on current expenses and contributions. The Secretary keeps the minutes, incorporating the reports of each program and circle chairs, and prepares a monthly newsletter that includes the devotion and all reports and announcements of upcoming events. This is distributed to all circle members at their monthly meetings and is available to all women in the church. The devotion is always so timely and sensitive (with some gentle chuckles) that it is often published in the *Bayside Binnacle*, the monthly church newsletter.

Circle Meetings: The circles meet once a month-- 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. Circle #6 has added a second Bible Study group meeting at the Westminster Canterbury Retirement Center on the Wednesday afternoon after their regular Tuesday meeting in order to provide Christian women at the Center and surrounding areas regular access to the spiritual nurture and study that circles provide. This has proven to be very popular.

The Horizons Bible Study used for the January-May 2010 period was "Joshua: A Journey of Faith" which required some careful consideration of the context of the period and the time in which it was written to enable us to fully comprehend its message. The Bible Study for September-December was "Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today." Initially, this frightened some of our women until the Rev. Eleanor Norman, who counts this book among her favorites, explained its symbolism, echoes of the Old Testament, and underlying message of hope. We then approached the study with a renewed vision and energized discussion.

Until Rev. Norman came, our interim pastors rotated leadership of a monthly class for the Bible Study moderators of each circle and any other members of the congregation who might like to attend. She agreed to take over that task and has brought enthusiasm and a fresh perspective in her presentations. Many PWC members also attend other weekly Bible studies as well. These are such an important part of our lives that we are very grateful to all of our ministers for sharing their knowledge and insights, which we then bring to our circles.

Each circle collects money for the General Fund, the Least Coin contribution, Sunnyside, their individual Sunshine Fund, and whatever special projects they have chosen. Some of their projects will be described later in this report, and their collective generosity is charted in the financial report.

PWC Events: Two events that include all circles each year are the Spring Gathering and the Fall Gathering, held in the Fellowship Hall over a delicious brunch in a beautifully decorated setting provided by the Coordinating Committee and under the leadership of Diane Towler,

Ecumenical Missions Coordinator. Our members are able to just come, eat, learn, and socialize without having to cook or clean up. The Spring Gathering ends our PWC year with the installation of officers for the coming year. This year it was held on 5 June from 9:30-11:00 a.m. A special honoree was Em Chapman, our 2010 recipient of the Woman of Faith Award. She has been displaying the requisite "acts of faithful living and leadership," for decades. The fifty nine women present donated \$525.00 to the Birthday Offering.

The Fall Gathering was held on 11 September from 9:30-11:00 a.m. and lived up to the expected quality of food and decorations. For this event, we did a "pot luck" which not only pleased the members but also saved PW funds. The more we save, the more we can give away. Diane Towler created decorations for the fellowship hall and each table and was thanked by all those who "won" the centerpieces. The thirty nine members present welcomed the opportunity to reconnect with each other, sharing news of their summer activities and plans for the upcoming . The Rev. Eleanor Norman gave an overview of "Revelations," for the year. Study books were available for purchase and pickup. The "Thank Offering" amounted to \$424.00.

Moderator Michele Parker and Vice Moderator, Betsy Davis represented Bayside at the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic PW summer gathering in Harrisonburg, VA on June 10-13. They brought current information about the Stop Hunger Now program. They were particularly interested in discussions about waning interest in traditional practices in the mainline churches and how to attract new interest without sacrificing old beliefs. Amanda Long and Helen Spore attended the PEVA meeting in April and shared their experiences with PWC.

PWC maintains its active involvement with Christian women of all denominations in the area, at formal events sponsored by the various churches and in the informal contact in neighborhood and school functions. For instance, PWC Moderator Parker was named "Teacher's Assistant of the Year" at her child's school. Church Women United is very active in our community and PWC joins their ecumenical activities in spiritual and community development. There are too many of these to list or even mention. Seven members (Bobbie Brenton, Carolyn Graham, Mary Jo Kennedy, Lynne Owen, Marie Parr, Jackie Weitzel and Connie Zuidema attended the

WINGS 2010 Kick-off Event at the Thalia Lynn Baptist Church on February 6. Marie Parr returned on April 17 for the "Thrifty Fashion Experience".

PWC Contributions to the Church. The 2010 "Woman of Faith" award went to Emma Chapman, who provides a model of faith and service to which all Christians aspire. She was honored at our Spring Gathering. (See addendum on Em)

One of the major charities at our church is the Food Pantry, which is run expertly by our Food Pantry Chairs, Audre Cannell and Lynne Owen. They train and coordinate volunteer shoppers to work Monday through Friday throughout the year. These women are called on to shop for perishables and items in short supply in the Pantry. This mission is supported by congregational donations of non-perishable items and cash. Each circle makes an additional monthly contribution of those staples not provided by the general congregation. Given the current economic situation and the increasing numbers of families who have to choose between paying rent or obtaining food, the Food Pantry is in need of more support. PWC members publicly reminded the congregants in our three services of the need for more donations and privately contacted an "angel" or two who are willing donors to this mission.

Emma Chapman and Paula Jesberg, two PWC members serve as the informal "events coordinators" for funerals, weddings, and other special events, as well as the "coordinators of the kitchen." They reap no monetary rewards but have a treasure of humorous and heartwarming stories. The genesis of one memorable event in 2010 revolved around a wedding which Paula had coordinated and recalls with fond humor—now. After consultations, rehearsals, preparation of the sanctuary and other rooms, and admonitions to the blended families to "play nice," the day arrived. Everything that could go wrong did: "squatters" were in the changing room for the groomsmen; chilly temperatures forced the photographers inside for wedding pictures on the steps to the choir loft so guests could not be seated. Finally, the processional music began. Where was grandpa, who was to escort the bride? Sitting next to grandma in the second row who had missed the rehearsal and was not wearing her hearing aid which did not match her outfit. The pastor, groomsmen, and grandparents all stood in place for another playing of the Wedding March. Someone fetched grandpa; the procession began, and the vows

were spoken with beautiful reverence-- to the sound of the Assistant Sexton vacuuming the Atrium carpet as she always did after Sunday services. There were even more mishaps, but Paula survived her "baptism by fire," and is well prepared for her next test.

Most church events occur with great success, but just as many human tales, and the circles participated in them all. For example, the weekly Lenten dinners were scaled back to two which preceded the worship services on Ash Wednesday (Potluck) and Maundy Thursday (A Passover Dinner). PWC set up for the dinners and cleaned up afterward. The Bible study classes were held late afternoon, early evening, and during the Sunday School hour on Sunday to accommodate the varied schedules of the congregation. Our special Lenten study focused on *Mudhouse Sabbath* by Lauren Winner, which informed many of our PWC members.

The PWC circles rotate the responsibility of tidying, updating, and replacing materials in the pew racks throughout the year. The PWC brochure is updated and printed every year to keep that information current and is placed in the pew racks, the boxes at the entrance of the contemporary service, the informational kiosk in the atrium, and the information packet sent to potential church members. Each circle provides a brief description of itself and meeting times and places as well as details on each circle and the unique ways it fulfills the general mission of the PWC.

Every September, each circle adopts a first year college student who is a member or friend of our church. Our Spiritual Nurture Chairperson, Cathy Ritzo, identifies those who want to be contacted and uncovers their addresses with a persistence and accuracy that Homeland Security should envy. The circles then send correspondence, small gifts, and words of encouragement to these youth who are away from home, often for the first time. This year, Cathy polled all circles for the creative ways they used to maintain contact with these youths. She summarized the results and distributed them to all of the circles to use as a resource. We promised to nurture our youth them when they were baptized and this is one time in their lives when they really need our support.

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. The need was so profound this year that most circles purchased two gifts or more gifts in addition to those that 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. eg: Question: "Should I buy a Barbie Doll for a 15 year old girl" Answer, "ABSOLUTELY NOT"!

Any un- or gently-used study guides for 2009, plus the accompanying Horizon Bible Studies were sent to circles at a Presbyterian Church that could ill afford to purchase the current study guides. Because these scriptures and the issues they address do not go out of date, these guides can be used at any time.

Community service and mission outreach is a church-wide commitment, and PWC members contributed as both PWC and church members. A group of PWC members have been crocheting both baby blankets and prayer shawls to be given to those in need. A number of the blankets were donated to The Dwelling Place, for its on-line auction fund raiser where buyers snapped up these soft, lovely, non-chemical blankets for whatever new-borns they knew. "Sisters in Stitches," crocheted prayer shawls which are also popular, as the numerous thank you notes indicate. They come in their own bag, with a prayer and a card signed by all who worked on them. Comfort is often a very physical thing, when words do not suffice.

In December, every circle contributed to the cost of a wreath, poinsettia, or scholarship in honor of an outstanding Christian woman. Several circles provided funds for the purchase of seasonal plants and flowers for the church beds and others signed up for the care and weeding of these plots. Volunteer labor is part of our innovative solutions to lower operating costs so that we can maintain our outreach programs.

In their culinary capacity, all circles contributed snacks or covered dishes whenever requested for receptions, funerals, farewell and welcome celebrations, meals for the homeless, and all manner of congregational gatherings. Each circle has a "kitchen contact person" so that

members can respond quickly to requests from our church ministries. We are noted for our efficiency as well as for our helpfulness.

Receptions welcomed the Rev. Dr. George Fitzgerald, temporary supply minister, in January and reluctantly bade farewell to him and Stella in August as he entered his third retirement. The installation of the Rev. Dr. David Rollins in September with a wise and humorous charge by his wife, the Rev. Libby Rollins, was marked by a buffet so large that it also fed many homeless people the next day. The Rev. Eleanor Norman, our temporary supply associate pastor, preferred finger food for her smaller "meet and greet" receptions after each service in March. She has spearheaded the effort to schedule regular congregational meals together, either for church business or the pleasure of eating with friends who attend services at different times.

These gatherings were far happier events than the funerals which PWC organized for members or their husbands. Perhaps, the largest was a celebration of the life of Walter Walls, who was a renowned authority on Biblical texts and history, but who also joined with Ellen in many other church activities, including leading the Bible Study for circle #3.

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 at home or in hospital providing meals, transportation, errand running, and just plain visiting. Each circle also 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, and providing general upkeep. Another keeps the PWC bulletin board current, with notices of future events and photos of past events. Members of Circle #6 help Em Chapman assemble the monthly church newsletter; Circle #10 has purchased educational equipment and supplies for the preschool at the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center and raised funds for "Operation Smile. Some, such as Circle #2, send money to help victims of disasters both at home and abroad; others, such as Circle #3 underwrite landscaping costs. Circle #4 sends toys to "Toys for Tots" every year; Circle #7 members provide volunteers twice a month to conduct spiritual sessions for an elder-care program. All Circles send memorial gifts to Bayside

and to Sunnyside Links, supplement the PWC's group donations to Zuni, Makemie Woods, Keim Center, and The Dwelling Place, as well as providing financial support for a myriad of missions within the church and the area. All of these benevolences are in addition to the collective PWC financial support of local, regional, national, and international offerings and causes.

The clear success of PWC at outreach and mission efforts is due partially 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. 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 nurturing and effective leaders in all of the missions of Bayside. One member from Presbyterian Women each year serves on the Search Committee for new elders. Nineteen are on session and others serve as chairs and members of congregational committees. They are listed at the end of the report.

Many other individual women quietly fill the niches and needs that allow Bayside to function smoothly in its internal and external missions. They volunteer in all areas of the church; serving on ministries and as receptionists in the church office; participating in the vocal and bell choirs; preparing and serving food to the homeless; teaching Sunday school; orchestrating our successful vacation Bible schools; volunteering in the nursery; working with our youth groups; decorating the church at Christmas; providing food for Habitat for Humanity workers; visiting shut-ins; providing transportation to medical services; landscaping the grounds; tidying up the church and its grounds; and just filling in wherever they are needed. Ms. Emma Chapman is perhaps the most obvious example of these "worker bees", but we could list so many more--all Presbyterian women of our church; none seeking earthy acknowledgement or acclaim.

PWC does try to document our activities, so that we might see where we have been in order to ascertain where we might go in the future. Sometimes it is not so easy. It has taken us a year to locate past PWC records which we knew existed and now have relocated them from the

seasonal closet behind the "leaning Christmas tree" and onto the top shelf of a closet, a location that at least three people know of. It only took a few days to track down the genesis of the "tradition" of combined circle meetings in the Sanctuary in December, drawing on the memory of long-time members and long-serving pastors. In the days when PW organized the cutting of the Christmas greens and creating and mounting of seasonal decorations, the ladies in Circle #6 mounted a gentle revolt by asking the pastor to lead the Bible Study for the month because all of them were too busy to prepare one and they wanted the meeting to be in the Sanctuary they had so beautifully decorated. Each year, various circles join in. After thirty years, this qualifies as a "tradition". Once the newly-located files and scrapbooks can be scrutinized, many lost traditions may emerge. We will, of course, publicize those that please us.

All of the PWCs work goes forward, secure in the leadership of our Moderator Michele Parker and her equally energetic team featuring Vice Moderator Betsy Davis and Secretary Angela Marcotte—all so involved, all with young children, most enrolled in advanced degree programs. Luckily, Suzanne Hanley, of an earlier, but equally as energetic generation, is willing to work with them to maintain our finances in the correct columns and proper order.

Although we present no formal awards to them, we are very grateful for our Pastors, the Rev. Dr. David Rollins, the Rev. Dr. George Fitzgerald, and the Rev. Eleanor Norman for their leadership. We could never have done our work this year without the creative and dedicated leadership of Mr. Daniel Wiard of Educational Ministries and Ms. Katie Grant and her Music Ministry. Ms. Linda Godoy had shouldered many responsibilities beyond those of the Church Secretary with good humor and great efficiency.

We remain a wonderful group of active and caring women who join together and with others to follow scriptural directives to Christians and to enrich the lives of many in our organization, church, community, and world.

YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT: 2010

January, 2010 Beginning Balance		\$4,036.90
I. General Offerings		\$1,678.95
Least Coin	\$127.30	
Thank Offering	\$424.00	
Sunnyside Links	\$85.33	
Birthday Offering	\$525.00	
Mission Pledge	\$545.00	
II. Benevolences		\$1,000.00
Rural Family Development--Migrant Ministry	\$100.00	
Presbyterian Home of the Highlands	\$100.00	
Zuni Presbyterian Training Center	\$100.00	
Virginia Beach Church Women United	\$100.00	
Edmarc Hospice for Children	\$100.00	
Makemie Woods	\$100.00	
Keim Center for Pregnancy Crises	\$100.00	
BPC Youth Mission Account	\$100.00	
Minister's Benevolent Fund	\$100.00	
The Dwelling Place	\$100.00	
III. Operating Expenses		\$309.18
Spring Gathering (food & materials)	\$183.38	
Postage	\$8.80	
Study books for ministers	\$12.00	
Bank Service Fee	\$2.00	
Bank Deposit Slips	\$8.00	
Life Membership	\$95.00	

December 31, 2008 Ending Balance

\$3,943.59

PWC SESSION LEADERSHIP 8 officers: 11 members

[16 members not on current session]

Clerk of Session.....Helen Spore

Assistant Treasurer.....Tracy Davis

Administrative Support:.....Moderator: Betsy Kennedy

Members: Janet Baker Ernestine Middleton, Amanda Long

Christian Education.....Moderator, Laura Quinn, Melissa Ludwick

Member: Anne Baker, [Susan Fulcher, Jean Reid, Beth Armistead]

Community Service.....Moderator: Lynn Owen

Member: Michele Parker, [Carolyn Griffiths, Penny Brown, Connie Schreiber,
Sandy Ronan, Audre Canell, Becky Ullrich, Jackie Verburg, Martha Ruddell
Betsy Thigpen, Dana Williamson, Jacque Peters.]

Congregational Care.....

Member: Paula Jesberg

Evangelism.....Moderator, Brenda Reid

Member: Marie Parr. [Jennifer Rayhill. Carolyn Graham]

Property.....

Members: Susan Hudgins, Carolyn Griffiths

Witness

Member: Mary Jo Kennedy, Terri Danneman

Worship.....Moderator, Martha Sorensen

Member: Peggy Reed

PWC CURRENT ELDERS (19)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class of</u>
Ruth Anderson	2010
Anne Baker	2012
Janet Baker	2011
Carolyn Griffiths	2012
Susan Hudgins	2010

Paula Jesberg	2011
Betsy Kennedy	2010
Mary Jo Kennedy	2010
Amanda Long	2012
Melissa Ludwick	2010
Ernestine Middleton	2010
Lynne Owen	2010
Michelle Parker	2011
Marie Parr	2012
Peggy Reed	2011
Brenda Reid	2011
Martha Sorensen	2012
Helen Spore	2011
Luanne Wong	2011

PWC MEMBERS OF NON-SESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Churchwide.Nominating Committee (4)

Beth Armistead

Janet Baker

Bobbie Brenton

Susan Hudgins

Pastoral Nominating Committee (4)

Virginia Hill

Lynne Owen

Jean Reid

Laura Quinn

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (4)

Amy Colithorpe

Rachel Eddowes

Ernestine Middleton

Nancy Pouliquen

Music Ministries:

Director: Catherine M. Grant

WOMAN OF FAITH AWARD FOR 2010

Emma Chapman

"Em" is easily recognizable as the svelte, stately woman in impeccable attire, who presides over all details of the 8:30 service, funerals, marriages and congregational gatherings, even as she coordinates the kitchen, the accolades, the elders serving communion and most outreach projects. On occasion, she must shed her heels for athletic shoes which allow her to be in all places, at all times, simultaneously. She claims that she does "not 'do' windows," but many suspect that she may have done so, when the church required it. She makes herself available for both the ordinary and the special needs of Bayside and its people, and seems to have great fun doing so. She is a woman of many talents, with a faith that directs them into Christian service. Much of this service is simply the quiet assumption of small tasks—opening the church for workers, inspecting the choir loft, taking in the mail for an ailing neighbor

Em graduated from the University of Virginia in 1956, with a degree in nursing and married soon after. She practiced her profession for 5 years, until their son was born in. She joined Bayside in 1968 and quickly became a production manager for the church newsletter, a labor of love she continues to this day. Em seldom gives up jobs; she simply acquires more of them. When she and some friends gathered monthly to roll bandages for the Cancer Society, they evolved into PWC Circle #6 and continue to undertake many service projects, often under her leadership.

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia has recognized her for her outstanding service and commitment to the church, and for her work in the ministry team, Christian Education, and Equipping the Saints Task Force. In 1979, Em and Bill supported the Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of their son Will, who died of leukemia at an early age.

Em relaxes by keeping up with her many friends, reading, and doing crossword and word-find puzzles. She also "loves to just watch people"—not surprising, for she genuinely likes others and wants to make their lives easier.

"So with faith; if it does not lead to action, it is in itself a lifeless thing." (James 2:17)

The PWC at Bayside, celebrate the deep faith and vibrant life of Emma Chapman.

NECROLOGY 2010

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Death Date</u>	<u>Church</u>
Audrey Brun	1/03/1926	8/9/2010	Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach
<p>Audrey was born in Illinois, graduated from high school at age 16, attended St. John's School of Nursing, and spend her life caring for others as an RN. She nurtured newborns in the early years of her profession, and the elderly in the Hospice Unit at Norfolk General Hospital in later years. Audrey moved to Virginia Beach in 1970 with Roy, her husband of 20 years, and their four children, and immersed herself in family, school, community and church activities, She served several terms as an elder and and remained active in PWC, even after she and Roy moved to assisted living at Westminster Canterbury. Of her many mission projects, two of her favorites were the Program for Continuing Education (PCE) Sisterhood, serving on the board of the Virginia State Chapter from 1981-1987, and presiding as president at the end of her term. Her husband and children continue to support her guiding motto, "With your touch, make each day special".</p>			
Mary Catherine Butler	3/31/1954	7/5/2010	Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach
<p>"Cathy" was born in Columbus, Georgia. She graduated from Taylor High School in in1970. Throughout her adult life, she had been active in the Norfolk community through many years of Christian outreach at St. Pius X Catholic Church and then at Bayside Presbyterian Church. One of her favorite endeavors in recent years was her association with the Virginia Beach Red Hat Society, which she started in 2004 and served as "Queen Mum" for over five years.</p>			
**Elizabeth W. Collins	11/15/1918	5/12 /2010	Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach
<p>Elizabeth was born in Washington D.C., married a member of the marine corps and came to Virginia Beach as a social worker. In 1972/3, she moved to the Eastern Shore, where she served as a church musician and organist for many years. She returned to Bayside in 1998, when she moved to Westminster Canterbury.</p>			

Eleanore J. Eckroade 4/11/1921 6/10/2010 Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach

Eleanor was born of Polish parents and raised in Yonkers N.Y., where she married James F. Eckroade. After he retired from CSX in 1976, they moved to Virginia Beach and joined Bayside Presbyterian Church in which they raised their son and two daughters. Since Jim's work required traveling, she took care of the home front and was known as a devoted mother and expert in Eastern European cooking. An avid walker, she ran most of her errands on foot, and found her later knee injuries to be most annoying.

****Marianne Frazier** c. 1927 9/19/ 2010 Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach

Marianne spent most of her life as a sixth-grade teacher in the Virginia Beach public schools. After she retired, she and husband, Henderson, traveled extensively throughout the North American continent, bringing home great tales of their adventures. In Alaska, Canada, Mexico, and most of the 49 mainline states.

****Margaret Hall** c. 1924 9/23/2010 Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach

Margaret was born in Elizabeth City, NC. And was a long time and active member of Bayside Presbyterian Church. She earned a living as a bookkeeper, but relished traveling as a member of the Antique Car Club of America and socializing with her Red Hat Club members. She and her multi-generational family loved the east coast beaches and its lighthouses.

Claire D. McDermott 3/31/1926 8/20/2010 Bayside Presbyterian Church, Va. Beach

Claire was born in Norfolk and devoted her life to music in the Tidewater. She graduated from Maury High School in 1941, received a BA in 1945 from Madison Women's College in Harrisonburg and returned to Norfolk to begin her life's work as a choral teacher in the public schools. She married Henry McDermott the next year, after Mac serenaded her beneath her window with "I'll be Lovin' You Always." She leaves behind a daughter and two grandchildren.

Claire was a child prodigy who fulfilled her promise as a vocalist with "perfect pitch" and a pianist who could transpose, change key, compose, modulate and improvise as she moved easily among many genres --classical, jazz, blues, ragtime, or

swing. She taught entirely different music to choral classes, a bell choir, her Norview Madrigals and her beloved Baker's Dozen choir of 13 girls. After she retired she conducted "Town and Gown," a ladies choir that performed in nursing homes. Claire was a sought after accompanist for regional and state choruses and spent every summer at the Virginia State Music camp. She was active in local, regional, state, and national music societies, and served as president of the Virginia Choral Directors Association. As an avid supporter of the arts, she never missed a musical event unless it was in conflict with another.

****Velma St. Onge** c. 1931 5/9/2010 Bayside Presbyterian Church, VA Beach

"Vel" was born and raised in Van Buren, Maine, and came to Virginia Beach as a young military wife and worked in the legal and real estate community here. She was yet another active member in our music ministry. Her forte was bell ringing, even to the point of learning how to ring solo. She loved teaching the skill to children, and we still have much of the music that she prepared for them. Her other love was growing miniature roses, for which she won prizes in the Tidewater Rose Society competitions.

** indicates search for more information in progress

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth [Libby] Nybakken Graves, Historian, 31 January 2011

Note for our records only (not submitted as part of the report)

Recipients of Life Memberships as of December 2010

Ellen Bell

Catherine Cook

Peggy Damuth

Louise Gordon

Debra O'Connell

Peggy Reed

Cathy Rtizo

Wanda Smith

Linda Wallace

Carolyn Walsh

Rose Anne Wehr