

Norfolk Presbytery

BAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Virginia Beach, Virginia
1972

CHURCH HISTORY

Pastor: Fletcher C. Hutcheson

Assistant Pastor: Robert F. Park

Ruling Elders: Fletcher A. Manning, Clerk of Session
Mr. Harry Boyce
Mr. Everett Brickhouse
Mr. George Guthrie
Mr. Lee Hamrick
Mrs. Harold Carbaugh
Mr. William H. Chapman
Mrs. James Parrett
Mr. William Reece
Mr. William Stokes
Dr. Fathy A. Abdou
Mr. J. Edwin Birdwell
Mr. Roy W. Brun
Mr. Paul F. Goodman
Mrs. Cary H. Stone

Deacons: Mr. Donald A. Dahlman, Chairman
Mr. Morris Bell, Vice-Chairman
Mr. William Anderson
Mrs. William Graham, Jr.
Mr. Gomer Jones
Mr. J. Robert Roughton, Jr.
Mr. Marvin Clements, Jr.
Mr. Robert J. Morrison
Mr. G. Ray Old
Mr. George L. Zuidema
Dr. Edward A. Borchers
Mr. Jack Humberstone, Jr.
Mr. Robert L. Kays
Mr. Lucius E. Steere
Miss Barbara Stokes

Trustees: Mr. J. A. Holland, Chairman
Mr. Robert H. Boyce
Mr. George L. Guthrie

Treasurer: Mr. William Hiatt

President: Women of the Church

Mrs. Josephus D. Smith

President: Men of the Church

Organist:

Mrs. Hugh H. Sisson, Jr.

Choir Directors:

Mrs. James Thompson
Mrs. Hugh H. Sisson, Jr.

Church School Superintendent:

Mrs. William Stokes

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I am your Sunday Morning Bulletin. What did you do with me the last time you attended Church? Did you just leave me on the pew, or did you take me home for future reference? I can remind you of the many things we did last year to further our Christian service, as you answered these questions I asked one Sunday:

God gave us life, how shall we live?
God gave us a voice, what shall we say?
God gave us feet, where shall we go?
God gave us hands, whom shall we help?
God gave us minds, what problems shall we solve?
God gave us friends, how shall we enrich them?
God gave us LOVE, how shall we share it?

In January, we began the year with Holy Communion for our spirits, and coffees and a supper for our fellowship. We were the host church for Presbytery's meeting, remember? They thoroughly enjoyed our hospitality. To begin our World Mission Season, Miss E. L. Colvin from Taiwan supplied our Pulpit.

In February, I informed you of the plans for an early morning worship during the summer months so that you could make plans vacation-wise. You also learned what was being done about our Vacation Church School so that you could participate. The World Mission Offering we gave was sent to our own missionaries, The Foleys in Brazil.

As we approached Eastertime, our choir shared with us a marvelous Communion service on the 30th of March. We also heard the good news that our Sessional Records had been approved by Presbytery, without exceptions.

Glorious Easter, with its reassuring hope, held beautiful services with our young people taking an active part. April was really a busy month for me. I told you about Rev. Hutcheson going to Blacksburg for an evangelistic program, and that our Dr. MacLeod would be our supply on the 30th.

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And don't overlook the notice that Rev. Robert Park has accepted our call to be our Assistant Minister, and that everything is in order for his coming to serve with Rev. Hutcheson as we go about the Lord's work in this growing community. I forgot to tell you that Mrs. Edna Etheridge has developed and organized a wonderful library and Audio-Visual Department for us. Thanks to her efficiency, it is a good place for reference, relaxation, and assistance. The Women of the Church, Norfolk Presbytery, sent me a note thanking us for our hospitality at their annual meeting.

Didn't have much to say in May, but there was a lot going on in the background that I will announce later, such as:

Plans for the Every Member Canvass
A report forthcoming from the Unicameral Govt. Comm.
Rezoning of this area to be considered
A "Lay Renewal" gathering is planned for the fall

But I did tell you that we shared in the "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering for the needy. Rev. Thomas F. Mainor, Campus Urban Minister for Norfolk Presbytery, preached for us at the Morning Worship Service on May 21, while Rev. and Mrs. Hutcheson attended their daughter's graduation from St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

Do you ever read my top left corner? If you did on the 4th and 11th of June you would have found a change in our Music Department. Mrs. Thompson had to leave us, but Frances Sisson agreed to assume her duties and take charge of our Music Ministry. We look forward to her capable work. Our "Fletcher" has been named by Presbytery as Chairman of Task Force Key 73 and was also asked to lead a two-week discussion group at the Massanetta Men's Conference. We are wonderfully blessed to have such a man to lead us for "This is a year that is open before us, this is an hour alive with expectancy and excitement."

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In July I listed the nominating committee for officers that was elected at a Congregational Meeting. My good friend and typist-secretary is going to leave us, and I sure will miss Mrs. Tenney. She took good care of me, and all of us, pleasantly and efficiently. Two of the Rev. Hutcheson family are noticed this month: Fletcher has been invited to share in a U.T.S. Interpreter's House program, and Miss Mary has asked for recommendation from the Session to apply to Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry. What greater gift could be given us than to have a family like this?

August was one of the "doldrum" months, but I am glad that our new officers were elected and preparing to be ordained and installed. What a prize to take part in the growth and the Kingdom. Mrs. Tenney is gone, Fletcher is at Massanetta at a Youth Conference, and I am lonesome. I still have next year's program of service and worship and the Sunday School staff to present to you later on.

Got a new friend, Mrs. Margaret Shanks, our new Secretary. She began work in September by telling me that Rev. Hutcheson will be leading a week-end of services at Royster Memorial Church, and that Rev. Park will bring our morning messages.

In October, I saw a wonderful week-end of worship and re-dedication for my people. It was a "Lay-Renewal Program," beginning on Friday with a covered dish supper, and then meetings of the men and women for coffee and breakfast on Saturday. It ended Sunday morning with a worship service led by the visiting group of laymen. It was heart-warming to see the renewal of spirit and dedication to Christ growing.

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November calls out "thanksgiving" for my people, for the Church I serve, and for the opportunity to serve Christ. We shared all of this with our neighboring Baptist, Methodist, and Christian churches on the 23rd in our Sanctuary. It was really "ecumenical"!

If November is thanksgiving, then December is Christmas. I was really kept jumping, what with the children taking part in the Advent services, the choir and all their special singing and services, the Chrismon Tree, candlelighting, and all those other activities that remind us that life begins anew, and that Christ is with us.

After about sixty issues of me, I am sure that I have skipped over some of the news that I brought, such as:

We were represented in Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Our college members were recognized, and in our hearts. Visiting youth groups were welcomed to our services. Our building was in constant use by local groups that could benefit from its facilities.

Looking back, with the help of Mr. Fletcher Manning, our Clerk of Session, this report should let you know what 1972 held for us:

Number of communicants, end of 1971	711	
Added on Profession of Faith	12	
Added on Reaffirmation	5	
Added on Certificate	49	
Restored from Inactive Roll	0	
Reported last year, plus gains		777
Loss by Death	2	
Loss by transfer to Inactive Roll	25	
Dismissed to other Churches	11	
Total Losses		<u>38</u>
NET COMMUNICANTS ON ROLL, END OF 1972		739

There were 2 adult Baptisms and 5 infant Baptisms.

Our Minister performed 7 marriages this year, 3 of which involved members of our Congregation.

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That was 1972, but now we go forward into 1973 with our hopes and aims high for bringing the good news to this still-growing and developing part of the Kingdom. May God bless us and Christ be with us.

Thank you.

Your Bulletin, and-

William Gordon