

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church
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History of our Presbyterian Women's Group

Written by PW President Beth Cornwall in 1986 on the occasion of End-of-Year Program

There have been four names to the organization of women in the church. These names are: Ladies Aid, The Auxiliary, Women of the Church, and now Presbyterian Women. These names somewhat have reflected what was considered the role that women should fill.

In 1916-17 Mrs. Hallie Pope Cadwalendar organized the church women. There were 15-20 members studying missions; giving most generously and promoting a spirit of love and co-operation. Latter as the organization of church women became more organized it took on the name Ladies Aid. *Ladies Aid* speaks for itself- women were to help the minister and congregation. Later we became *Auxiliary*; this designation too, reflects being helpers in a broader sense for certain chairman were called chairman of Stewardship, Christian Education, Church Development, World Mission, etc. In 1951 we became *Women of the Church* under a Council with four program chairmen: Personal Faith and Family Life, Christian Community Action, Ecumenical Mission and Relations, and Leadership and Resources. Meanwhile the United Presbyterian Women too had their name and structure. Now the two have reunited. No longer are we Women the Church (Southern Presbyterians) and they United Presbyterian Women (Northern Presbyterians), but we are one and continue mission together as simply *Presbyterian Women*. What role the general term means presents exciting and challenging years ahead.

Through all these past names. Trinity Ave. Church has been fortunate to have good women and leaders. Today we want to recognize 5 past Presidents who have lived through these name changes and are still very active in women's work today.

Mary Lou Carr, Ladies Aid and Auxiliary, Annie Carr, Auxiliary at its change to Women of the Church, Hazel Foster 1952-1954. (Incidentally all these women served a two-year Presidency), Maylee Barringer, who had served as President of Granville Presbytery before we became Orange Presbytery and also served Women of the Church 1856-58, and Betty Blanchard 1961-62 when we all wondered what on earth is going on—remember, as we entered the space age relating us to it? As Moderator of PW it gives me great pleasure on behalf of Presbyterian Women in Trinity Avenue Church to thank you for your loyalty through the years.

[Each Past President was presented a rose.]

