Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church  
Durham, North Carolina

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Annual Report of the President  
1986-1987

My office, as President of the Women of the Church, was made easier because of the help and support I received from the Women of the Church Council and the church staff. I would like to thank several people who were especially helpful to me: Claudia Draffin, WOC secretary, whose minutes were written in great detail and mailed to council members; Cammie Gibson, WOC treasurer, who kept track of all of the money from each circle and from our budget of $2800 paid all of our pledges on time; the six circle chairmen, who diligently came to the council meetings, keeping us informed of each circle's meetings and taking information back to the circles; Mary Pickard, sanctuary guild chairman, who made the sanctuary and other rooms of the church beautiful each Sunday; and Flo Bivins, church secretary, who faithfully put all of the information regarding WOC in the church's newsletters and bulletins. It was my privilege to work with these women and the other WOC members and my year as president was extremely rewarding.

CIRCLES

The six circles are the center of the Women of the Church. The study book, REMEMBER AND GO FORTH, was used this past year, and Bible moderators and circle members prepared each lesson, making it applicable to our everyday lives.

I visited every circle and found each to be different. All circle members were extremely caring, were interested in the Bible study, and were enthusiastic in giving their time, talent, and gifts of money to further the work of the Women of the Church.

Our women were extremely active both outside of and within Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. Although Christians frown on promoting one's self, I would like to mention the projects which the circles,
collectively, worked on this year. The circles:

1. Donated food to the Durham Urban Ministries night shelter.
2. Rolled bandages for White Cross.
3. Purchased Christmas gifts and bingo prizes for patients at Butner.
4. Contributed to the summer scholarship fund so a needy child could go to camp.
5. Donated money to the Red Cross for the emergency survival packets.
7. Provided first aid supplies, a bulletin board, a sewing basket, and Christmas gifts for the shelter for battered women.
8. Gave presents to needy children at Christmas.
9. Donated money to Friends of the Library.
10. Donated paper products to the Ronald McDonald House.
11. Provided gifts to a family through Share Your Christmas.
12. Dressed dolls for the Salvation Army.
14. Donated money to Khayelitsha, the WOC Birthday objective.
15. Supported Durham's emergency fuel fund.
16. Contributed to the projects supported by the Women of the Church such as Mission Court, Least Coin, etc.

Within our own church, circle members:

1. Furnished refreshments for WOC council and general meetings and for Christmas family night.
2. Wrapped candles for Love Feast.
3. Helped Barbara Rogers, church hostess, serve meals to the Prime Timers.
4. Placed flowers on the altar on Mother's Day to honor the home circle members.
5. Compiled an inventory of memorial gifts to Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church.
7. Placed Easter lilies on the altar to honor home circle members.
8. Prepared food for church members who had experienced an illness or a death in the family.
9. Faithfully visited home circle members and provided them with cards, gifts, and magazine subscriptions.
10. Assisted with the pig pickin' and the
Brunswick stew dinners held last fall.
11. Donated money to our church's stained glass window fund.
12. Assisted in compiling the church directory.
13. Furnished housing for the Lightshine choir from Pensacola, Florida.
14. Decorated the church with greenery at Christmas.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

WOC council meetings were held on the third Monday of each month in the Ladies' Parlor. Reports from various officers and circle chairmen were given, and WOC projects and events were discussed.
In August, a continental breakfast meeting was held for all incoming and outgoing officers.

GENERAL MEETINGS

We had two general meetings this year. In November, our associate minister, Gregory A.
Goodwiller, discussed the Bible study book, REMEMBER AND GO FORTH, GOD'S COVENANT WITH THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH. In May, we celebrated the WOC's birthday with a speaker from South Africa who told us about Khayelitsha Community Center outside of Cape Town.

SPECIAL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

I attended the fall District meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Durham; the Winter POPS workshop in Burlington; and the annual Orange Presbytery meeting in April at First Presbyterian Church, Burlington. Emphasis at each of these meetings was on the change in the organization from Women of the Church to Presbyterian Women. Discussions at each meeting were led by Mrs. Marge Monroe, President, Orange Presbytery WOC.

OFFICERS

THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, Barbara (Mrs. Robert) Yowell, helped organize the November and May general meetings. We look forward to her capable leadership in this last year of Women of the Church. THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, Carolyn (Mrs. Herman) Hinnant, was in charge of the Christmas family night reception. Each circle
helped with the furnishing of the food and the congregation enjoyed the refreshments in beautifully decorated rooms. THE THIRD VICE PRESIDENT, Kathy (Mrs. F. Noell) Tillett, contacted new women members and helped place them in a circle.

Our SECRETARY, Claudia (Mrs. Richard) Draffin, recorded minutes of our meetings and mailed them to all council members. Our TREASURER, Cammie (Mrs. Gerald) Gibson, was in charge of the $2500 budget and collected and disbursed funds as needed. The SANCTUARY GUILD CHAIRMAN, Mary (Mrs. Dallas) Pickard, worked many hours to make the sanctuary and other parts of the church beautiful for worship. She also recorded the memorials and gifts made to the sanctuary during the past year. These gifts are:

1. A sanctuary sound amplification system which was given in memory of Mrs. Lena Bowden, Mrs. Agnes Goswick, and Mrs. Clara Belle Mack.
2. A Kawai grand piano which was anonymously given to the church.
3. Sanctuary decorations for the Christmas season given by Mayton E. Betts.
4. Two silk flower arrangements given in memory of Allison Hooft and in honor of Mary Lloyd Hooft by Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Shields.
5. Two handcrafted wrought iron hand rails which were placed at the steps leading to the pulpit and donated by Dr. and Mrs. John Garbutt.

In addition, the stained glass windows of the church were restored this past year.

Our HISTORIAN, Joni (Mrs. Gregory) Porter, has recorded the history of our church in a scrap book which can be found in the ladies' parlor. The CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ACTION chairman, Betty (Mrs. James) Henderson, distributed the dolls from the Salvation Army to the circles and returned them after they had been dressed. Ann Maynard, ECUMENICAL MISSION AND RELATIONS CHAIRMAN, was responsible for the delicious luncheon which followed our WOC Birthday celebration in May. The two chairman of LEADERSHIP AND RESOURCES, Susie (Mrs. Clyde) Wootton and Frances (Mrs. E. T.) Rollins, worked very hard selecting the slate of officers and chairman for the next year which ends in April, 1988. They also publicized the college scholarships which are available to high school seniors through the Orange Presbytery. Our HOME CIRCLE visitation chairman, Grace (Mrs. Tobe) Shaw, completed
ten wonderful years of visiting our members who are in nursing homes. The WHITE CROSS chairman, Yvonne (Mrs. Jack) Crumpacker, encouraged the circles to roll bandages for the mission hospitals, and the circles responded with great enthusiasm.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH PROJECT

For our joint project, the WOC circle members took an inventory of the various gifts and memorials which have been given to the church over the years. These inventories were compiled in a notebook which has been placed in the library and it is hoped that it will be updated in years to come.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

As I end my term as president, I would like to emphasize to all members of the need to be receptive to the change from Women of the Church to Presbyterian Women. Our church will be the host church for the last annual Orange Presbytery WOC meeting, and although we will be saying good-bye to many friends, we will look forward to making new friends. Because there are no rigid guidelines for us to follow, we can make the new Presbyterian Women the organization that we want it to be; we can eliminate those programs which no longer work, and we can keep and add programs which will make our organization a successful one.

Once again, I would like to thank all of you for your encouragement, your cooperation, and your willingness to support, as Christians, the many and varied projects of the Women of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Cornwall (Mrs. Thomas P.)
President, Women of the Church
1986-1987