

Diane Sellars Tracy

You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting,
So... get on your way!"
– Dr. Seuss, *Oh, The Places You'll Go!*



Diane Tracy has Presbyterian roots from the cradle. One of her great-grandfathers was a Presbyterian Minister. Her mother was a charter member of Westminster Presbyterian Church that now has 3000 members located in Upper St. Clair, Pennsylvania. Her grandparents met on the campus of Westminster College, where Diane also graduated.

After college graduation Diane taught shorthand and typing at St. Petersburg (Florida) High School. She laughs now saying “If you can’t use it, you teach it”. Diane met her first husband, Jerry Sellars in St. Pete. They later moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where they became a family of four with daughter Christine and son David. They returned to Westminster Presbyterian where Diane became active again as a Deacon, serving on the Worship Advisory Committee and providing programs for the Ladies Wednesday morning discussion group. Later she served on the Sunday Morning Seminars planning committee in addition to planning multi-media Bible events with two very good friends at the church. Diane studied additional business administration courses at Chatham College and taught classes for women going back into the workforce at Allegheny County Community College.

The family moved to Savannah in 1984 to follow a new job opportunity for Jerry. At that time the family joined First Presbyterian Church. Diane jumped into volunteering through Savannah Newcomers and in other community opportunities such as Parent and Child Festival of Trees and at Savannah County Day School where her children attended. In 1986 Diane began work as a legal secretary for Tom Nash at the Adams, Gardner, Ellis & Inglesby law firm. She continued to work with Tom as he became a partner in Inglesby, Falligant, Horne, Courington & Nash, and again in 2000 when Tom became a single practitioner. Diane continues to call Tom a very good friend.

In 1986 Diane’s world took another turn when her husband died after a short illness. Her children were then 16 and 18. She remembers this as a time of adjustment and in 1990 decided she needed to take new steps in her life. She had a co-worker friend who kept asking her to attend the Shag Club to learn this Southern dance. She was very reluctant at first but finally said yes she would go. Diane’s son advised her to look for a ‘man in a suit’. In walks a man in a navy sport jacket named Dick Tracy. They had an immediate connection as Dick had lived in Upper St. Clair and had been a member of Valley Brook County Club where her parents were also members. With so many people and interests in common Diane and Dick enjoyed seventeen and a half years together before Dick’s death in 2008.

She credits her strength to her mother and grandmother who were at the top of the list of the most important people in her life. Her mother lived to the age of ninety-three. On the night of her death she told the nurse she was “walking to the light”. That same day Diane heard the song on the radio—“Smile for me, My Diane”. These were events that gave Diane a reassuring feeling about life on earth and in heaven.

You may see Diane most often with flowers in her hands somewhere beautifying the church. She along with Sandy Mayer initiated the Flower Guild, providing fresh and lovely flower arrangements each Sunday for the church. This

involves purchase of the flowers on Friday, arranging the flowers on Saturday and making smaller arrangements on Monday for members of the church who are in need of comfort. Diane is an Elder, having served recently as a member of Session. She has chaired the worship committee and currently chairs the music committee. Diane sings in the choir and invites others to join the singing. She is past Moderator of Presbyterian Women and is active with the Elizabeth Circle. Diane has been involved in the planning of the Crabbing Events and continues to support Safe Shelter as a volunteer on the CHAIRity Etc. Committee. Diane, as you can see, seldom sits down.

Whether she is creating and donating lovely embroidered tea towels for donations to Safe Shelter, planning a high school reunion, planning an Anthony Kearns concert, traveling all over the world, hanging on to a zip line in Costa Rica or simply enjoying a laugh with friends (she has a great sense of humor)—you know that Diane is doing these things from the bottom of her heart as a true and dedicated Christian that understands God’s call for her. Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church is blessed to have Diane Tracy as a very active and loving member of the church.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord...” Jeremiah 29:11