

**Mary Love Hammond – Recipient of OAPC’s 2016 Legacy Award
at Providence Presbytery Luncheon**

Up a narrow, winding staircase and within a small, quiet room resides much of Mary Love Hammond’s faithful, dedicated work on behalf of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church. Her labor of love to preserve the memory of God’s work in this corner of God’s kingdom has carefully carried on the efforts of those who came before her. The result of Mary Love’s devoted efforts is that Oakland’s work and service as disciples of Jesus Christ moves into this second century of service, worship and discipleship in a well-documented and preserved manner. Within this well-organized and detailed process, the narrative and pictorial history of pastors, staff, members, building structures, Women of the Church, Christian education, musical events, etc. radiates the life, struggles, service and joys of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church. In addition to the tedious and often thankless task of organizing, preserving and recording our church’s history, Mary Love has done the same for the church library. OAPC’s library is inviting, up to date, with items purged when necessary -- all under the helpful and watchful eye of Mary Love Hammond. She has also been an active member of the Women of the Church and was awarded Lifetime Membership in 2007. It is with an abundance of thanksgiving and joy that we rejoice in this opportunity to both acknowledge and to thank Mary Love for her quiet, persistent hard work in this important area of our church life. Working with care and with love, Mary Love Hammond’s devotion is both a gift and a role model for us all.