



Election of Church Officers

Sunday, November 10, 2024 ♦ 12:00noon
Sanctuary ♦ Worship & Arts Center



ROBYN RUSH—Robyn has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2013. She works as a Virtual Experience Officer at Southern First Bank. Robyn has served in ministries which include Sunday Life Group Teacher, Brunch Bunch Facilitator, Greeter, Usher, and Books & Gifts@First volunteer. She is a member of the Flourish Sunday Life Group.



SUSAN SANDERS—Susan has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2022. She is retired from the Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta, GA. She has served in ministries which include Greeter, Event Team, and Brunch Bunch. Susan is a member of a Missional Community.



KATHERINE SELVY—Katherine has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2014, having previously been a member in the 1980s and 1990s. She has served in ministries which include Radiance and Above All. Katherine and her husband, Mike, have five children, Marymac, Charles, Grant, Sloan, and Anna Banks.



TRIPP WELCH—Tripp has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2018. He is a Certified Financial Planner with Match Grade Advisors. Tripp is married to Lauren, and they have four children, Spires, Lightsey, Jackson, and Lincoln.

Nominating and Discernment Committee Members

The Nominating and Discernment Committee that is recommending this slate of Officers is comprised of the following ordained Officers of the Church:

Currently Serving Elders

Dan Pruitt (*Chair*)
Emily Doll (*Vice Chair*)
Glenn Batson

Currently Serving Deacons

Kent Barber
Michael Rabb
Leigh Johnstone

College of Officers

(ordained but not currently serving Elders and Deacons)

Bob August
Adam Bach
Sanford Ware

Pastoral Staff *(ex officio without vote)*

Richard Gibbons, *Senior Pastor*
Mark Hutton, *Executive Pastor*

Eligibility for Nomination as a Church Officer

To be eligible for first-time nomination as an ordained Officer of First Presbyterian Church, candidates must be Covenant Partners of the Church and have completed the Ministry Development Course (MDC), including discussions and prayer with an ordained Officer mentor regarding mutual discernment of calling. MDC topics include Discipleship Basics; Spiritual Gifting and Personal Calling; ECO Essential Tenets; ECO Polity; Missional Living and the Missional Church; Evangelism and Identifying Your Mission; and FPC Strategic Vision. Previously ordained Officers who have not yet taken the updated MDC will plan to do so within their upcoming term. Candidates must also have demonstrated the applicable biblical qualifications as described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 (Elders) and 1 Timothy 3:8-13 (Deacons). Each candidate has agreed to adhere to the criteria described above.

Prior to the start of the MDC, all Covenant Partners of the congregation were encouraged to participate and to encourage other Covenant Partners to participate. The objectives of the MDC were not only to result in ordained Officer candidates proposed for election, but also to help Covenant Partners grow in their understanding of the topics above, deepen their faith, and advance in their walk with Christ.

Based on the process described above, no nominations for Church Officers will be accepted from the floor during the Congregational Meeting. Once elected, the Officers will be ordained and/or installed at the 11:00am worship service on January 12, 2025.

Officer Nominations for Three-Year Terms of January 1, 2025–December 31, 2027

The Officers of the Church are typically elected to serve three-year terms, with Officers elected annually to provide staggered terms on the respective governing bodies. The Nominating and Discernment Committee, listed below, is presenting the Officer candidates described within this document for election by the congregation. This slate will be presented in the Congregational Meeting on November 10, 2024; a majority vote is required for election of the slate. In order to vote, you must be present at the meeting as absentee ballots are not allowed.

Nominees for Office of Elder Class of 2027

Elders, along with the Pastors, have responsibility and authority for governing and overseeing the congregation and guiding its mission as shepherds of the Flock, with ultimate accountability to the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ.



KENT BARBER—Kent has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2012. He is the CEO at Daybreak Investors. Kent has served in ministries which include Deacon, Hollis Academy Christmas Store, and Hollis Academy Carnival. In the community, he serves on the Search Ministry Board and leads young men's Bible studies around Greenville. Kent is a member of the Journey Sunday Life Group. He is married to Lauren, and they have three children, Lainey, Livie, and Thomas.



JAY BOPP—Jay has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2019. He is a Professor and Chair of the Division of Art and Design at Bob Jones University. Jay has served in ministries which include Elder, Music Ministry, Communications, and Visual Arts. He is married to Nancy, and they have two children, Chelsea and Hatherleigh, and six grandchildren.



RICH BRADSHAW—Rich has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2012. He is President & Chief Banking Officer of United Community Bank. Rich has served on the Finance Committee. He and his wife, Stacey, are members of The Road Sunday Life Group. They have three children, Brittany Melnado, Tyler Bradshaw, and Kaitlyn Shuman, and six grandchildren.



TERRY BRUNER—Terry has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2011. He is a Plastic Surgeon with AnMed Health. Terry has served in ministries which include Deacon, Nominating & Discernment Committee, Men's Ministry, SEARCH, Medical Missions to the Dominican Republic and Egypt, Re|engage Marriage Ministry, and Alpha Course Instructor. He is a member of The Way Sunday Life Group. Terry is married to Christine and they have three daughters, Kate, Anna, and Caroline.



RICHARD HARPER—Richard has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2018. He is a retired Professional Forester with Westvaco, Land Resources, Inc., Rust E&I, Clemson University, and USDA Forest Service. Richard has served in ministries which include Elder, Congregational Care Committee, Military Ministry, Wednesday Pastor's Bible Study, Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study, and Jobs for Life. Richard is a member of the Flock Sunday Life Group. He is married to Jennifer, and they have three daughters, Lauren, Rebecca, and Emily, and two granddaughters.



SUSAN HUMPHREYS—Susan has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1980. She has served in ministries which include Deacon, Women's Bible Study Leader, Prayer Ministry, Hollis Academy Ministry, First Presbyterian Kindergarten Board, VBS, and Children's Sunday School Teacher. She is a member of the Prime Time Sunday Life Group. Susan has two children, Tyler and Charlie, and five grandchildren.



JOHN MCGRAW—John has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2022. He is an Orthopaedic Surgeon with OrthoTennessee, Assistant Team Physician for Carson-Newman University, retired US Air Force Flight Surgeon, and retired US Army Medical Corps Physician. John has served in ministries which include Sanctuary Choir, Healing Prayer Team Prayer Minister and Music Director, and Dominican Republic Medical Mission Team. He is a member and teacher of the Flock Sunday Life Group. He is married to Ann, and they have two children, Beth Ann McGraw Smith and John Jay McGraw Jr., and 8 grandchildren.



JANE MILLS—Jane has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1973. She is a School Administrator with Greenville County Schools. Jane has served in ministries which include Deacon, Usher, Children's Sunday School Teacher, Pastoral Visitation Ministry, Strategic Planning, Hollis Academy Ministry, and Support Groups. She is married to Ellis, and they have three children, Wyatt, Whitner, and Jack.



DON NICKELL—Don has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1998. He is Principal of Advantis, a Construction and Development Consulting Company. Don has served in ministries which include FPC Foundation, Elder, Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor Search Committees, Chair of Academy Committee, Chair of Christian Education Committee, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, TAG Governance Committee, Sunday Life Group Teacher, and FPC Design/Construction Committee. Don is a member of the Prime Time Sunday Life Group. He is married to Jean, and they have two adult children, Trey and Stephanie, and two grandchildren.



JOHN PARKER—John has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2011. He is a Commercial Real Estate Broker with Broadstreet Partners. John has served in ministries which include Deacon, Youth Committee, and Nominating Committee. Additionally, he has served as a Youth Volunteer, small group leader, and basketball coach. He is a member of the Crossroads Sunday Life Group. John is married to Sydney, and they have three children, Myddie, James, and Liza.



DAVID SEAVER—David has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1982. He is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Caine. David has served in ministries which include Deacon, Student Ministries, Men's Ministries, Greeter, Usher, and Church Basketball Coach. David is a member of the Crossroads Sunday Life Group. He is married to Michelle, and they have two children, Kaitlyn and Caroline.



BETH SIMMONS—Beth has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1966. She is a retired teacher and homemaker. Beth has served in ministries which include Lay Leader of Hollis Academy Ministry, Re|engage Marriage Ministry Leader, and Radiance Leader. She is a member and teacher of the Flock Sunday Life Group. Beth is married to Chuck, and they have three adult children, Ford (Irene), Spencer, and Mason (Emma), and eight grandchildren.

Nominees for Office of Deacon Class of 2027

Deacons oversee ministries to serve others, just as Jesus came to serve, including distribution to the needy and the ministry of mercy; they also have the responsibility to be servant leaders.



TIFFANY BOGGS—Tiffany has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2015. She is a stay-at-home Mom. Tiffany has served in ministries which include Children's Ministry, Love Above All Ministries Leadership, Hollis Academy, Family Mission Trip, and Fearfully and Wonderfully Made Team. She is married to Bozzie, and they have three children, Martha-Glen, Grant, and Carlton.



AFTEN BRIGGS—Aften has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2014. She is the Owner of Arbor Row Advisors. Aften has served in ministries which include Children's Ministry, Roots Student Ministry, Strategic Planning Committee, and Missions. She and her husband, Coty, are members of the Journey Sunday Life Group. They have three children, Mitchell, Jake, and Mary Charlotte.



RICK KALK—Rick has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2020. He is a retired Career Education and Business Partnerships Director (Spartanburg District 5). Rick has served in ministries which include Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Dominican Republic Mission Team, Hollis Academy Ministry, and Special Events Volunteer. He and his wife, Fran, are members of the Flock Sunday Life Group, and they have two adult sons, David and Phillip.



CARA MORRIS—Cara has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2017. She is a retired Human Resources Consultant and full-time Parent. Cara has served in the Re|engage Marriage Ministry and Hollis Academy. She and her husband, Eric, are members of the Foundations Sunday Life Group, and they have one daughter, Caroline.



JAKE MORRISON—Jake has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2020. He is an Information Security Specialist with Prisma Health. Jake has served in ministries which include the Liverpool Mission Team and Worship & Arts. He is a member of the Cornerstone Sunday Life Group.



BRETT OWNBEY—Brett has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2024. He is an Inventory Control Specialist with PAI Pharma. Brett has served in ministries which include Usher and Fine Arts Events. He is a member of The Gathering Sunday Life Group. Brett is married to Kaylee, and they have one daughter, Isla.



ELIZABETH POTEAT—Elizabeth has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1999. She has served in ministries which include Children's Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School, and Hollis Academy. Elizabeth is a member of The Way Sunday Life Group. She is married to Tony and they have a daughter, Sarah, and a son, Thomas (Mackenzie).

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