



2023 Church Officer Nominees

CONGREGATIONAL

MEETING for the purpose of presenting the slate of officer nominees for election.

WHEN: Sunday, March 5

NEW TIME: The meeting will take place in the Sanctuary at 11 am. Afterward the worship processional will begin. (Rejoice! worshipers are asked to come for the meeting and may leave afterward.)

PROCESS: If there are no nominations from the floor, the slate will be elected by acclamation. If there is a nomination from the floor, a congregational meeting will be held Sunday, March 12, to elect the officers by a majority vote.

SLATE OF NOMINEES

Elder Class of 2026:

Leigh Abraham
Margaret Arbuckle
Chip Bristol
Trip Brown
Tim Cook
Nancy Courts
Catherine Freeze
Florence Gatten
Clark Hering
Lauren Martin
Chris Morris
Paul Parker
Rob Peddrick
Brian Pierce
Richard Prigge
Caroline Showers
Tamara Slaughter
David Thompson
Gay White
Rhonda Youngdahl

Youth Elder

Class of 2024:

Sarah Parrish
Grayson Stanley

Trustee for L. Richardson Trust:

Anne Brown

Dear Members of First Presbyterian Church:

The 2022 Nominating Committee, which consists of six current Elders and eight members selected at-large by the Church membership, has completed its work. The Committee is pleased to offer for the congregation's consideration a slate of new Church Officers for the Class of 2026. The slate is comprised of 20 members to be considered as Elders for a three-year term, two youth Elders to serve a one-year term, and one nominee to serve a five-year term as Church Trustee.

Our Committee consisted of a cross-section of members who reviewed and considered recommendations from the congregation and staff. We reflected on the needs of the Church, communicated extensively with each other, and spoke with the selected nominees. In this process, we looked to God for guidance and direction in our work.

The individuals answering our call bring different talents and abilities to their Church service. All, however, are united in their sense of faith and share a commitment to the support and betterment of our Church, its membership and mission. Every nominee has agreed to an Expectation of Covenant (*back page*) as a tangible expression of his/her commitment to Church service.

The Committee made it a priority to reach across all ages, genders, and groups of the membership to seek out persons who will bring varied experience, personalities, involvement, and faith journeys to their service. We hope that as everyone looks through the list of nominees and their accomplishments, you will discern their talents and be as excited as we are for what this group of servants will bring to our church.

Please offer your prayers and support to this group of new church leaders.

Katherine Farless, 2022 Nominating Committee Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carrie Johnston,
vice-chair
Louann Clarke
Allison Cochran
Claire Davis

Mike Godwin
Robby Hassell
Margee Jones
Bob Lovejoy
Hank Lovvorn

Margaret Lowe
Chuck Norman
Allen Oakley
John Sullivan
Lauren Tilley

NOMINEES FOR ELDER, CLASS OF 2026



LEIGH ABRAHAM

Occupation: Stay-home mom, former high school science teacher, swim coach

Current church activities: Youth Committee

Previous church service: Children's Committee, Sunday School teacher, confirmation mentor

Community service: Sherwood swim team, meet referee/stroke judge, Community Swim

Association Board, school volunteer, swim coach at Canterbury



MARGARET ARBUCKLE

Occupation: Community volunteer; former Executive Director, Guilford Education Alliance; former UNCG Associate Director of Center for Youth Family and Community Partnerships; education policy advocate

Current church service: Outreach Committee; convenor of Race Equity Ministry Team; member,

Salem Presbytery Peace and Justice Task Force

Previous church service: Sunday School teacher, Committees – Nominating, Outreach and Weekday Preschool; First School Board; Deacon; Elder; Mullin Forum, Session clerk

Community service: Board of NC Public School Forum; Ready for School/Ready for Life committees; Triad Stage Board; Work for Democracy leadership team; Greensboro Human Relations Commission Ad-Hoc Committee on African American Disparities; Greensboro Rotary Club



CHIP BRISTOL

Occupation: Minister, teacher, and creative

Current church service: Sunday School teacher

Community service: 12-Step Recovery Work



TRIP BROWN

Occupation: Commercial Real Estate

Previous church service: Sunday School teacher, Deacon, Hot Dish & Hope, Lay Reader, confirmation mentor, Stewardship Committee

Community service: Action Greensboro co-chair, Downtown Greenway Steering Committee, Cemala Foundation, Community Foundation of

Greater Greensboro, Greensboro Development Corporation, Moses Cone Wesley Long Community Health Foundation, Presbyterian Home (High Point), Rotary Club of Greensboro



TIM COOK

Occupation: Researcher, Charles Aris Executive Search

Current church service: Church Officer Development, Milestones assistant teacher, Rejoice! singer, Lay Reader

Previous church service: Rejoice! Worship Leader search committee, Interim Associate

Pastor Transition Team, Church Officer Development

committee, 30-Day Journey team, Race Equity Task Force, Milestones and VBS teacher, Mission Study Team, confirmation mentor, youth advisor, elder, Same-Gender Marriage Task Force, Committees – Discipleship, Appointments and Worship

Community ministry/volunteer service: Charles Aris – Bikes for Kids and Rise Against Hunger, Greensboro Day School – Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion committee, Honor Board faculty representative, Blood Drive Club advisor



NANCY COURTS

Occupation: Retired faculty, UNCG School of Nursing

Current church service: Health Ministry Team, Discipleship and Sadye Bowles committees, Agape Class, Currie Book Club

Previous church service: Winter Emergency Shelter, Hot Dish & Hope, Steering Committee

for International Missions, Child Care Ministry, Older Adult Ministry, Sunday School teacher

Community service: Boards: PTA, Shepherd Center, Hospice; Facilitator Support Groups for Patients (Cancer) and Family Caregivers (MS and Parkinson's Disease), President District 8 American Nurses Association



CATHERINE FREEZE

Occupation: Quality Systems Manager at MEDTOX Diagnostics

Current church service: Children's Formation Committee chair; Sunday School teacher; substitute usher

Previous church service: Lay Reader; Appointments Committee

Community service: Diaper Bank of North Carolina; youth soccer coach



FLORENCE GATTEN

Occupation: Retired

Current church service: College of Elders

Previous church service: Deacon, elder, Every Member Canvas co-chair, two capital campaigns, and Sacraments, Communications and Building and Grounds chair

Community service: Well-Spring Retirement

Community – Founding Board, Trustee chair; Cone Health Board of Trustees, HR chair; Greensboro City Council; Greensboro Public Library Foundation, Founding Board; Greensboro War Memorial Commission, first woman chair, Honorary Life Member



CLARK HERING

Occupation: Attorney

Current church activities: Usher

Previous church service: Elder, Nominating and Appointments committees, Sacraments Ministry Team Leader, usher



LAUREN MARTIN

Occupation: Project Manager, Wake Forest Rare Inherited Kidney Disease Team
Current church service: Discipleship Committee
Previous church service: God Talks Committee, Mission Study Team, VBS and Hot Dish & Hope
Community service: Board member and volunteer at Heartstrings, an organization for grieving parents; First Kids Consignment Sale volunteer



CHRIS MORRIS

Occupation: Police Officer (Danville, Va.)
Previous church service: Appointments Committee
Community ministry/volunteer service: Boy and Girls club, Food pantry



PAUL PARKER

Occupation: Retired Procter and Gamble manager, consultant
Current church activities: Communion Education teacher (2nd Grade Milestone), Lay Reader Ministry Team
Previous church service: Elder, youth advisor, First School head and Session liaison, Johns Island Habitat and Cuba mission trips, confirmation mentor, and Appointments, Nominating and Finance committees
Community service: Habitat for Humanity board



ROB PEDDRICK

Occupation: Consultant
Previous church activities: Sunday School teacher, substitute usher
Community service: ARC board, Carolina Theatre chairman



BRIAN PIERCE

Occupation: Real Estate Developer
Current church activities: Men's Wednesday Bible Study
Previous church service: Elder, Committees – Worship chair, Stewardship co-chair, Finance, Nominating, and Appointments; Lay Reader, confirmation mentor, Rejoice! Task Force, Hot Dish & Hope
Community ministry/volunteer service: United Way Board of Directors chair, Greensboro Sports Council



RICH PRIGGE

Occupation: Retired banker, small business owner
Current church service: Head Usher, Worship Committee, Habitat family liaison
Previous church service: Elder, Sparta Presbyterian; Stewardship chair, deacon
Community service: Habitat for Humanity, Lake Jeanette Tennis Club treasurer, Cape May HOA president



CAROLINE SHOWERS

Occupation: Speech-Language Pathologist
Current Church Service: High School Youth Leader
Previous church service: Music Ministry Team chair, Usher/Greeter, Sunday School teacher, Weekday Preschool Team
Community service: Backpack Beginnings, Out of the Garden, Swim team coordinator, school volunteer



TAMARA SLAUGHTER

Occupation: Homemaker, community volunteer
Current church service: Flower Committee, Refugee Family Co-Sponsor Team, writer for church newsletter
Previous church service: Session clerk, elder, choir, Committees – Church Officer Development, Outreach, Children's and Youth; Lay Reader, confirmation mentor
Community service: ArtsGreensboro Board, NCCJ Board, Junior League/Sustainers, PTA leadership, NC Pet Partners Therapy Team, Historical Book Club of NC, The Forum



DAVE THOMPSON

Occupation: Retired vice president, manufacturing
Current church service: Usher Team 2, Flower Team delivery, Young Men's Bible Class
Previous church service: Sunday School teacher, lunch volunteer, Currie Library receptionist volunteer
Community service: Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, High Point and Elon University Chapter Advisor/Mentor, N.C. District Chief, Victory Junction camp, bus driver and speaker, Greensboro Industries of the Blind, prior board chairman



GAY WHITE

Occupation: Homemaker
Current church service: Coventry Handbell Choir, Bible study leader, Worship Committee, funeral usher, extended communion, Lay Reader
Previous church service: Various committees, Sunday School teacher, youth advisor, elder



RHONDA YOUNGDAHL

Occupation: CPA

Current church service: Coventry Handbell Choir

Previous church service: Elder; Committees – Finance, Funds Management (chair), Nominating (chair), Outreach, Director of Finance Search, Shetler Building Task Force;

Westminster Handbell Choir; Lay Reader; volunteer – Hot Dish & Hope, First Friends, Church School

Community service: Former volunteer, Canterbury School; former board member, Guilford Child Development; former member, Greensboro Day School Advisory committee

YOUTH ELDER, CLASS OF 2024



SARAH PARRISH

Occupation: Greensboro Day School student

Current church service: Lay Reader

Previous church service: Cherub, Credo, and Canticle choirs; acolyte; usher

Community service: Young Life Junior Leader, Level Up children's ministry, Greensboro Day School – Kindness Club

leader, Spirit Club president; National Honor Society, SAIL Senior at Camp Seafarer



GRAYSON STANLEY

Occupation: Page High School student

Current church activities: Youth Group, volunteer

Previous church service: Acolyte, Lay Reader

Community service: VBS volunteer, Backpack Beginnings donation collector

TRUSTEE, CLASS OF 2028



ANNE BROWN

Occupation: Recently retired, Cone Health administration

Previous church service: Elder, Committees – Stewardship, Human Resources,

Nominating, Appointments, Director of Finance Search, Director of Senior High

Ministry Search; Sunday School teacher, confirmation mentor, Covid Task Force, Church Officer Development

Community service: Previous: Greensboro Day School, Girl Scouts, United Way, nursing organizations

COVENANT OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AS AN ELDER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

"I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of sinners. As a member of First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, I dedicate myself unreservedly to His service and promise that, as regularly as I am able, I will attend its services, observe its sacraments, contribute to its support and share in its works."

EXPECTATIONS OF COVENANT: *I acknowledge and endorse the following expectations of me as a leader and elder, or trustee, of First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, North Carolina.*

SPIRITUAL: To regularly read and study the Bible, to attend Sunday worship services as often as I am able, to pray for the church and its members daily, to be involved in at least one outreach ministry each year

TIME AND TALENT: To serve on a committee of the Session and, if asked, to serve as chair or vice-chair of that committee, to participate in welcoming new members, to serve communion when available, to attend at least one meeting of the Presbytery during tenure as elder

FINANCIAL: To make a pledge that represents my relationship with God, to meet my pledge on a timely basis no less often than quarterly

CURRENT SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS OF 2023: Bill Benjamin, Katherine Farless, Emily Faucher, Jack Harrington, Robby Hassell, Sydney Hunt*, Catherine Johns-Longwill, Macy McAlister*, Christie Mitchell, Allison Morrisette, Chuck Norman, Chip Permar, Lori Richardson, Karen Rinehart, Karen Schaeede, Doug Shaw, John Sullivan, Camille Townsend, Martha Turner

* Youth Elders

CLASS OF 2024: Diane Aycock, Holly Ballenger, Claire Davis, Ralph Davison, Claire Driscoll, Joey Fields, Alex Harrill, Anne Hurd, Carrie Johnston, Margee Jones, Dan Kerns, Reaves King, Joe Lowman, Trish Moore, Jim Staton, Sam Turner, John Veraar, Rhonda Wakefield, Jackie Wilson

CLASS OF 2025: Ginger Booker, Sam Bostian, Nicole Chandler, Wendi Cimino, Scott Faircloth, Dan Goley, Ross Harris, Jeff Hatcher, Randy Jackson, Sally King, Libba LaFave, Paul Leonard, Philip Lopp, Nancy Moore, Sam Simpson, John Vanderwerff, Elizabeth Wilson, Charles Younce, Preston Young

CURRENT TRUSTEES FOR THE L. RICHARDSON TRUST

Class of 2023: Lisa Anderson; **Class of 2024:** Alex Maultsby;

Class of 2025: Jim Hegner; **Class of 2026:** Graham Farless; **Class of 2027:** Carole Lesley