The Office of Deacon

Nominees should be active members of First Presbyterian Church who embody the gifts of compassion, understanding, creativity, hope, enthusiasm and wonder. Deacons serve on the Diaconate, a collective that identifies and responds to the pastoral needs of the congregation and encourages discipleship formation through the welcoming and connecting of all those who come to our family of faith. Each deacon serves on one of the following committees or ministry area:

- **Welcome & Belonging:** this committee is responsible for the welcoming of visiting friends to FPC! Committee members collaborate with Pastor Esther to coordinate welcome gatherings, Presbyterian 101 conversations, create welcome materials, and organize Sunday ushering teams. Most of all, they dream of new ways to be the welcoming arms of Christ to all seeking community.
- **Fellowship:** inspired by the inter-generational community of FPC, Fellowship members gather to imagine opportunities of community within the congregation. With intention, creativity and joy, this group plans church gatherings and pop-ups to foster connection and love.
- **Pastoral Care:** living out the caring ways of our Savior, this committee ensures that ministries of compassion and care are active within the church. Meal trains, cards, phone calls, visits and flowers are a few of the very important acts of caring for members in need, crisis, joy or transition.
- **Home Communion:** with Pastor Esther, the Diaconate extends the Lord's Supper past the sanctuary doors and to those unable to worship in person.

Nominees for Deacon below:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Please complete both sides of this half sheet. Detach and place completed sheet in the Sunday offering plate or return it to the church office by December 31, 2024. Thank you.



A Call for Nominations

For the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.
2 Corinthians 9:12

Nominations are now open for the 2028 Class of Ruling Elders and Deacons, and to serve at-large on the 2025-2026 Nominating Committee. Nominees should be members you know who have shown a special dedication to the church, who would bring a needed talent or expertise, or who might like to serve but have been hesitant to step forward. Or, if you yourself feel called to serve, do not hesitate to write down your own name.

Please use the form attached to this sheet to nominate people to serve as a ruling elder or d0eacon, and to nominate persons to fill at-large positions on the 2025-2026 Nominating Committee. After completing both sides of the form, detach and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

The deadline for submitting nominations is December 31, 2024.

All nominees will be seriously considered by the Committee.
Thank you for participating.

First Presbyterian Church
305 E. Main Street, Durham NC 27701
919-682-5511

Revised December 8, 2024

Listed below are the members who are serving at this time. Ruling elders and deacons serve three-year terms and the Nominating Committee members serve for one year. Ruling elders, deacons, and Nominating Committee members may serve a consecutive term.

Members of the Session (Ruling Elders)

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Art Baker	Jon Abels	Al Arrowwood
Ruby Gentithes	Jennie Alwood	Michael Bacon
Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey	Gordon Campbell	Kathy Conner
Keith Merritt	Conrad Carter	Mimi Dunn
Mary Ellis Merritt	Amy Dillon	Laura Hanson
Lanny Pratt	Alice Raney	Jordan Jones
Laurie Ray	Katharine Whitmore	Mary-Jo Keenan
Dawn Shelton		Josh Walters

Members of the Diaconate (Deacons)

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Brianna Bennett	Rachel Bethune	Izzy Allison-Pleasants
Jane Brown	Andy Henry	Matthew Eggleston
Thilo Fullenkamp	Elizabeth Jones	Kerry Holbrook
Wil James	Kathryn Murchison	David Lorimer
Lexy Rile	Mary Ashley King	Julio Manceras
Ashley Swavely	Eric Wiebe	Bill Wigger
Evelyn Walters		

2024-2025 Nominating Committee

Conrad Carter (Chair)
Mary-Jo Keenan (Session/ co-chair)
Julio Manceras (Diaconate)
Tom Bacon (at-large)
Bert Clere (at-large)
Shirley Frederick (at-large)
Jancy Johnstone (at-large)

Nominees for serving at-large on the 2025-2026 Nominating Committee:

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

The Office of Ruling Elder

The Nominating Committee invites your nominations for the office of Ruling Elder. Nominees should be active members of First Presbyterian Church who demonstrate faith, dedication, and good judgment. Ruling Elders serve as members of the Session, which is responsible for the mission and governance of the church. Each Ruling Elder serves on one of the following committees of the Session:

- **Christian Education**: responsible for educational aspects of the church program, including Sunday School.
- **Finance**: responsible for the accounting of and tending to the church budget and monies.
- **Nominating Committee:** responsible for the nomination process for officers and ad hoc committees as requested by Session.
- **Personnel Committee:** responsible for personnel policies, staff job descriptions and performance evaluations.
- **Property:** responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the church facility and grounds.
- **Service and Mission**: responsible for outreach into the local and global community.
- **Stewardship**: responsible for developing and promoting the fiscal care of the church.
- **Worship and the Arts**: responsible for all aspects of worship life, including the sacraments, music, flowers, and lectureships.

Nominees for Ruling Elder:

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Please complete both sides of this half sheet. Detach and place completed sheet in the Sunday offering plate or return it to the church office by December 31, 2024. Thank you.