



ELDER NOMINEES

3 Year Term



Steve Greep, CNC Class of 2024

I have been a life-long resident of Fort Lauderdale and a member of First Presbyterian Church since high school. I grew up in the church and was a Kirk Singer singing every Sunday, participating in the musicals and attending the summer Kirk Singer Tours. I later served as director and chairman of their Happyland Pre-School Board 2003-2007 and was a Deacon. I married my high school sweetheart Karyn and have three children; Stephen, Sarah and Tyler; all of whom were active in the church in the choirs and youth group. We are very active in our community volunteering our time in charities, conservation clubs and youth sports. I am also an avid hunter/fisherman and enjoy the outdoors.



Debra House, Spiritual Formation, Class of 2024

I grew up on Long Island, as a holiday church goer in a Catholic church. I continued in that vein until my husband, Mike, and I found First Pres. We attended FirstPres regularly as an engaged couple and were married here on the 4th of July. I was delighted to learn about all of the programs for our children. That involvement helped them develop a strong Christian faith that they are very active in today. A couple of decades ago, I served as a Deacon. And for the last ten years or so Mike and I have been helping put the sets together for the Children's Choir musicals. I've been a choir mom and have chaperoned two Kirk Singers performance/mission trips - one in California the other in Costa Rica. At present, I'm on the Children's Ministry and Servv Teams.



Lewis Lash, Mission, Class of 2024

I was born in Saginaw, Michigan in 1933 and migrated to FL in 1968. I became a Presbyterian in 2012 at the Community Church of Lauderdale by the Sea. In January, 2021 I transferred my membership to First Presbyterian. During nine years of membership at

Community Church of LBTS, I served in several roles at the church including Chair of the Finance Committee, Treasurer, Chair of the Congregational Nominating Committee, Member of the Worship and Music Committee and Member of the Session (two terms). Since joining First Pres, I have become an Usher, Member of the Investment Team, Endowment Team, Member of the Worship and Music Committee, Active member of two Bible Studies and 555.



Martin Meisner, Finance, Class of 2024

I am originally from Victoria, British Columbia Canada and have been living in the US since 1999. I landed in Fort Lauderdale in 2013 after spending 14 years in Chicago. I grew up Lutheran, but was "converted" by my partner, Jennifer Dudas. and her mom Mary-Alice Denny. As a member of First Pres, I sit on the Building and Grounds Team helping to make sure our facilities will continue to support our church mission for years to come. I also sit on the Reopening Team that was called to help structure a safe return to in person gatherings. I am an amateur photographer, and have a vintage BMW "problem". I established and run Fuelfed Coffee & Classics, a monthly gathering for classic European cars and enthusiasts here in Fort Lauderdale.



Karen Owen, Personnel, Class of 2024

I hail from Ironton, Ohio, and has been a Presbyterian since I married my wonderful husband in 1969. I have been very involved in many areas of First Pres: teaching children and adults, choir mom and Kirk Singer tour chaperone, Marriage Mentoring organizer, kitchen crew, etc. My seven grandkids are the most wonderful gift! I love family time with food and fun! I own the Cross Stitch Cupboard, a needlework store for over 40 years.



Jack Staley, Finance, Class of 2024

I have had a long career in International Business in Europe for 25 years in London, Zurich and Geneva. I currently consult in the US with numerous financial services companies, investment groups, and start-up companies. I moved to Fort Lauderdale in 2012 and have been a member of First Pres for 5 years. I currently serve as Vice Chair of the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center in Ft Lauderdale, The Board of Governors of Tufts University Medical Center in Boston and several other Boards and Advisory Boards.

Beverly Fickinger, Worship & Music, Class of 2024

(bio and picture coming soon)

DEACONS NOMINEES

3 Year Term



Carol Callahan, Class of 2022

I joined First Presbyterian in February 2018, after moving from Fairfield, CT. I have served the past three years on the Board of Deacons. All my life I have been involved

in church with family - as a Sunday school teacher, youth group advisor, confirmation sponsor, missions, choirs, and fellowship activities. Outside of church, I enjoy volunteering with the City of Fort Lauderdale, the Broward County Medical Reserve Corps, CERT, Habitat, and Women In Distress. I also enjoy sports. Most of all, I love being with three adult children and a granddaughter.



Bonnie Craven, Class of 2022

I was baptized at First Presbyterian in 1965 and attended Happyland. I have been a church member since 1986. I worked with the children's Sunday school as a volunteer for 20 years. I also worked with the children's choir program as a volunteer. I have served as a Deacon, on the communion prep team, and on the Habitat for Humanity group.



Kathy Craven, Class of 2024

I have been a member of First Presbyterian since 1965, having grown up at our church. I am currently serving as Chair of the Mission Team, on Spiritual Formation, Co-Chair of Thanksgiving Project, an usher, and communion coordinator. I served as an Elder and Trustee and on various other teams. I was trained as a Bethel Bible teacher and have taught Bethel classes. I am also involved in our Habitat ministry, both at church and with Habitat in Broward County.



Edward Leuchs, Class of 2024

At age 12, I joined the Methodist Church affiliated with Drew University in Madison, NJ. In 2008, I joined First Presbyterian of Ft. Lauderdale so that my granddaughter could participate in Sunday School, choir and the youth program. I have been involved in Sunday Bible Study with Bill Cranshaw. I have also participated in the Jail Ministry with Cliff Jumper until the Covid outbreak in March, 2020. In 2017, I moved from Ft. Lauderdale to Coconut Creek where I live with my husband, Harvey Mayton. Since 2009, my granddaughter Kaylee has lived with me, until July 2020 when she began dividing

her time between her mother's home in Deerfield Beach and our home.



Michelle Pidgeon, Class of 2024

I was born in Ft. Worth, but lived in lots of places as an Air Force brat. I grew up going to church because my father was a minister. I became a member of the Presbyterian Church 20 years ago in New Orleans and joined First Pres in 2002. I have been involved over the years in cooking in the kitchen, VBS and in the fall I will be joining the team for AAC. I have been married to fellow deacon John Pidgeon for 20 years. I love traveling and spending time with my grandchildren.

John Pidgeon, Class of 2024

I was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania and grew up outside Philadelphia. I was raised in the Catholic Church and went to parochial school for all my education. I became a Presbyterian in 2001 in New Orleans and have been a member of First Pres since 2002. I have been involved in different ministries at the church including cooking in the kitchen and was a deacon when I married my fellow deacon, Michelle Pidgeon. I have been in the steel business for 50 years and still enjoy working every day. I also enjoy traveling with my wife and friends.



Alison Pinsley, Class of 2022

I grew up in Scarsdale, NY and moved to Coconut Creek in 2014 with my husband of 24 years, David Pinsley. I became a Presbyterian in White Plains, NY in the 1990's. I was involved there with the choir, as well as the Pink Church in Pompano Beach and First Pres. My hobbies include, genealogy, playing computer games, and watching TV. I am a member of The Light House Point Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. I retired from The Westchester County Department of Health in New Rochelle, NY, where I worked as a word processor in the Division of Disease Control.



David Pinsley, Class of 2022

I am originally from Bronxville, NY. I became a Presbyterian at the Huguenot Memorial Church in Pelham, NY. My involvement in the Presbyterian Church included being part of the choir at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Coconut Creek and am involved in the choir here. I worked for 18 years for The Westchester County Medical Center, in Valhalla, NY. I have been married to my wife, Alison Pinsley, 24 years.



Sandy Steffen, Class of 2024

I hail from Queens, New York where I was raised in the Lutheran Church. I became a Presbyterian in 1981 when I moved with my husband, Cliff, to Bethel CT. In a new church development, you wear many hats and I found that I felt called to be a Deacon.

Fast forward to First Pres where I have served as a Deacon for many years. Additionally, I volunteer with the Craft Ministry, Hope South Florida, and Feeding South Florida.

CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1 Year Term



Connie Betz

I became a Presbyterian at age 10, but changed to Methodist after marriage. Then, I came back to First Presbyterian to raise my children, who grew up here. I have been involved with our church since 1990 when I became a teacher at Happyland. I have been a Deacon twice, a Kirk Singer parent/chaperone from 1995-2002. Presently I serve on the Happyland board and the Scholarship committee. I enjoy the time my husband, Fred, and I watch our grandchildren. Reading, traveling, being with family and friends are some of my other favorite activities.



Jacquie Dawkins

I am a 55-year member of First Presbyterian Church. I have served three terms as a Deacon, a Choir mother, Sunday School teacher, Circle leader, Forum leader and participate in the Woman's Bible Study. A native of Saginaw, Michigan, I was confirmed as a teenager in the First Presbyterian Church, Saginaw. I attended Hope College before moving to Fort Lauderdale in 1963 and marrying John T. "Tim" Dawkins in 1964 (widowed in 2019). I enjoy walking, reading, traveling and family, especially time with my mother, Oleta Krause, who is 103. I have two adult daughters, Jennifer and Stephanie, and two adult grandchildren, Alex and Amanda.



Sarah DelNegri

I have been actively involved with FPC since baptism. I attended Happyland, participated in the music programs and children, youth, and young adult ministries activities. I am currently completing my three-year term as an Elder and chair of the Membership Ministry Team and the 2021 Rally Day Co-Chair. I have been ordained as a Deacon and served on various committees: Trustee, Pastor Nominating Committee (Wrisley), Long Range Planning, Happyland PTA, Buildings/Grounds, Children's Ministry. I married TJ DelNegri in 2007 and have one son, Jake. I work for Flynn Engineering. I am involved in the community, but her favorite place is watching her son play a multitude of sports all across the state.



Leigh Ann Henderson [2nd Year]

I am a native of Fort Lauderdale and have been married for 14 years to my husband, David. I have 2 children. I am currently employed as a city manager. Here at First Pres, I currently serve on the Communion Team and on the CNC. Previously, I served as a Deacon, and Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. My hobbies include travelling with family, doing crossword puzzles, and cooking.



Jim Sabin

Born in Michigan, I have been a South Floridian since 1957. Barb and I joined First Presbyterian in 2003 and since then I have served as Elder and Deacon and chaired the PNC that brought Dr. Wrisley to us. My mission experience has included Habitat for Humanity and Hope South Florida and many others. Barb and I have been married for 41 years and have a daughter in Tennessee and two grandchildren. Retired from the U.S. Postal Service, I now enjoy woodturning, golf, and travel.