

Deacons, Class of 2027



Jimmy Galati and his wife, Kathy, joined SMPC in 2012. He currently serves on the Property Committee and participates in the property workday. Jimmy enjoys playing on SMPC's softball team, participating in the annual golf tournament and serving breakfast at Center of Hope. He and Kathy have two daughters and three grandchildren.



Kathy Garner joined SMPC in 2016 and is an ordained deacon and elder previously serving in PCUSA churches in the Charlotte area. She currently facilitates the Caregiver's Journey group at SMPC and as a liaison between the Alzheimer's Association and SMPC as a Faith Outreach Representative. Kathy has two stepdaughters, four grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Kathy works in commercial real estate, enjoys her family, her two labrador retrievers, reading, and being outdoors.



Clint Lackey and his wife, Leisa, joined SMPC in 1996 along with their two sons, Austin and Jonathan. Clint is an ordained elder and has supported the SMPC Youth program and the Youth Council in a leadership role for several years. Clint has also served as confirmation mentor, been a member of the choir, served on the Finance and Stewardship Committees, assisted with capital campaigns, and he started the International Dining Group. Clint recently retired after a career of 45 years and enjoys music, reading, baking, and fellowship with family and friends.



Courtney Ritchie and her husband, Steven, joined SMPC in 2023. Courtney has served as a VBS, BAM!, and youth group volunteer. She has also volunteered as a tutor at Smithfield Elementary. She is a member of the Rain or Shine small group. Courtney and Steven have two daughters, Tuuli (13) and Maddie (11). Courtney is a stay-at-home mom and enjoys attending her daughters' music and drama performances, reading, and traveling.



Russ Wenner and his wife, Donna, originally joined SMPC in 2007 and rejoined in 2024 after seven years in Asheville. Russ has served as an Elder at SMPC previously. He has been active with the Center of Hope breakfast ministry and has led the Friday Morning Men's Group over the years. Russ and Donna have two adult boys, Brad and Jason, and are proud grandparents of three grandchildren. Russ is retired from the investment management field and can be found most days on the golf course.



Debi Wheeler and her husband, Reyn, joined SMPC in 2019. As a retired nurse who served at Atrium Health until 2020, Debi brings a heart for care and service to every aspect of her life. She has shared her gifts with our congregation by being an active member of the Adult Chancel Choir and enriching worship through music. Debi and Reyn are the proud parents of two sons, and have a granddaughter, Mary Catherine, who has attended VBS at SMPC. She loves spending time with family and her two Australian Shepherds, Misty and Belle.

Elders, Class of 2028



Tony Castle and his wife, Helen, joined SMPC in 2018. He has been a member of the Chancel Choir since joining SMPC, and previously served on the Board of Deacons, facilitating the Transportation Ministry. For the last two years, Tony has been a classroom tutor at Smithfield Elementary School as part of the SMPC Ministry there. Tony and Helen have two children, Heather and Alex. They also are blessed with four grandchildren, all of whom live in the Charlotte area. Tony is a retired OB-GYN physician, as well as a retired Naval officer and a former Vice Chair of the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine.



Kaitlin Gaul and her husband, Andrew, moved to Charlotte from Chicago in 2017 and joined SMPC in 2018. She is part of the Rain or Shine small group and serves on the Children's Spiritual Formation Committee. Kaitlin and Andrew have two children, Madelyn (6) and Ethan (4). She works in marketing at Synchrony and enjoys spending time outdoors with her family and friends. This fall, Kaitlin is also taking on the challenge of learning all the rules of soccer and baseball so she can properly cheer on Ethan during his games.



Leisa Lackey and her husband, Clint, joined SMPC in 1996. She is an ordained Elder and has previously served as Clerk of Session. Leisa has served as chair of the Nursery, Membership and Missions & Outreach Committees. She also served on prior capital campaigns, the search committee for Director of Spiritual Formation, confirmation mentor and has participated in Disciple I study, All Church Reads and C.A.R.E group. Leisa and Clint have two adult children, Austin and Jonathan, who grew up at SMPC, and they recently gained a "daughter" when Austin and his wife, Nina, were married last year. Leisa is an administrator at Atrium Health and enjoys being outdoors, traveling and spending time with family and friends.



Dan Trimmer and his wife, Christy, joined SMPC in 2013. Previously, he served on the Nominating Committee. Dan and Christy have two children, Graham (11) and Caroline (8), who enjoy growing up at SMPC. Dan works as a business and construction law attorney and enjoys attending the kids' soccer games, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



Camdyn Sheeler (16) and her family have been a part of SMPC since 2022. Camdyn has been involved in the Youth Choir and Youth Ringers for two years and also serves as a leader for Youth Committee. Camdyn is a junior at Ardrey Kell High School and is a three-year varsity tennis team athlete and has officer positions in multiple clubs, including Student Government Association. Camdyn's favorite part of SMPC is going to Montreat in the summer and the lake retreat in the fall. She loves listening to music, hanging out with friends, reading, and working out!