

**Charles Carboneau**

A CPA and graduate of Indiana University, I met my wife Katie in Bloomington, and settled in Fort Wayne. I was raised Catholic and had questions about beliefs, feeling there are multiple valid religious paths. In 1984, I married Katie at Plymouth UCC and have attended ever since. I like to hear that we and our questions are welcome at Plymouth, and that God is still speaking. In my spare time, I advocate for women's rights, practice ballroom dance, garden, play golf and travel.

**Barbara Christianson**

Barb is a native of South Dakota and was raised in the United Church of Christ. After graduating from South Dakota State University, she married Dave and settled in Missouri. Here she taught junior high English. When she and Dave moved to the Kansas City area, she stayed home and raised a family, a family that now includes three children, their spouses, and six grandchildren. When her children were younger, much of her time was spent as member of a new UCC church start. Among more traditional church rolls, Barb served on the building committee responsible for the church's first building. For the last 20 years she has been an active member of the Presbyterian Church USA. Moving to the Fort in early 2020 has meant church shopping in a pandemic. Barb is excited about returning to her UCC roots and becoming a member of Plymouth Church.

**David Christianson**

Dave grew up in the Minneapolis area with what his father referred to as a 10-year exile in Iowa. He attended South Dakota State University where he met his wife, Barb. Dave, a lifelong Presbyterian was introduced to the UCC by Barb and married in her home church in South Dakota. They spent their first years together in western Missouri where Dave served in the U.S. Air Force. Later they then moved to the nearby Kansas City area where Dave worked in a variety of positions for a national consulting engineering company. In Kansas City they raised three children; Katie, Matthew and Beth. At the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, they moved to Fort Wayne to be near Katie and her family. Dave and Barb have alternated between being members of the Presbyterian Church USA and the UCC. For several pretty good reasons, now seems like a good time to move back to the UCC.

**Brittany Gannon**

Hi, my name is Brittany Gannon. I moved to Fort Wayne 10 months ago to live with my foster parents, Julia and Clark. I am 20 years old and I will turn 21 in August. I love horses and dogs. Particularly my foster parents' dog, Nymeria. She is a Norwegian Elkhound and she loves to play with me. I am looking forward to starting to work with Mapleseed Farms soon. On the weekends, I like to watch Riverdale on Netflix and do tai chi with my foster mom.

**Clark Geerlings**

I was born in Albuquerque, was raised in Detroit, and have spent the last six years of my life being somewhat nomadic with my wonderful wife, Julia. For a living I work with at risk and traumatized youth. We found our way to Fort Wayne to help Brit who we had known for a while and who needed us. For fun I obsess about minor league soccer, particularly Detroit City FC. I also make saw dust in the name of attempting to create woodworking projects.

**Julia Geerlings**

Hello, my name is Julia Geerlings. I grew up in Grand Blanc, Michigan where I was in the marching band and volunteered to help the marching band and other bands after I graduated from high school. I moved

around the state of Michigan either going to school or working. I lived and worked on Mackinac Island in the summer of 2012 and it was one the most magical experiences of my life. I met my husband in the fall of 2015 and that's when my journey of helping troubled youth began. We moved to Leakey, Texas in 2016 to learn how to take care of and help heal traumatized children. We moved from Texas to Indiana to Michigan and then back to Indiana helping kids along the way. I am an avid cook and I enjoy planning fun activities for all. I love to play board games and enjoy reading. Most weekends you can find me at the library, in my kitchen, or outside in my neighborhood.

#### **Karra and Ian McCormick**

Karra and Ian McCormick have two daughters, Evelyn (8) and Mary (5). Karra is a fourth-grade teacher in Southwest Allen Co Schools, where Evelyn and Mary also attend. Ian is the Resident Director of the Fort Wayne office of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. Our family enjoys traveling, the company of our friends, and spending time outdoors. We are looking forward to being members of the Plymouth congregation and have already begun finding our place in this community!

#### **Barrett Seals**

Barrett Seals is originally from Miami, Florida and grew up in Tennessee and Alabama. As a professional musician, Barrett was a member of the United States Coast Guard Band for 21 years. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in music from the University of Alabama and the University of North Texas. When not performing music, Barrett enjoys spending time cooking, especially smoked meats, and spending time in the yard. He and Sara have two rescue puppies, Amos and Maya, and look forward to exploring Fort Wayne and the Midwest.

#### **Kristin Steckbeck**

I was raised Lutheran and became Roman Catholic shortly after I graduated from the University of Notre Dame. Lately I have been seeking a faith community that is more in line with my progressive values, and I have been regularly attending Plymouth since September 2021. I grew up in Bluffton and returned to the Fort Wayne area in 2007 when I graduated from law school at IU Bloomington. I am an estate planning and elder law attorney. I have two kids – Robby, age 11 and Cora, age 8. With two kids and a more-than-full time job, I obviously don't have a lot of spare time, but when I do, I like to spend it reading, hiking and birdwatching, or snow skiing whenever I get the chance to head out west.

#### **Starla Steckbeck**

Good morning! My name is Starla Steckbeck. I have lived my entire life in Allen and Wells Co. I graduated H.S. from Norwell in Wells Co. and nurses training from Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing/Concordia University in Ft. Wayne. Since my husband, Dr. Robert Steckbeck, passed away, I live alone with my 2 cats and am fortunate to have my daughter, Kristin, and her family living nearby. I am glad to be joining Plymouth Congregation and hope to be involved in whatever way I can serve.