



## Elders



**Jennifer Fickel** - Jennifer joined the Kirk after completing Bill Robinson's confirmation class in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. She has previously served as a Deacon and Elder, on the Membership and Worship Committees, and Parish Council. She also enjoys working as one of the Kirk wedding directors. She has participated in two Green Bucket Runs, and two Habitat for Humanity Kirk projects. She feels a call to missions serving our senior community, the hospitalized, and those who experience food insecurity by serving meals at shelters, or packing boxes at pantries. Jennifer is continually curious about the history of scripture, and seeks to find the Spirit in all of Creation. She is eager to navigate the changes on the Kirk's horizon, hoping to hear the voice of the Millennial and Gen Z generations while finding a way to honor the Kirk's history and traditions.



**Lee Gardner** - Lee and Judy Gardner joined the Kirk in 1987. Lee is an Elder and member of the Pastor Nominating Committee. He is a past Trustee, serving twice as President, and a member of numerous church committees. He worked in industry before becoming a founding partner in JP Morgan's private equity group; and is now retired. Lee and Judy live in Birmingham, and have two grown daughters and three grandchildren. Lee is filling a two year position.



**Jeffrey Haynes** - Jeff was an Elder from 2013-2015. He sang as an auditioned volunteer in the Chancel Choir for 16 years. He served as an usher, chaired the Music Committee, was a member of the Strategy Committee, and was a member of the Music Director Search Committee. Jeff is currently a member of the Pipe Organ Committee. He hopes to bring dedication, perspective, and problem-solving skills to further the Lord's work at the Kirk.



**Jill O'Hara** - Jill is currently part of the Adult Formation Committee and a founding and current member of a small group. In the past she has been a Deacon, Trustee, member of an APNC, member of CONC, Kirk Tutor, member of St. Andrew's Service Committee, and participated in the Thursday Morning Bible Study. Jill brings a vibrant attitude; and a love for the Lord, the Kirk and its members. She feels blessed to have this opportunity to serve.



**Carole Pearl** - Carole has been attending Kirk in the Hills for the past eight years. Currently, she serves as the Treasurer on the Outreach and Mission Committee, a role that allows her to actively support our local and global mission efforts. Additionally, she is a proud member of the Caring Friends. She enjoys attending Bible study, Dinner Church, and women's retreats. These experiences have deepened her spiritual connection and allowed her to grow in her faith journey. She looks forward to the opportunity to serve on Session, and hopes to bring a love for God's people, a strong commitment to teamwork, and a solid background in business management. At her previous Presbyterian Church, she served as an Elder and a member of a Pastor Nominating Committee. She is hopeful these gifts will contribute to the growth and spiritual well-being of the Kirk community, and is honored to take on this new role in service to the congregation.



**Jeff Reitmyer** - Jeff currently serves as a Trustee and is a member of the Investment, Legacy Giving and Kirk Real Estate Committees. He attends worship services regularly and previously served as a member and past Chair of the Kirk K-5 Committee, a member of the Church Officer Nominating Committee and was a Sunday school teacher. He brings a sincere desire that our Kirk continues to thrive and grow for the glory of God. Jeff is thankful for the love and support that many members have provided to his family, including the leaders and teachers that helped nurture his five children in their Christian development through the Sunday school, Confirmation, choir, Vacation Bible School and summer youth mission programs. His hope is to maintain and expand these and other Kirk programs into the future.

## Youth Elder to be named.



## Deacons



**Gloria Chon** - Gloria and her husband have been members of the Kirk since this past spring, and their family has already been blessed abundantly through the Kirk. She currently attends the Kirk Parent Bible Study and Kirk Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study, and is grateful for the wisdom and grace of the attending members - her faith deepens with every study. Her children attend Kirk Sunday school and her daughter is a member of the Youth Choir. She is grateful to be able to participate in family events at the Kirk. Gloria brings a desire and willingness to build a community where we can feel like a true family in Christ - not just for ourselves, but for our children as well. She hopes to help foster a sincere, thoughtful, and non-judgmental place where members can rely on each other in a way they cannot outside of church. She prays that God will use her in small ways that bring glory to Him.



**Jenny Gallo** - Jenny is currently involved with Accent Pontiac, small groups, worship bulletin cover art, and occasional educational leadership. Her past involvement includes coffee hour, Life Remodeled, Rebuild, and Micah 6. She is a student of the Word of God

and brings an inclination to service, sense of responsibility, kindness and compassion.



**Gretchen Jakubiak** - Gretchen has been coming to the Kirk since the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and she was very blessed to have Bill Robinson as her confirmation teacher. She has served as a Sunday school teacher, preschool board member/president, and health ministry committee chair. She was a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee for Kelsey Sorge. She currently serves on the Children and Youth Ministry Committee. She has served two terms as a Deacon and looks forward to being apart of this ministry again.



**Kim McGlynn** - Kim is a recent member to the Kirk and, prior to the Kirk, Kim was active at her Presbyterian church for 26 years where she participated in the following: sang in the choir for 5 years, taught the children's choir for 4 years, was moderator of Presbyterian

Women for 6 years, received the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership award, enjoyed being a Confirmation Partner for 6 youths, volunteered at VBS for 10 years and so much more! Kim has been married to her husband Dan for 29 years and they have 3 children, Sam (27), Emily (22) and Sean (17). Kim and Dan felt blessed to have Sean enjoy and flourish in his faith by going through the Kirk's Confirmation Class two years ago. As a Deacon, it is Kim's wish to serve the Kirk's community and achieve its mission where every heart experiences God's transforming love.



**Richard Morris** - Dick is a member of the Kirk Ushers as well as the Memorial Usher Captain. He is also a long-time member of the Men of the Kirk (MOK) and a Stephen Minister. Previously he has served as a Deacon, as well as the President of the singles group back in the late 90's. Dick has a great interest in being a contact point between the Kirk and our church family, especially in welcoming new members. He is always willing to help in organizing events to bring our Kirk Family together. As a member of the Prayer Cordon he will facilitate prayer requests from Kirk members.



**Leslie Sikes** - Having been a member for many years, Leslie has a strong appreciation for the work of many. She prefers the quiet moments in the sanctuary and reverence for our beautiful Kirk home. She has enjoyed planting the flowers in spring and fall, and believes that planting seeds spiritually is a fine thing to do and support. Leslie brings an organized and administrative approach, willingness to add value to events through honest hard work, and a positive approach with strong faith and love.



**Dan Tomlinson** - Dan has been an usher since 1994 and currently serves as a co-captain on the 11 a.m. service for the months March, June, September and December. His son was baptized and his sister was married at the Kirk. The Kirk has great significance to Dan and his family. He brings a big smile, a warm hello and an open heart. Dan truly believes that God speaks to him in various ways. As the saying goes, God asks that when he sends a message, focus on his message, not the messenger. As a Deacon, he will listen and follow God's word, wherever his journey takes him. He is excited to serve God and the Kirk.



**Christian Yousif** - Christian is currently a Sunday school teacher, regular attendee at Men of the Kirk and Parent Bible Study groups. He was confirmed at the Kirk in 1996. His prior involvement includes assistant Sunday school teacher, tutoring for Pontiac schools, being an usher, senior high youth leader, and adult chaperone for senior high service projects/work camps. He believes that his thoughtfulness, strong faith, and understanding of what is needed to attract young families will be of service to the church.

## Youth Deacons

**Sadie Douglass** - Sadie has participated in Youth Group, Mission Trips, Youth Choir from age 6-14, and as an Acolyte. She hopes to bring the gift of God's love to share with our members through outreach and mission work.

**Pryanka Skilton** - Photo/bio not available.



## Trustees



**Kelley Klein** - Kelley has been a member of the Kirk for 51 years. She has served on the Board of Trustees for three years, as Vice President and President. She has served as an Elder for three years, and served on both the Adult Formation and Personnel Committees.

She is currently serving on the Personnel Committee. Kelley brings dedication, organization and focus to her role, supporting projects to completion. She strives to bring leadership skills, collaboration and positivity to the table in support of the Kirk's mission. She is filling a one-year term.



**Steve Briggs** - Steve has been a member of the Kirk for 25 years. He has served in a number of roles over the years including two terms as Elder, past trustee, the usher corps, and a Sunday school teacher. Steve has been active with the Men of the Kirk, the annual giving campaign, and the oversight of the Kirk's investment/endowment portfolio. Steve hopes to bring a positive impact to the Kirk through his faith, energy, and knowledge.



**Jay Cooke** - Jay has been a member of the Kirk for 24 years and an usher since shortly after joining. He regularly engages in Men of the Kirk activities, Kirk veteran affairs, "pro bono" legal assistance and is a long-time "host" of pastor/usher functions. Additionally, he is the proud father of 3 boys that are or have been acolytes; Jay and wife Jacqueline most recently served as chaperones for the mid-high winter retreat. As a long-time attorney and real estate businessman, he is very interested in putting together the knowledge he has addressing the capital issues the Kirk faces.



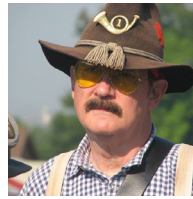
**Steve Fogle** - Steve has been attending the Kirk for several years and became a member along with his wife, Chris. They followed their daughter and son-in-law, Julie and Ryan Webb, and grandsons Tyler and Luke to the Kirk. Steve is presently a teller for the offerings and looks to expand his involvement. He is hoping to use the skills learned as a trustee and a treasurer at one of his former churches, as well as his experience as a District Administrator for Little League, to lend to the operating of the Kirk.



**Bethney Kerr** - Beth is currently co-chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee. She has been a Deacon and Elder twice, and a Trustee. In her 48 years at the Kirk she has been a Sunday school teacher, Chair of VBS, mid-high advisor, two APNC search committees, Chair of Adult Ministry, Chair of Christian Ed, Chair of Kirk Women. She and her children have grown up with this church and now her grandchildren will grow up here. Beth hopes that her knowledge of the Kirk and Presbyterian procedures can bring change/improvement.



**Ford Meiser** - Ford has been a member of the Kirk for 26 years. He currently serves on an usher team and previously served as a Deacon, Ruling Elder, Trustee, Outreach and Mission Committee Chair, Personnel Committee Chair, Interim Pastor Search Committee on the Senior Pastor Search Committee.



**Bruce Miller** - Bruce is a 50-year plus member of the Kirk. He has served two terms on the Board of Trustees and many additional capacities including Sunday school teacher, Session Communications Committee and Adult Christian Education Committee. Most recently he handled communications for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee including serving as master of ceremonies at the celebration weekend dinners. He and his wife Terri have established an endowment at the Kirk for marketing and communications.

## Church Officer Nominating Committee Members-at-Large



**Scott File** - Scott is currently supporting the confirmation class. He participates in the Saturday Morning Bible Study and evening Small Group. Previously, he has served as a Trustee, and as an usher. As a long time member of the church, he feels a strong connection to the congregation. He believes that his open mind and belief that with inspiration those who are invited will provide great service to the church.



**Glenda Herb** - Glenda has been a member for 43 years. She currently serves on the Congregational Care Committee, the Personnel Committee, Altar Guild, Ministry With Pontiac Committee, Coffee Hour Chairman and leading the Sandwich Ministry Team. In the past, she has served as an Elder, Deacon, Moderator of the Deacons, Sunday school teacher, chair of the Church Officer Nominating Committee, and chair of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.



**Brian Sliwinski** - Brian has been a member of the Kirk for 19 years. In previous years, he has served in two separate occasions as an Elder and also chaired the Church Officer Nominating Committee. He currently serves as a Stephen Leader, Stephen Minister and as a Sunday school teacher with his wife, Stephanie, and served as an Elder. Brian is thankful for the opportunity to serve in assisting finding future officers for the Kirk.



## Guidelines for officer nominations:

**Elders** – The Presbyterian Church USA’s Book of Order (Part II 2019/2023) cites a Ruling Elder Defined (G-2.0301) as follows: “... of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they “lord it over” the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church...”

The Session is the governing body of the congregation. It consists of 15 Ruling Elders who serve for a three-year term and one Youth Ruling Elder who serves a one-year term.

**Deacons** – Deacons undertake ministries of care and compassion within and beyond the congregation. The Presbyterian Church USA’s Book of Order (Part II 2019/2023) cites a Deacon Defined (G-2.0201) as follows: “The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture e is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry”

The Board of Deacons comprises 24 members who serve for a three-year term and two Youth Deacons who serve a one-year term.

**Trustees** – Trustees have major responsibilities in the areas of budget and finance, endowments and investments, property maintenance and insurance, personnel and legal affairs. Trustees shall be members of the church who demonstrate qualities of honesty and integrity, energy and business acumen, incorporating both Christian dedication and responsibility. The Presbyterian Church USA’s Book of Order (Part II 2019/2023) cites a Deacon Defined (G-4.101) as follows: “The corporation so formed, or the individual trustees, shall have the following powers: to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property, real or personal, for the congregation, provided that in buying, selling, and mortgaging real property, the trustees shall act only after the approval of the congregation, granted in a duly constituted meeting; to accept and execute deeds of title to such property; to hold and defend title to such property; to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation, all subject to the authority of the session and under the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The powers and duties of the trustees shall not infringe upon the powers and duties of the Session or the Board of Deacons.”

Kirk in the Hills has a board of 18 trustees, elected for a three-year term.

**Church Officer Nominating Committee Members-at-Large** – Three individuals elected from church-wide membership to serve on the Church Officer Nominating Committee for a one-year term. The Church Officer Nominating Committee may receive more suggestions than there are available positions. It is the Committee’s hope that the congregation will submit names for consideration. Members should understand that, inevitably, many fine suggestions may not lead to nomination or appointment.

## Members of this year’s Church Officer Nominating Committee are:

Calvin Ford, Chair	Kristi Jones
Buzz Brown	Alison Murphy
Jayne Dodge	Bobbi Tallinger
Ron Gardhouse	Vivian Yousif