

MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Senior Minister Search Committee



Bob Thomason, Chair

Bob, a retired banker, pilot, and publisher, has dedicated decades to church leadership and community service. He is a Life Deacon, Chair of the Church Name Change Steering Committee, and Chair Emeritus at Southminster Retirement Community. For over 25 years, Bob has served on the Board of Deacons and led numerous committees, including Stewardship, Strategic Planning, Planned Giving, and major anniversary task forces. His contributions span worship, energy initiatives, education, and racial justice programs. Bob's commitment reflects a lifetime of leadership, faith, and service.



Carol Reid-Fricke, Vice Chair

Carol, a retired educator and former Program Director for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, has devoted years to church leadership and community engagement. She is an active worshiper and small group participant at MPBC. Carol has served two terms as MPBC Deacon and one at Sardis Presbyterian, chaired Strategic Planning for six years, and served on Church Council. She designed and led the "Connections" adult small group program, chaired Faith Formation, and twice served on the Worship & Music Search Committee. Her contributions include music ministry, racial justice facilitation, and education. Carol's work reflects a deep commitment to building community and nurturing faith.



Mike Bowen

Mike, a retired banker with Bank of America, has been a member of MPBC since 2020. Mike has served one term as Deacon serving on the Finance Ministry. He is an active participant in Room in the Inn, Roof Above lunch preparation, Pride activities and Stewardship. He has served on the MPBC COO Search Committee and the Youth Minister Search Committees at a former church. Mike is married to Dean Bowen and has 2 children and 3 grandchildren. He enjoys playing golf and spending time with family. Mike's commitment reflects a passion for faith, service, and inclusion.



Deborah Moore Clark

Deborah, a retired Minister of Music and published writer, holds degrees in Business Administration, Church Music, and Liberal Studies. She has dedicated decades to church leadership and creative ministry. At MPBC, Deborah sings in the Chancel Choir, participates in worship, and engages in Sage-ing and Friends for Life gatherings. Her past service includes roles as Deacon, liturgist, soloist, and chair of worship committees. She has taught Sunday School, hosted small groups, and contributed to church publications. Deborah's community involvement spans music leadership, cultural programs, and social justice advocacy, reflecting a lifelong commitment to faith and service.



Carla Hines

Carla, a retired Associate Director for Administration-Housing at UNC Charlotte, holds a master's degree in Curriculum Development and Instructional Technology. She joined MPBC in 2020 and is an active participant in the LGBTQAI+ Community Group. Her past involvement includes the Newcomer's Class and the Womanist Midrash Series. In the community, Carla serves on the Get Your Rear in Gear Charlotte Planning Committee, supporting colon cancer awareness, and previously volunteered at the Mint Hill Library for a decade. Carla's commitment reflects a passion for education, inclusion, and service.



Marcy McClanahan

Marcy, a retired Plant Manager with Trane Air Conditioning, has devoted years to church and community service. She is married to Cindy Clemens, celebrating over 40 years together, and their son Luca is a 4th-grade teacher in Asheville. At MPBC, Marcy has served as Deacon Chair and contributed to Children's and Youth Faith Formation. Her involvement includes HR Deacons, MOJO, Room In The Inn, Habitat for Humanity, Stop Hunger Now, and other outreach ministries. She enjoys hiking and sports and has coached youth basketball and soccer while volunteering in schools and mentoring student-athletes. Marcy's life reflects leadership and service.



Mary Miller

Mary, a lifelong MPBC member, is a singer, dog rescuer, and avid baker. She earned a BA in English from Guilford College with minors in World History and Environmental Studies and previously founded and led a pet care business specializing in senior and medical animal services. At MPBC, Mary sings in the Chancel Choir, volunteers with Room In The Inn, and has served as a Youth Ministry chaperone and Education Board representative. Her community involvement includes LGBTQ+ choral groups, interfaith youth leadership, and music ministry roles. Mary's life reflects creativity, hospitality, and service.



Jay Rivers

Jay, a Clemson University graduate in economics, brings decades of experience from a distinguished career in the investment industry. Since joining the church in 1996, Jay has demonstrated exceptional leadership, serving as Chair of the Board of Deacons and the most recent Stewardship Campaign, as well as serving on the Finance and Endowment Committees. His commitment to faith and service continues through active participation in the Faith and Community Class and volunteer work with Room In The Inn. Married to Cathryn for 60 years, Jay exemplifies integrity, dedication, and a lifelong devotion to strengthening community.



Mac Sasser

Mac, an attorney at The Sasser Law Firm, holds a BA in Political Science and English Literature from UNC-Chapel Hill. He has served on the MPBC Board of Deacons and contributed to the Ministry of Human Resources and the Associate Minister Search Committee. Mac has also volunteered as a Greeter and with Room In The Inn. In the community, he serves in leadership roles with the NC Advocates for Justice, NC Bar Association, Mecklenburg Bar, and CFID's Association of America. He is Chair of the Mecklenburg Bar Public Information Committee and President of the NC National Disability Advocacy Bar. Mac's service reflects a deep commitment to justice and community leadership.

