

BMPC Officer Nominee Bios

ELDERS:

Bill Black has been a member of BMPC since 1985. After serving on the Adult Education Council in the 1990s, he became a Trustee from 2004 to 2010. He served on the Property Committee from 2004 through 2011 and chaired the Committee from 2008 to 2010, after which he served, and is continuing to serve, on the subcommittee that was responsible for oversight of the HVAC project. Bill also served as chair of the Trustees' Legal Committee and continues to work closely with Church leadership as a member of that committee.

Karen Dunkman has been an active member of BMPC since October 1982. During the last 30 years, she has served on the Outreach Council; the Board of Deacons; the Hunger Task Force (chair for five years); and Presbyterian Women, for which she held several offices, including Moderator. She was a member of the PNC that called Dr. Wesley Avram. From July 1999 – July 2010 Karen was the Director of the Middleton Center for Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Krista Vaughan and her husband joined BMPC in 2005. She quickly became involved by teaching in the 2yr old Sunday School class. Krista has also been active with Y Group and through the years has held several board positions: Mission, Hospitality, Social, and last year she served as Y Group co-chair. She has volunteered at Vacation Bible Camp for many years, and has also served on the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team. Currently, Krista co-chairs the Children's and Family Ministry Council, which she joined two years ago after working on the Advent Craft Workshop.

Janet White has been a member of BMPC since 1986. She has served the church in many areas, which include past Moderator of Presbyterian Women, Co-Chairman of the Worship Music and Mission Campaign, WePAC, Fine Arts Council, Nominating Committee and she worked as Director of Member Ministries, Stewardship and Foundation. Presently, Janet is a member of the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team, the Foundation Development Committee, the Congregational Life Council, and the Forward in Faith Campaign.

YOUTH ELDERS:

Grace Heard has been an active member of the choir and hand bell programs since coming to BMPC in fourth grade. She became a member with her confirmation class in ninth grade. She is an active member in the youth program and has been on the Youth Ministries Council for the past two years. Grace has also helped with VBC, Sunday church school and various family ministries events.

Ian Callahan grew up attending BMPC and was baptized here. He was confirmed and joined the church in 2009. He has attended summer camp and is actively involved in the Youth Program.

DEACONS:

Linda Callans has been a member of BMPC since 1992. She has been a member of the Worldwide Ministries Council and is a Stephen Minister.

Dave Hastings has been a member since 2004, though his wife grew up in the church and they were married and their son was baptized at BMPC prior to moving back to the Philadelphia area. Dave has been involved with the Hunger Committee since 2008, and has been its Chairman since January 2011. In addition he has served as an usher since 2010.

Jen Huth and her family have been members of BMPC since 2005. In her years of membership, Jen has been involved in many areas of the church, including helping with the West Philadelphia Children's Choir and volunteering for the last few years at Vacation Bible Camp. In addition, Jen has assumed a Board position in Y-Group and she has served the church as a Sunday School volunteer. Jen and her husband also attend Sacred Shelter, a family-focused discussion group.

Debbie Kay was baptized and married at BMPC and became active in the Single Young Adults, where she met her husband. After their BMPC wedding, they raised their two girls, who were both baptized and confirmed here. Debbie has been active as a Greeter and helps with Hospitality and the Advent Gift Market. Most recently she served as an at-large member on Nominating Committee during 2010-11, and for about 10 years she has helped serve guests through IHN and the Hunger Committee.

Mike Merin and his wife were married by Dr. Eugene Bay and have been members of BMPC for about 20 years. Prior to that Mike was most involved at Rochester's Third Presbyterian Church, where he was ordained as an Elder (1977). He has served as a member of the Senior Choir, the Fine Arts Council, and the group that created the West Philadelphia Children's Choir. Currently, Mike is most interested in supporting Youth and youth-related activities at BMPC. He was a member of the APNC that brought Rev. Kellen Smith here.

Flo Zeller has been a member of BMPC since 1988. She was a member of the Youth Council through the early 1990's, and served as an Arts Guide in the 1990's, as well. Flo served for 10 years as a group leader in the Tuesday night tutoring program. Currently, she is involved with our hunger ministry by making casseroles and supporting the food pantry.

YOUTH DEACONS:

Katie Merin was baptized at BMPC fifteen years ago, was confirmed, and is still developing her faith by actively participating in Bible Study and Camp. She has also found an outlet for her faith in the choir and hand bells. One of her favorite ways to experience God is by volunteering with The Other Carpenter and on Mission Trips.

Dan Petrovitch has been coming to BMPC since he was born. He goes to camp with the Youth Group each year and he has played his trumpet at some of the morning worship services. He was confirmed with the rest of his class three years ago in ninth grade.

Jennie Wilber grew up attending BMPC, and was confirmed and joined the church in 2010. She is active in the Youth Program, and attends summer camp every year. In addition, she plays hand bells, sings in the Youth Chorale, and is a leader at Vacation Bible Camp.

TRUSTEES:

Bill McCormack and his family have been members of BMPC since 2005. Since then he has been very involved in family related ministries. All three of the McCormack's children have been actively involved in the BMPC Sunday School and Bill and his wife have volunteered as Sunday school teachers/class proctors and office staff. In addition, all three children have been involved in Carol Choir, and they have volunteered several times to help with the Christmas Eve choir service. They have also volunteered for numerous casserole blitzes, Advent craft fairs and helped start the St Barnabas outreach mission. They were part of the founding group of Sacred Shelter, the family focused discussion group started by Pastor Susan Rice three years ago.

Brian Walsh and his family joined BMPC in 2000. Brian has been a member of the Outreach Committee for several years and has been active in Adult Education activities.

AT-LARGE NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Don Chase joined BMPC in 2005. With his family, he is active in Family Ministries, serves the church as an usher, and volunteered with the former Urban-Suburban Partnership.

Barbara Cobb has been a member of BMPC since 1967. In that time, she has served the church in many ways, including as a member of the Board of Trustees for six years and Treasurer of the Board and Foundation for 5 years. She has served on the Youth Ministry Council, as a member of a previous Nominating Committee, and she was a member of the founding board for the formation of the Middleton Center. Currently she sings in the Senior Choir and attends Holy Leisure and various Fine Arts Council activities.

Marcy DelOrefice has been a member of BMPC since 2008. She has been the director of vacation bible camp for the past two years and will be running it again this year. She served on the board of the Y Group last year and has been a member of the Family Ministries Council for three years. In addition, she teaches church school for the kindergarteners.

Kathy Kreider has been a member of BMPC for 37 years. In her many years of membership, she has served the church in many ways, including as a Deacon, as Co-Chair of Connections, and as facilitator of a small group "For the Care and Nurture of Mothers' of Young Children." She sang in the senior choir, was a choir parent for children's choirs, is a former member of Y-Group, the Hunger Task Force and the Homeless Task Force, taught Church School, taught Vacation Church School, directed Vacation Church School, and worked for 4 years as an assistant teacher in Weekday School. She worked for 15 years as Parish Nurse, retiring in May 2011. During that time she was active as a Stephen Ministry Leader as well. Currently she is an active participant in a women's book group at BMPC, attends some Holy Leisure and other PW activities and volunteers with Caring in Action needs (meals and driving members).

Al Willoughby joined BMPC with his wife in 1968. In his many years of membership, Al has served the church in many ways, including as an Elder for six years. He has also served on the Youth Council, the Mission Council, and the Fine Arts Council. He was an usher for many years and has been a member of the Senior Choir since 1988. In addition, he has been playing the carillon since its installation in 2005, and has been a volunteer driver for the past 4 or 5 years.