

Officer Candidate Bios

Jennie Jacobson, Deacon

I have been a member of BMPC since 2015, singing in the Summer Choir that first year and then joining the Sanctuary Choir in the fall. I served one year as assistant librarian and one year as librarian for the choir, and I was fortunate enough to be able to go on the recent choir trip to the Middle East. Hunger Committee meetings conflict with choir practice, but I help by taking inventory of supplies for casserole blitzes and I participate in making casseroles. My husband Jim and I served on the Refugee Committee for several years and now serve on the Outreach Committee.

Faith Phipps, Deacon

I became a member of BMPC in 2020 during the COVID-19 shutdown. I feel honored to be a member of this wonderful church. I participate in the important work of the Refugee Committee, and I am a frequent participant at the Wednesday Night Dinners. Because of my work at Bryn Mawr Hospital, I cannot attend church in person every week. Yet, I find great spiritual comfort when I can attend our Sunday services every other Sunday. I am looking forward to being a part of the meaningful work as a Deacon along with my sisters and brothers in Christ.

Rob Stoy, Deacon

My wife Rachel and I joined BMPC in 2019 after moving here from Charlotte, North Carolina. We have two children, a daughter Avery, and a son Carter. My involvement with BMPC has included serving as an usher, teaching Sunday School, participating in Nativity scenes and Casserole Blitzes, delivering food following services, and constructing a little library with other church families. I find great pleasure making connections with BMPC members, both young and "more experienced," and I am honored to be asked to serve as a Deacon. I look forward to using the opportunity to expand our church's mission.

Kay Kerr, Deacon

I joined BMPC over 30 years ago after learning about the church through the Weekday School which my children attended. I've always appreciated the variety of opportunities the church offers. Through the years I also was impressed by the excellent and inspiring sermons and the willingness of Dr. Bay 30 years ago and the pastors of today to not allow individual opinions to interfere with their objective presentation of what it means to follow the teachings of Christ and the will of God. In my early years in the church, I was involved as a choir mom, Vacation Bible Camp assistant, youth activities and occasionally Summer Choir. After retiring as a physician, I've greatly appreciated the opportunities to participate in mission activities e.g., working with Urban Mosaic in Mexico, racial justice activities, assisting the Afghan family, and

being introduced to Broad Street Ministry. I look forward to being more involved with this institution, which I greatly respect. There are such a variety of opportunities, as well as talented and dedicated leadership, that I feel the potential for the church to continue to grow in effectiveness is limitless.

Kayden Weinstock, Youth Deacon

I was born in Antigua, Guatemala, where coffee begins its long journey from plantations to my local Wawa. While strangers sometimes speak to me in Spanish, which I don't understand, I have grown up on the Main Line and in a different quiet way at BMPC. When I was little my mother thought I really loved Jesus, but the real reason I liked church so much was because there were cookies afterward. Still, somewhere between playing the bells, making casseroles, mission trips to New York, summer camp, and being part of Youth Ministry, I have found a home away from home for which I am very grateful and wish in some small way to participate in passing that experience along to others.

Sydney Navarro, Youth Deacon

Bio not available.

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Sarah Gunther, Elder

I grew up Presbyterian and joined BMPC shortly after moving to the area in 2017. My husband and I have three elementary-aged daughters who enjoy Sunday School and service projects, and they were all baptized at BMPC. I am a part-time kindergarten enrichment teacher. My involvement with BMPC includes assisting with teaching Sunday School and serving on the Refugee Committee, where I have been especially involved with ensuring the children's education needs. BMPC provides my family and me with a welcoming community of friends and a place to grow spiritually. It would be an honor to serve as an Elder of this church and continue to grow in Christ.

Whitney Hoffman, Elder

I joined BMPC in 2007 with my husband Ted. Two of our three daughters were baptized at BMPC and all three attended the Weekday School where I served as chair of the PTA and member of the board. I have been an active member and co-chair of Y-Group, a Sunday School teacher, and member of the Children and Family Ministry Council. One of my favorite weeks each year is Vacation Bible Camp, where I have served as a group leader and volunteer for so long that I now have the pleasure of seeing my children being teen volunteers. I am currently on the Youth Ministries Council, have served on the Mission Council since 2017, and I am a new member of the Stewardship Committee. As a lifelong Presbyterian I value the role of education and mission in my faith and strive to instill those values in my own life and those of my children.

I have grown in my faith through my involvement and commitment to our church, and I look forward to continuing to serve the BMPC community in my new role as an Elder.

Carl Reynolds, Elder

My wife Jean and I became members of BMPC in 2010. Our two daughters, Sarah and Maggie, were baptized at BMPC and are graduates of the Weekday School; they are active in the children and youth ministries. Jean has served as a trustee and as the church treasurer among other roles. I have served as an usher, and I was part of the Confirmation mentoring group last year. I now serve as a member of the Eugene Bay Fund board. Our family orbits around BMPC. I would be honored to serve as an elder of our church.

Vivian Hattersley, Youth Elder

I am a junior at Radnor High School. A lifelong Presbyterian, I was baptized at BMPC in 2008 and confirmed in 2020. I am a member of the Youth Group and a junior editor of the Youth Column. I have met some of my best friends through BMPC. My older sister also served as an Elder, and I look forward to following in her footsteps and connecting further with my faith and serving the BMPC community.

Harper Hoffman, Youth Elder

I am a junior at the Baldwin School. I have been a member of the BMPC community since my baptism in 2007. Growing up, I attended the Weekday School and regularly participated in Sunday School, Children's Ministry activities, and Vacation Bible Camp. As a current member of the Youth Ministry I have volunteered as a counselor for VBC and also participated in Camp Kirkwood and Camp Johnsonburg. I am currently in my second year tutoring for the BMPC Tutoring Program. Throughout my time with the church I have actively participated in service trips and forged valuable relationships with fellow youth and adult leaders. My two sisters and I have grown up attending the church with our parents, both current members of BMPC. I am looking forward to taking this step forward in my relationship with the body of the church and with my faith.

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Bart Bastian, Trustee

My family includes my wife Jane, daughter Sara, son Peter, daughter-in-law Clare and our newest addition to our family, our grandson Emmet. Jane, Peter and I joined BMPC in 2009, and Sara was confirmed in 2010. Currently I am a board member of the BMPC Foundation, a member of the Worship Committee, and I lead the Usher and Parking Teams at BMPC. Previously I served two terms on the Board of Deacons at BMPC. My faith continues to grow through my worship and fellowship at BMPC, and I look forward to continuing my spiritual growth by serving our congregation and community as a Trustee.

Jeff Libson, Trustee

I joined BMPC in the spring of 2002, but I had been regularly attending worship services at this church with my wife Christian and our children since 1995 (there is a good story there...), as well as participating on Youth Ministry Council, teaching Confirmation classes and helping to lead several summer mission trips. Since joining the church I have served as an Elder, as a member of the Personnel Committee and as a member of a Pastor Nominating Committee. I currently serve as a member of the BMPC Foundation Board. Until recently, I also had served as Board Chair of Broad Street Ministry. Our family has been active in the life of the church. Christian is a Deacon and a long-standing member of the Sanctuary Choir, and two of our children have served as Youth Elders. Professionally, I am a corporate lawyer and have been a member of a number of boards. Spiritually, I am called to serve Christ and his church – as I deepen my faith...and look forward to serving our church as a Trustee.

Ruth J. Brader, Trustee

My husband and I joined BMPC in 1985 when we moved to the suburbs from Center City Philadelphia. I am a retired corporate lawyer. Both of our children were baptized in this church; both participated in the youth choir; and our son served as a Youth Elder. I have served the church in many capacities, starting with Children and Family Ministry Council, Youth Council, as a leader in the tutoring program, two terms on the Trustees and the BMPC Foundation board, and as a member of a church officer nominating committee. I served as a West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WePAC) volunteer for 10 years and on its board of directors for six years, including several years as board president. In 2004, I organized a BMPC supper club which existed for many years until the pandemic forced us to disband. Currently I am a member of the BMPC Hunger Committee and regularly attend an Adult Education class on Sunday mornings. My connection to BMPC is long standing, and I have a deep desire to serve this wonderful church.

Mike Giampetroni, Trustee

Our family has been associated with Bryn Mawr for over 20 years. We began attending with our relatives. We became members when our twin boys were baptized in the church 11 years ago. The community that exists within our church has provided us with the space to grow in faith together. I have been working with our youth group during our Sunday gatherings. It has been a very fulfilling time for me to sit with and listen to these young people. It dovetails well with my work in early stage venture in many ways! I have come to recognize Bryn Mawr represents many different things to the community at large, and to our members in particular. Meeting these needs daily is a staggering responsibility and to be asked to be a Trustee is humbling.



Jim Beitmann, Nominating Committee

I joined BMPC in the spring of 1983 but had already joined the Senior Choir in the spring of 1982. BMPC has been a significant part my family's life. My wife Carolyn has been a lifelong

member as have several generations before her. I am a longtime member of the Sanctuary Choir, where I currently serve as president, and I also have served as an Elder and been involved in other church activities over the years. I look forward to the experience of being a member of the Nominating Committee.

Marian Chitester, Nominating Committee

My husband Tim and I became members of BMPC in 1995, and our two daughters grew up in this church. Over the years I have served on the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team in various officer roles and have participated on the Youth Council and the Children and Family Ministry Council. I have been a Vacation Bible Camp director and teacher, a Sunday School assistant, a Y-Group member, a Deacon, and have served on an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. I am currently a member of the BMPC Hunger Committee, volunteer weekly at the Ministries Center Reception Desk, and have been a passionate co-chair of the Advent Gift Market for several years. BMPC has strengthened my faith in many ways, and it is my hope to continue my service to the church community and to help pave the way for generations to come.

Ron Gregg, Nominating Committee

I joined BMPC along with my wife Peggy in 1985. My church activities have included serving on the Senior Adult Council, Trustees, the BMPC Foundation board, and the Main Line Adult Day Center board. Through the West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WePAC), I helped a teacher build the math skills of third, fourth and fifth graders on a weekly basis for 13 years. I have served on two Associate Pastor Nominating Committees, and it would be my honor to serve on the next BMPC Nominating Committee.

Melanie Graham, Nominating Committee

My daughter Katie and I joined BMPC in 2017 after looking for a new church home. Katie was baptized the same year and has grown up enjoying Sunday School, Vacation Bible Camp, the Weekday School and the choir. My church involvement has been mostly been devoted to volunteering as a Sunday School helper from 2018 to 2022. BMPC feels like a second home to us. My faith is rooted in the belief that all people are God's children and that we grow closer to God through service. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Meg Holdsworth, Nominating Committee

I grew up in Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, where my parents met and were married, and where my two brothers and I participated in children and youth programs. I was confirmed as a youth at BMPC and rejoined the church upon my return to the Philadelphia area in the early 2000s. Though trained as an architect, I have worked most of my professional life as an IT program manager. I served as a Trustee from 2010 to 2016 and chaired the Property Committee, continuing on subsequently to work with the Property Vision Team and the

Renovation Committee for the renovation projects completed in 2021. I have been a member of the Sanctuary Choir, an enthusiastic pew hymn singer, a joyful participant in Adult Education programs and fellowship, and made my debut this past summer in the weaver's stall at the 2022 Vacation Bible Camp marketplace. BMPC has been central to my spiritual growth, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to deepen my faith through service to this community.