

**The National Presbyterian Church**

**NOMINEES FOR OFFICE**

**Fall Congregational Meeting  
October 22, 2023**

**Report of the Congregational Nominating Committee**

Chair – Elder David Detlor

Members 2024 - Annette Burgart, Scott Herndon, Serge Nya-Wandja

Members 2025 – Nancy Chapman Colb, David Dragics, Jeanne Su

**SLATE**

**Elders: Class of 2027**

- \*Nicole Austin (*Class of 2026*)
- \*Laurie Brunner (returning)
- \*Evangeline Paschal (returning)
- \*Price Roe
- \*Krista Schauer
- \*Tisha Schestopol (returning)
- \*Glenn Schmitt (returning)
- \*Joel Velasco

\*Indicates has particular skills and experience in finance, business, legal, or property matters. As per congregational policy, over 1/3 of Session should have these skills and/or experiences.

**NPC Fund for Charitable Giving Board:  
Class of 2027**

- Susan Denecke (returning)
- Teresa Roades (returning)
- Matt Grinney (Session appointment)

**Congregational Nominating Committee:  
Class of 2026**

- Patrick Burton
- Roger Coy
- Lalla Marquez

**Deacons: Class of 2027**

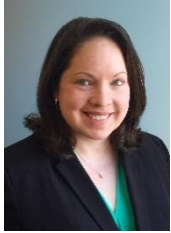
- Gretchen Asmuth (returning)
- Jennifer Cibor (returning)
- Lydia Griggsby
- Ed Stucky
- Paul Waymack (returning)
- Rhetta Vinson

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR NOMINATION**

<u>Core</u>	<u>Additional emphasis</u>
Spiritual maturity	Elder - leadership skills
Graciousness in speech and actions	Deacon - heart of compassion for others
Open-minded, capable of working harmoniously and actively in a group environment towards the mission of the group	Fund for Charitable Giving and Elder-financial and management background
Active NPC member, regular attendee and financial supporter	Congregational Nominating Committee - familiarity with NPC ministries and congregants
Evidence of willingness to serve	
Supports Biblical standards (personal, spiritual, leadership) for Christian church leaders	

## ELDER CLASS OF 2026

### Nicole Austin



I was born in Utica, New York, grew up nearby on a Christmas tree farm in Oriskany with my parents and two sisters, and lived and trained as a competitive figure skater in Massachusetts. After college, I moved to DC and now live in Falls Church, Virginia with my husband of over 15 years, Jesse Duncan, and our two sons, Wesley (8) and George (5).

*Education/Career:* I earned a Bachelor of Arts from Hamilton College and am a graduate of Stennis Center for Public Service and Wharton School leadership programs. For around a decade, I worked in public service as senior staff in the U.S. House of Representatives and at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. I also have worked in the private sector for over a decade and am currently the head of federal affairs for a national trade association.

*Spiritual Life:* My father is a lay pastor, and my mother has been a life-long Christian. In my earliest years, I attended and was baptized at Waterbury Memorial Presbyterian Church, where my father and grandfather served as elders. During grade school, I attended a non-denominational Christian school and church. I have been a Christian all my life and pray and read the Bible and a devotional at least daily, including with my husband and sons.

*NPC Activities:* I first joined NPC when Dr. Barnes served as the senior pastor and rejoined with my husband in 2018. We have attended the Parent Gathering for many years and other meetings, such as the “The Rest of the Story.” In addition to our sons participating in Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, and the Christmas Eve Family Nativity Service, our family has enjoyed serving together during events, such as making sandwiches for Martha’s Table, and joining NPC members for fellowship and prayer.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* In Genesis, God charged us with stewardship of his creation, so fulfilling this original duty – with the blessings, gifts, and opportunities God has provided – is essential, for me as an individual, for my family, and as part of NPC and the Body of Christ.

## ELDER CLASS OF 2027

### Laurie Brunner (returning)



I am a fourth generation Washingtonian and grew up in the Maryland suburbs. Today, my husband, Russ, and I live about 5 minutes from my childhood home in Potomac. I have two sons, Russell (27) and Matthew (24) – who live, work, and worship in Washington, DC.

*Education and Career:* I graduated from The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, with a degree in Forestry and Geology. I received an MBA in Marketing from The George Washington University. I have spent my career in marketing and sales, where I held senior leadership positions, working for professional services firms. I now have my own consulting firm and guide early-stage businesses seeking strategic growth and impact. I also serve on the Boards of several faith-based organizations.

*Spiritual Life:* Russ and I began regularly attending National in 1990 and became members in 1992. Russell and Matthew participated in the Youth Program. I grew up at Fourth Presbyterian Church, attended Sunday School and was active in the Youth Program. Dr. Richard Halverson and Rev. Jim Bryne were early influences in my Christian life, as was my mother, Eleanor Keyser, who wonderfully modeled how to live a faithful life. I nurture my faith through a small group Bible study and find encouragement serving faith-driven business organizations seeking to make Kingdom impact.

*NPC Activities:* For several years, I taught Sunday School. I have been blessed to be a Stephen Minister, serve in the Flower Ministry, chair NPC Stewardship, and am on the Board of the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving.

*Thoughts on Stewardship:* All that we have is from the Lord. He has equipped each of us with gifts to do His good work. With grateful hearts, stewardship is the opportunity to generously share our gifts and treasures with others for God's glory. What a joy it is to live and serve in His world, reflecting His grace and love!

### **Evangeline Paschal (returning)**



I was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. I have lived in Washington, D.C. for 28 years. I currently live on Capitol Hill with my husband William, a small business owner.

*Education/Career:* I received my undergraduate degree in public policy from Stanford University. I received a Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas and a law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. For the past 28 years, I have practiced law in Washington, D.C. I work at Hunton Andrews Kurth, LLC, where I practice commercial litigation, with a specialty in class action defense.

*Spiritual Life:* I grew up Baptist and attended church regularly. My parents instilled in me the importance of prayer and making my faith a part of my everyday life. They also taught me the importance of Christian service, studying the Bible, and learning about church history. I formally accepted Christ as my savior and was baptized when I was nine years old. In college, I was active in Campus Crusade the Christ (now Cru), which illustrated for me the blessing of Christian fellowship and key role that devotional time can play in my spiritual life.

*NPC Activities:* I joined NPC in 2016, although I had been regularly attending for a couple of years before becoming a member. My first involvement at NPC beyond attending services was participating in Quinn Fox's book studies, which convinced me that I had found a home at NPC. After becoming a member, I participated in NPC's mission trip to the Dominican Republic and fell in love with missions work. I am currently completing my first three-year term as an Elder. I have served on the International Missions Committee for six years and currently serve as the Chair and member of the Serve Council. I have a heart for international missions because it unites three key biblical commands for Christian service: caring for the vulnerable, building up the global church, and proclaiming Jesus as Lord and Savior.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* I see stewardship as part of our corporate covenant to share our time, treasure, and talent. But I also see stewardship as an important part of my spiritual life, namely, to make sure that my actions, decisions, and thoughts are guided by my faith and honor God.

### **Price Roe**



I'm a native Texan, born and raised in Houston.

*Education/Career:* I attended Colgate University in Hamilton, NY and majored in history. After college, I worked as a management consultant before attending Harvard Business School. I moved to Washington after the 9-11 terrorist attacks to work for the federal government in national security.

*Spiritual Life:* I come from a long line of faithful Christians on both sides of my family. My sister, brother, and I attended worship and Sunday school every Sunday in Houston with my parents at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, where we were all baptized. I came to know and love Christ during the confirmation process as a teenager, and I have been building on my relationship with Christ ever since as I travel on my

personal faith journey. NPC has been an essential part of my and my family's life ever since we joined in 2003. Both of our boys were baptized here and have grown up in the church.

*NPC Activities:* We attend worship every Sunday—including via Zoom when we travel—and my wife and I regularly attend adult Sunday School while our boys participate in the youth program. I previously served as an elder but my term was cut short when we moved to Hong Kong in 2013. Now that we're back, I'm excited and blessed by the opportunity to serve again.

### **Krista Schauer**



I was born in Greenville, SC; grew up in Atlanta, Ga.

*Education/Career:* I graduated with a BArch from Auburn University in 1989 with a double minor in art and interior design. I moved to DC to start a new job with KressCox in Georgetown to work on the World Bank headquarters. From there I worked for Florance, Eichbaum, Esocoff, King on the Fish & Wildlife Training center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. I changed directions to residential at Muse Weideman Architects, later to become Muse Architects, where I worked for 4 years. Once married, we moved to Maine for 2 years for my husband's, David, work and starting a family. We had 3 boys in 6 years. During that time, I started my own practice of architecture.

*Spiritual Life:* I grew up in an Episcopal church that became part of the evangelical Episcopal movement with great influence from my cousins' church, the First Baptist church of Atlanta led by Dr. Charles Stanley. When I moved to DC I found my home church in Washington Community Fellowship on Capitol Hill, a multid denominational church started by Mennonites who had a vision to minister to the powerful and the powerless in DC. Marriage and motherhood have been the greatest catalyst for growth in my relationship with Jesus. I also have a covenant group of women that meet once a week for study and prayer for 23 years! I attend the Georgetown Women's Bible Study, part of small group at NPC, and meet with a group of mothers and daughters with Community Bible Study. I am also on the FOCUS ministry's area steering committee. I start most days with a quiet time with my Lord, and I think of prayer without seizing as my ultimate state of being.

*NPC Activities:* We started attending NPC in 2002 because we wanted a solid church community close to us so we could be involved more often than Sunday mornings. We became members approximately 12 years ago. I have enjoyed being part of the children's Sunday School when my children were young, the youth ministry as they grew older and now the Women's Ministry. Once a week, I work with a student at the Unique Learning Center. I enjoy one on one mentoring/encouragement and I enjoy hospitality.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* When it comes to stewardship, I am often reminded of Jesus's words to Peter when he asks him 3 times do you love me? Then he tells Peter, feed my sheep. We are to care for one another, encourage one another, and grow with one another in our Christian walk. Stewardship personally means understanding everything I have belongs to God, including but not limited to, meaningful work, healthy body and mind, and family that he has put under my care.

## **Tisha Schestopol (returning)**



I was born in Decatur, Alabama. I grew up primarily in Houston, Texas and Huntsville, Alabama with some time spent in South Carolina and abroad in Algeria.

*Education/Career:* I attended college at Emory University and law school at George Washington University. I currently practice FDA and health care regulatory law at a global law firm.

*Spiritual Life:* I was raised in the Baptist church going to Sunday school, VBS, and church camp. Growing up in the South, church and church life are a part of the social fabric. Though I cannot remember a time when Jesus wasn't a part of my life, I publicly professed my faith and was baptized on my 13th birthday. I continue to grow and be grown spiritually through participation in the life of NPC including Sunday School, Children's ministry, and small groups.

*NPC Activities:* I began attending NPC in 2002, when I moved to Washington to attend law school. My husband and I became members in 2006, and our three children were baptized at NPC. Throughout our time at NPC, I have been involved in Sunday School, Children's Ministry, the Family Ministry, Women's Ministry, and Small Group activities. I was honored to serve on the Strategic Planning Team in 2013-14 and the Connections Committee in earlier years. I have also volunteered for Children's/Family Ministry activities, served as a table facilitator in various capacities, and currently serve on Session. The ministry I enjoy most is that which is most personal and relational, whether it is in a small group, at a retreat, or in the hallways around the church campus.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* Giving of our time, talent, and treasure provides us with an opportunity to contribute to NPC, the community in which we hope our family and others will experience and be led into a growing relationship with Christ. Giving of each of those allows us to act on God's promise that He can meet all of our needs.

## **Glenn Schmitt**



I was born in Indianapolis, but grew up in Terre Haute, Indiana after my parents moved there when I was four.

*Education/Career:* I attended Indiana State University, where I majored in political science and music performance, and then law school at Notre Dame. I began my law career at a large firm in Cleveland, but after six years, felt a call to public service. I left the firm to pursue a Master's degree in Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. I then came to Washington spending the last 29 years in public service, first as a lawyer for the House Judiciary Committee, then in the Justice Department, and for the last 17 years at the U.S. Sentencing Commission, a part of the Judicial Branch. During that time I also served for 25 years in the Army Reserve, where I earned a Master's degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College.

*Spiritual Life:* I grew up in a Presbyterian church, where my mother was an elder and my father a trustee. I began attending NPC shortly after I moved to Washington in 1994 and joined in 1998. My wife began attending with me after we married by Rev. Junior McGarrahan, and our daughter was baptized and confirmed at NPC. My faith is central to who I am.

*NPC Activities:* I've been active in the Stephen Ministry program for over 20 years, and am most drawn to a one-on-one style of ministry, but I co-chair the Military Ministry program and play in the NPC Band. I have served on four pastor nominating committees, mostly recently co-chairing the PNC that nominated Dr. Hylton. I have also served on Session.



*Thoughts on Stewardship:* Stewardship is vital to the church’s existence but, more importantly, is an expression of thankfulness for all the blessings God has given us. One of the ways we evangelize to the world is by sustaining the work of Christ’s church.

## **Joel Velasco**



I was born in Jackson, Mississippi—while my father attended seminary—, and grew up in Brazil before moving to Virginia for school and later to D.C. for work.

*Education/Career:* I graduated from a small Liberal Arts, and Presbyterian Church (USA)-affiliated college, Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. College internships ignited an interest in politics and public service, bringing me to Washington. After an initial stint in government and graduate school at Georgetown, I have worked in the private sector in and around international government relations.

*Spiritual Life:* I am a lifelong Presbyterian—born while my father was in seminary—and the grandson of Presbyterian missionaries to Brazil. While I cannot think of an extended period in my life when I was not “attending church” on Sundays, what brings me peace is knowing God has been with me every day of the week.

*NPC Activities:* My wife, Bethany, and I have been members of NPC for well over a decade. Our two boys, Lucas (18) and James (15), attended National Presbyterian School and have participated in Youth activities as our schedules allow. Bethany loves to “teach” (her quotes) the two- and three-year-olds on Sunday morning and, with me, has been involved in parent gatherings. I served on the recent Pastor Nominating Committee and currently serve on the Youth Committee.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* God gives us many gifts, and it is only fitting that we use them to serve and glorify Him.

## **DEACON CLASS OF 2027**

### **Gretchen Asmuth (returning)**



I was born and raised in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Our family lived first in Darien, then in Wilton. I moved to DC in 1979 and soon began attending NPC. I joined in 1983 when Louis Evans was senior pastor. My wonderful son and daughter were baptized and raised at NPC and also live in DC.

*Education and Career:* I graduated from the University of Connecticut, majoring in French and education. My junior year I attended the University of Rouen in France. After moving to DC I earned my Master's in Library Science from Catholic University of America. I had a rewarding 35-year career as a law librarian at the firm of K&L Gates and retired in 2017.

*Spiritual Life:* My siblings and I were baptized and raised Presbyterian. Throughout my years of membership I have been inspired and led by numerous pastors and mature Christian friends at NPC and have sought to faithfully attend worship, study scripture, do daily devotions, pray frequently and contribute my time, talents and treasure. My faith in Christ has strengthened and deepened with each passing year.

*NPC Activities:* Completing my first term as deacon it has been a joy to serve as moderator. It is a privilege and honor to lead and collaborate with NPC’s talented, enthusiastic and loving board of deacons. As elder I served two terms on Session under Drs. Erickson and Icenogle. I am an active Stephen Minister and have also been involved with children's and women's ministries and the library and archives.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* I believe in giving my time generously to my church family through personal relationships, classes, service projects and many ministry areas, including music. My trust in the Lord's provision urges me to give until it hurts especially since my paychecks ceased with retirement. As I've come to understand my gifts and talents I feel increasingly comfortable giving of myself as the Lord leads.

### **Jennifer Cibor (returning)**



I was born in Elkhart, Indiana where I also spent my early childhood and then moved nearby to Middlebury, IN where I lived until I attended college. My mother and father are wonderful loving Christian parents. I have two sons (both in high school) and one stepson.

*Education/Career:* I attended Indiana University in Bloomington, IN where I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Business. Upon graduation I moved to Chicago, IL to work for Otis Elevator and obtain an MBA from DePaul University. After obtaining my MBA I moved to the Washington DC area to work for an educational consulting and publication firm and then later returned to Otis-DC as a Service Sales Manager. I am an Office Administrator for DeMatha Catholic High School's Department of Music and a full-time mom, I teach yoga, and volunteer for various groups and organizations.

*Spiritual Life:* My parents raised us in the Presbyterian Church. I was fortunate to be raised in the church where my grandparents were also active members. I was baptized and confirmed at First Presbyterian Church in Elkhart along with my twin brother. My mother taught some of our Sunday School classes over the years. I have attended Presbyterian churches in the various places I have lived, Fourth Presbyterian in Chicago, Old Town Presbyterian Meeting House, and, after moving to MD and searching for a spiritual home in the DC/MD area, I found NPC where I became a member in 2014.

*NPC Activities:* My activities at NPC have included serving as a current deacon (2020-2023), teaching Sunday School for our Youth, volunteering for various needs within the church community (substitute teaching, Great Day of Service, Sandwich-making, facilitating parent classes, assisting with Youth activities, etc.). I have been a member of several Adult Sunday School classes over the years and have attended special events and guest speaker presentations at NPC. In addition to providing opportunities for deep spiritual growth, the various activities at NPC have helped me feel connected to and a part of the NPC community.

*Thoughts About Stewardship:* My personal belief on Stewardship is that of responsibly and ethically utilizing one's talents, resources, and gifts to help lift others up and to care for one another. Stewardship can take many forms but what first comes to mind is living a prayerful life, acts of kindness, listening and responding to the needs of others, and to live by exemplifying the spirit of Christianity.

### **Lydia Griggsby**



I was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland.

*Education/Career:* I was sworn in as a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland on July 23, 2021. Prior to my confirmation, I served as a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims since December 5, 2014. I am a graduate of the Park School of Baltimore. I earned a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. in public policy political science from the University of Pennsylvania.

*Spiritual Life:* My parents were both public school educators and people of faith. My mother served as an Elder and Deacon at Trinity Presbyterian Church and Lochearn Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Maryland. My father is a classically trained musician. He has served as the organist for several churches in Baltimore and he now

regularly attends services at NPC virtually. I have five godchildren. I am a life-long Presbyterian who was raised in a Christian home. I regularly attended Church as a child and I was confirmed in the Presbyterian Church at the age of 14. My relationship with Christ has always been center of my life. I attend bible study at NPC; spend time reading scripture daily; and look for opportunities to fellowship with other Christians.

*NPC Activities:* I have regularly attended NPC since 2017 and I joined the Church in 2018. I initially came to the Church to attend a concert. I was attracted to NPC's Adult Sunday School program. At NPC I am involved in Adult Sunday School; Lenten Small Groups; Greeter. Previously, I was a Trustee at Northeastern Presbyterian Church and Youth Group Leader at Lochearn Presbyterian Church. I enjoy anything involving service to others. Service is my joy. Galatians 5:13, "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* Stewardship is an essential part of the life of NPC, because stewardship provides an opportunity for members of the Church community to use their gifts and talents to fulfill the mission of the Church. My personal stewardship of resources, time and talent allows me to honor God by giving back a portion of his abundant blessings in my life to the Church and the broader community.

## **Ed Stucky**



I was born, and grew up, in Wichita, Kansas.

*Education/Career:* I graduated from the University of Kansas in 1979 and moved to Washington DC to work for Senator Dole. In 1980, I went to work for the Reagan Administration, after which I advised companies on public and economic policy. In 2009, I formed Republic Capital Access, a commercial finance company for government contractors. I have served on numerous nonprofit boards including the Mid-Atlantic Operation Hope Board, Kua Ventures Investment Committee and the RAM Veterans Foundation.

*Spiritual Life:* At thirteen, I was baptized in the Mennonite Church. Like most families, my wife, children, and I all have unique relationships with God. As adults, that relationship continues to develop guided by Jesus's two great commandments. For much of my life I was a Christian more out of tradition rather than faith. I cannot point to a specific event that led me to Christ. It has been a gradual progression over the last twenty years fueled by a deeper study of what it means to follow Christ. My wife, Lisa, and I are active church attendees and eager participants in a variety of service projects. One of the most important ways I grow spiritually is by participating in prison ministry.

*NPC Activities:* We have been attending NPC for about 15 years. At that time, we were looking for a new church home, attended a service at NPC, and knew that we had found our home. I have been on the Board of the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving and an usher. Recently, Lisa and I moderated the Alpha Marriage Course. The most enjoyable ministry for me is prison ministry. The Holy Spirit working in prison is like nothing else.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* As a follower of Jesus, stewardship, in my opinion, is participation in the flourishing of God's kingdom on earth. Nothing is more important to the life of NPC, and spiritual growth, than participation in God's kingdom.



## Paul Waymack



I was born in Richmond VA and grew up in Richmond, Northern New Jersey, and Northern Virginia.

*Education/Career:* I received a bachelor of sciences degree from Virginia Tech, a doctor of medicine from the Medical College of Virginia, and a doctor of sciences from the University of Cincinnati. I completed a general surgery residency at the University of Cincinnati. I have served as the director of surgical studies at the U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research, and as an associate professor of surgery at the University of Texas and at the New Jersey School of Medicine and Dentistry. I subsequently was a medical officer at the FDA, and the chairman of the board of Kitov Pharmaceuticals. Now, I am the senior chief medical officer at Moleculin Biotech.

*Spiritual Life:* Both of my parents were members of the Disciples of Christ Church. I was initially brought up in that church but switched to the Presbyterian Church over 50 years ago. I have always been a member of a church since I was 14 years of age. Despite many trials and challenges, I have never lost faith and have relied upon the Holy Spirit for support during the many trips through various deep and dark valleys I have traversed. I attend worship service whenever I am in town, which is less than I desire. I read the Bible and review the various sermon notes that have been distributed, especially by David Renwick.

*NPC Activities:* I have attended since I left New Jersey and moved to DC in 1997. I have taught Sunday School and was a deacon from 2016 to 2022, including being the head deacon for the Washington region. I greatly enjoyed being a deacon, which is why when Gretchen asked to return and assist her, I said yes.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* Stewardship is best expressed by the phrase, “of whom much is given, much is expected.”

## Rhetta Vinson



I am a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Washingtonian, currently living in Silver Spring, MD.

*Education/Career:* I majored in broadcast journalism at Howard University and then moved to New York to attend Columbia University’s Graduate School of Business where I earned an MBA with a concentration in marketing. I have worked in national advertising for leading magazine and newspaper publishers and broadcast media companies in the New York area. I lived in Stamford/Darien CT for 30 years where I raised my family. I now work in nonprofit donor development in marketing and communications for the Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington.

*Spiritual Life:* My parents were active members of Simpson Hamline United Methodist Church and People’s Congregational Church. My personal faith journey began as an active member of a church youth group. As an adult, I joined the First Presbyterian Church in Stamford, CT and later Noroton Presbyterian Church in Darien, CT. I served as a Deacon and my three children participated in Sunday school, Vacation Bible School and Christian youth retreats.

*NPC Activities:* As an adult, my daughter attended National Presbyterian Church as a student at American University’s Washington College of Law in 2015. I started attending NPC in 2018 and became a member 2022. I enjoyed the fellowship and learning in adult Sunday school classes especially one entitled, Race and Reconciliation. I currently participate in a small prayer group. So far my most enjoyable kind of ministry is delivering sunny flowers to senior citizens, who are shut-ins.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* The most meaningful aspect about my stewardship in the life of NPC is to continue developing a strong spiritual life so I can demonstrate and model God’s love for all his children. I look forward to learning how to share his grace and mercy with whatever strengths, talents, knowledge, resources and gifts that I have.

## **NPC FUND FOR CHARITABLE GIVING BOARD: CLASS OF 2027**

### **Susan Denecke (returning)**



I was born in Washington D.C. My brother and I were raised by our parents, Harry and Louise Pinckernell, in Potomac, MD. I have also lived in California and Boston. I am married and we’re raising our 2 kids (teenagers) in a home about 2.5 miles from where I grew up.

*Education and Career:* I graduated from Vanderbilt University with a BA in Psychology and Boston University with an MBA with a concentration in Health Care Management. I returned to Johns Hopkins University and earned my BSN. I have worked in a variety of health care settings and hospitals in management and as an RN at the bedside. Currently, I am working in real estate management.

*Spiritual Life:* I was raised going to NPC where my parents were both very involved in countless ways. Our faith was so much a part of our family foundation, it was like breathing – it was just a natural part of us. My husband I were married here at NPC and we are raising our children here.

*NPC Activities:* Having grown up at NPC, I have done many things. When I was a kid, helping with the Church Bazaar was the most memorable (the haunted house in the attic of the now National Pres School!). In recent years, I have helped in the Sunday School, been a Deacon, assisted with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, and am now part of the Library Committee. I also enjoy doing the Sunday Sandwich Making in Stone Hall with my family.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* I think that through stewardship we are all able to give to the greater good and show God’s greatest gifts to others. Through our working together, with the unique strengths that God has given each of us, we can make a better world for us and for our children.

### **Teresa Rodes (returning)**



I was born and raised in Pensacola, Florida.

*Education/Career:* I graduated from Florida State University with degrees in Accounting and Finance and am a Certified Public Accountant. After working in public accounting and within a public utility company’s Corporate Planning and Development and Corporate Finance Departments, I worked for JPMorgan’s Investment Bank as a Vice President advising power and pipeline companies on capital raising, mergers and corporate finance.

Following the birth of our daughters, I worked on a project basis providing financial analysis and due diligence support to investment banking and power generation clients.

*Spiritual Life:* My parents led our family by example with their strong Christian faith as active members of the First Baptist Church of Pensacola. I am blessed that I was able to establish the foundation of my relationship with Christ within the youth programs of FBC and a neighborhood Presbyterian church. When we moved to the DC area in 2007, my husband and I were delighted to find a home at NPC that included a broad children’s and youth ministry as a foundation of growth for our daughters. We joined NPC in 2008, but moved to Coral Gables, Florida

in 2015, and attend Old Cutler Presbyterian Church here in South Florida. We still connect and serve with NPC whenever possible.

*NPC Activities:* When we lived in the DC area, I supported NPC’s children’s ministries with preschool Sunday school and other activities, and then joined the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving in 2013. Since then, I have served as a Board member of the NPC Fund and non-Board officer, including acting as the Vice President of Finance and Chair of the Investment Committee since 2015.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* Stewardship, through sharing of gifts and talents, is essential to NPC’s ministries, including outreach and is an important part of a personal spiritual commitment.

### **Matt Grinney**



I was born in Houston, TX, and raised in Fairfax, VA, the youngest of six children between my mother and step-father. My wife, Marta Thompson, and I live in Woodley Park with our two daughters (Emerson and Grace) and son (Leo).

*Education and Career:* I studied political science, with a focus on political theory, and received a BA from Emory University and, a few years later, an MA from UT-Austin. For several years, I worked in various speechwriting roles in and around politics. Along the way, I received an MBA from UVA, and I’m now a lobbyist at a financial services trade association.

*Spiritual Life:* I was baptized at First Presbyterian Church in Houston and grew up attending an Episcopal church in Fairfax where my mother and step-father were actively engaged. By late high school, a combination of apathy and doubts led me to drift away from the church and my spiritual life. All that changed in the summer of 2021 following the birth of our second daughter, Grace, and a surprise encounter with C.S. Lewis’ *Mere Christianity*. We arrived at NPC in December 2022, and in May 2023, all three of our children were baptized by Rev. Allan Poole.

*NPC Activities:* The Parents Gathering was one of the many features of life at NPC that drew me to this congregation. It is an incredible source of fellowship, friendship, and practical advice about raising children. My family very much enjoyed the “summer of service” projects. They were excellent opportunities not only to serve our neighbors, but also to show our children one way that we can live as Jesus taught.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* Stewardship is what we owe as the undeserving beneficiaries of God’s grace and abundant love. The blessings we enjoy in life are not ours but are gifts from God. Our duty is to share these blessings with, and reflect God’s merciful love to, all those around us.

## **CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CLASS OF 2026**

### **Patrick Burton**



I was “PK” (preacher’s kid) born and raised in central Ohio. As a teenager, my future brother-in-law was part of a Nominating Committee that brought my father to our Baptist church in Mansfield, Ohio where I first met my wife, Debra (Deacon class of ’25). This is one of many times I’ve seen God’s guiding hand in my life.

*Education/Career:* I enlisted in the Army and was recruited to West Point, where I graduated with honors, earning a BS in Systems Engineering. After 10 years in uniform, I left the service as a Captain in 18th Airborne Corps. While finishing my MS at University

of Maryland, I joined The Washington Post. I've worked at The Post for 27 years now as Engineering Director and recently was interim CTO. I also have an MBA from The Ohio State University.

*Spiritual Life:* Christianity was integral to my family life growing up and I've had a relationship with Christ as my savior since childhood. But it took time as a young adult to make this faith my own – not simply the one I inherited. At times disappointed by others or the church, I came to internalize the lesson that people are flawed and sometimes let you down – but God never does. My faith is rooted in these scriptures: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” ...“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith.”

*NPC Activities:* Debra and I sought a DC church home as we started our family, and we became NPC members in 2004. We've raised our two daughters, Price and Storey, here - occasionally volunteering to assist in children's church activities. For the past 5-6 years, I have served on the Youth Committee, while also hosting small groups, and cooking many meals for the youth group which I've enjoyed very much.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* I especially appreciate when a Church meets people where they are – creating space for them to worship, fellowship, learn, grow, and also serve. I've both benefitted and worked to contribute to this quality of NPC. We're not all the same – and we have different gifts to help NPC's ministry in big or small ways. Fostering opportunities for people to serve in their own way is a special aspect of NPC Stewardship.

## **Roger Coy**



I was born in New York City and at a young age, my parents moved to Westchester County, about 35 – 40 minutes north of NYC. I remained in Westchester County through high school.

*Education/Career:* Amherst College: Amherst, Mass., Bachelor of Arts, Political Science. Columbia University: New York, NY, Master of Business Administration, Finance and Marketing. I began my career on Wall Street with JP Morgan Chase and later joined Lehman Brothers and transitioned my career into investment banking. I currently create and manage marketing and business development activities and strategies for portions of the US and Europe for an international law firm based in Washington DC.

*Spiritual Life:* My parents were strong believers and made sure my two younger brothers and I were brought up in a church that emphasized biblical teaching. I came to know Christ as a single person living in New York City. After experiencing professional challenges, I discovered that while blessed with good friends and colleagues who were supportive and encouraging, the only comfort, solace and breakthroughs I really achieved was when I gave my hope and trust to Jesus. I do my best to ensure spiritual growth through regular attendance at NPC. I try to read the Bible as consistently as possible, especially in conjunction with following and recording the teachings of few pastors that I regularly watch on television and whose website I review, in particular the late Dr. Charles Stanley's InTouch ministries, based in Atlanta, GA.

*NPC Activities:* I am currently a member of the Men's Ministry and assist my ministry colleagues in preparing breakfast for the monthly meetings. I have assisted my wife, Annette Quick, on occasion with her activities in the Wedding Ministry and have helped the Flower Ministry with putting up the Christmas decorations on various building on the NPC campus. I am also a participant at the monthly sandwich making activities in Stone Hall.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* The act of stewardship should be of primary importance in the spiritual life of every NPC member for any number of reasons. While the rewards can be tangible and evident, the intangible rewards are longer lasting and tend to build upon themselves to create a stronger and longer lasting inner core of spirituality. I'm not certain why it happens, but it does: by doing good for NPC, you become stronger in your faith and want to embrace the tenets and principals of what NPC stands for even more.

## Lalla Marquez



I was born in Labrador, Canada where my father was the minister to a small congregation. I have lived in Washington, DC since 2004. My husband, Diego, and I have two elementary school aged children, Lucy and Mateo.

*Education/Career:* I attended Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina where I received a B.S. in Psychology. I also have received a M.Ed. in Elementary Education from The George Washington University. This is my 15th year as a 4th grade teacher in DC public schools.

*Spiritual Life:* The church has always been a part of my life. Being the child of a Presbyterian minister, I have never known a time when faith and the church weren't central to my life. My parents, David and Currie Renwick, played an important role in my spiritual growth with their example of what it means to give your life to God. Reading Bible stories with my children, answering their questions, and listening to their thoughts has more recently added to my own spiritual growth. I also believe prayer to be an important part of my spiritual growth as well.

*NPC Activities:* My husband and I attended the marriage class at National many years ago and after hearing Earl Palmer preach, realized that National would be a good church home for us. We have been members for close to 15 years. I have previously been a 5th grade Sunday School teacher and a substitute Sunday School teacher as well. I attend the parent gathering on Sundays. These gatherings have been a wonderful way to connect with other families. I also love volunteering with Vacation Bible School each year. My favorite kind of ministry is anything where people of all ages are together.

*Thoughts about Stewardship:* I believe everything we have comes from God and that God calls us to use our gifts and blessings to honor and serve Him.