

Deacons ~ Class of 2027



Sarah King

My name is Sarah King. I have been a member of FPC for eight years. I work part time as a hair stylist in Johnson City. My husband Matt and I have two kids. Mason is 11 and Lillian is 6 years old.



Greta Robinette

Greta joined FPC in 2000. She is from an Army family and has nine siblings. Greta has four degrees in Nursing and is currently Systems Clinical Educator, responsible for education and competency for ER nurses in Hancock County, Hawkins County, Indian Path Hospital, and Ballad Health, Kingsport. She has two children and five grandchildren: Wes (age 37) - his children are Gemma (13), Kelton (4), and Elijah (3); and Kelli (age 35) - her children are Palmer (5) and Hudson (15 months). She has no spare time, but likes to read and walk for exercise!



Cindy Sharitt

Cindy is one of the "Six Dixon kids." She grew up in Bethel Presbyterian Church and joined FPC in 2014. Cindy is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in private practice. She has three children: Carrie Ann (age 33), Grand Rapids, MI; Harrison (age 33), Nashville; and Hayden (age 27), Nashville. Cindy likes to read, travel, flower garden, and is active in the "Big Sister" program.

Profiles of **Slate of Officers**

proposed by
Nominating Committee

August 2025



First Presbyterian Church
Kingsport, Tennessee

Elders ~ Class of 2028



Wesley Combs

Wesley lives in Kingsport with his wife, Rebecca, and their two daughters, Eleanor and Lylah. He works in technology and artificial intelligence, building tools designed to serve people in meaningful ways. Wesley is especially interested in how the Church can thoughtfully use emerging technologies like AI to help more people connect with God and experience His presence in their daily lives.



Candi Harker

Hi! I am Candi Harker. I came to First Presbyterian when our daughter was 18 months old; she is now 27. I am married to my husband, Orris, since 1993 and we have two grown children Jordan and Duncan. I am a cosmetology teacher at West Ridge High School. I love everything Disney and I am obsessed with my fur babies.



Julianna King

My name is Julianna King. I am originally from Columbia, SC. I met my husband, Alex in 2011 and we have been married for 12 years this December. We have made Kingsport our home (he was born and raised here). We have two beautiful children, Peyton, age 11, and Nolan, age 6. I work at Eastman Credit Union in Mortgage. During my free time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends as well as baking. I'm excited for the opportunity to serve as Elder for First Pres.



Larry Maston

My name is Larry Maston. I am a retired CPA and corporate executive. My wife, Barbara, and I have been married for 53 years and have two children and two grandchildren. Both of us were raised in the Presbyterian church and have been members in various Presbyterian churches our entire lives. We are active in a number of church and community efforts to serve those in need.



Daniel Robertson

My name is Daniel Robertson, and I grew up in the Methodist church in rural Western Kentucky. My career has been focused on chemical manufacturing at Eastman since moving to the Tri-Cities in 2008. My wife Natalie and I have two children: Caleb and Henry. Our family spends every minute of free time boating and swimming in Patrick Henry Lake!



Kathy Ruffel

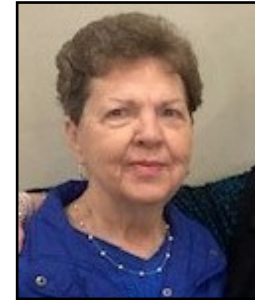
My name is Kathy Ruffel. I was born outside of New York City. My father was a Northern Baptist minister/missionary. My working career focused on the elderly as a medical social worker, administrator, and in human resources. For over 35 years I had been involved with a Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania, singing in the choir, serving as a deacon elder and clerk of session until we moved to Tennessee in 2015. My husband Alan and I just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We have two children and six grandchildren.

Elder ~ Class of 2025



Paul Smith

My name is Paul Smith. My wife, Debra, and I have been members at FPC since 1988 and we have four children and five grandchildren. I like to garden, ride bikes, hike, and especially enjoy playing stringband music.



Judy Cox

Judy is a retired educator from Western North Carolina. She and her daughter Jeanne moved to Tennessee in 2022 after her husband of 54 years passed away. She transferred membership from Trinity Presbyterian in Asheville, NC. Judy's interests are reaching out to help elderly people, keeping in touch with friends and reading.



Jamie Davis

My name is Jamie Davis. I grew up in the Presbyterian church in Church Hill. I have lived in a variety of places and been involved in a variety of churches before coming back "home" to FPC. I am a retired high school and college math and science teacher. I have two sons and one granddaughter. Yard work and yard art is my passion.



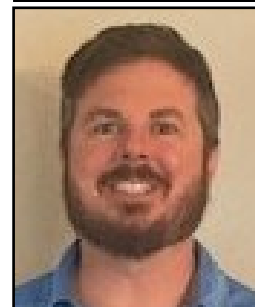
Mark Davis

Mark retired as Director of Music Ministry in August of 2024 after over 18 years of service. He and his recently deceased wife, Susan, joined First Presbyterian in 2006. He continues to worship and serve with us while training singers in his Master's Voice Studio hosted both here and at Central Presbyterian in Bristol, Virginia. Mark enjoys traveling, especially to participate in the busy lives of his three grown children and eight dynamic grandchildren. He is both humbled and blessed to be called to serve this family of faith as a deacon.



Ella Deakins

My name is Ella Deakins. I was born in Scott County, Virginia, and graduated from Rye Cove High School. I worked at Kingsport Press for 18 years. My husband Lynn Deakins is deceased but was raised up in FPC. I have one son, two granddaughters, and a great-granddaughter who is a joy. I enjoy traveling, reading, golf, plus walking. I joined FPC in 2000 after moving back to Kingsport from living in Brentwood, Tennessee, for 13 years.



Alex King

My name is Alex King. I am a Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor for the State of Tennessee. My wife Julianna and I have two children. When I am not working, I love spending time with family and friends.

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