

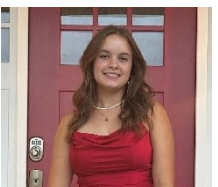
### NOMINEES FOR RULING ELDER



**KATE GILCHRIST** is a member of FPCA and a 15-year-old sophomore at Parkland High School. She is a classically trained opera singer who loves to sing about anything. She sings in Parkland's Chorale, sang in the Bel Canto Youth Chorus of the Bach Choir of Bethlehem for eight years, and has been a soloist with the Allentown Symphony Orchestra. Kate is a strong student with a diverse set of interests, including fashion design, science projects, and literary magazine. She also plays the piano, is on her school's varsity tennis team and enjoys skiing with her cousins. Kate's faith is enriched at FPCA by its open-mindedness and receptive environment that invites all persons to welcome Jesus into their hearts. She is excited to be a Youth Elder.



**SCOTT GRADWELL** has been a Periodontist for the past 33 years in the Lehigh Valley and has had a teaching position on staff at LVHN for 32 years. He has been a member of FPCA for 32 years where he had taught Sunday School for 15 years. He previously served as an Elder on Session for three years. He participates in food preparation for Daybreak at the Lehigh Conference of Churches. He also started a dental clinic in Malawi, Africa in 2016 and returns yearly to provide surgical procedures in the outlying villages. He has three adult children and enjoys participating in their lives. He enjoys cooking, traveling, skiing and spending time on his farm tending to farm animals and gardening. He hopes that his business background will be an asset to Session. He looks forward to serving the Lord as an active Elder.



**KATHERINE GRUM** is a member of FPCA and a junior at Southern Lehigh High School. She is a member of the high school Girls' Tennis team. She also plays ice hockey for the Lehigh Valley Phantoms Youth Girls' Team. Katherine runs Aavidum, a mental health group at school. She also volunteers with Special Hockey of the Lehigh Valley.



**SUSAN KELLER** has been a member of FPCA for 20 years. She has served as an usher and, most recently, as a Greeter Captain. She has served communion and worked as a front desk volunteer in the Church Office. For the last six years as a Deacon, Susan has served in the roles of Secretary, Vice Moderator and Moderator. She has worked on various Deacon-sponsored projects, including the Food and Gift Card collections for needy families, headed the Hospitalization Team and provided Pastoral Care Assistance for elderly members. She also volunteered as the secretary for the Mission Team. In her free time, Susan enjoys traveling, reading, doing crossword puzzles, playing bridge and shopping for her collectible collections.



**BOB MILLER** and his wife, Millie, have been members of FPCA since 1980 when they were married by the Rev. Bill Barker. They welcomed their first child, Stephen, in 1981 and their second in 1983. Both were baptized here and benefitted from all of the youth programs that FPCA had to offer. Bob has been involved in Youth Club, Junior High and Senior High Fellowship, Choir Tours, lock-ins, the Sexuality Retreats and has ushered and served communion. He also previously served one term on Session. He is a graduate of Wyoming Valley High West High School and Wilkes College. He is presently employed by Brown and Brown Insurance as a Senior Vice President, tasked with production, service and renewal of Commercial Accounts. Bob's hobbies include spending quality time with family, which includes, in addition to Millie, Stephen, and Katie, a son-in-law, daughter-in-law and five grandchildren. He also enjoys weightlifting, working in the yard, enjoying time at Lake Wallenpaupack and vacationing in a "warm" climate, particularly during the winter.



**LAURA RABENOLD** has been a member of FPCA since 1986. A retired music teacher, Laura has served in various capacities as a church musician, including on staff for 15 years at FPCA leading various choirs. She has served as a Stephen Minister, plays piano frequently for Arabic worship services, participates in Thursday morning Bible Study, and belongs to a small group. She and her husband, Nelson, have two grown children and three grandchildren.



**ERICA SIMMONS** is a lifelong member of FPCA. She has been involved in faith formation in many ways over the years and currently teaches the 3-5 class and serves on the Faith Formation Team. She is a school counselor at Sheridan Elementary School in the Allentown School District. She is married to Mark Simmons whom she met in confirmation class here at the church almost 30 years ago, and they have two children, Lexie(14) and Connor (9). Erica loves to run and to teach and practice yoga.



**AARON WILCOXSON** has attended FPCA since 1969 and became a member by baptism in 2009. He has been married to Karen McGuinness since 1996 and they raised their daughter, Sydney, in the church. At FPCA, he has been a member of the Chancel and Bell choirs, taught 4<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School for 10 years, cooked many youth dinners, and participated in the Audio Team. Aaron studied Film Making at the University of Oklahoma and is now an IT Systems Integration Architect with Unisys Corporation. He enjoys wood working, electronics, music of all kinds, attended Sunday School through 9<sup>th</sup> grade and was a member of the Youth Bell choir until he left for college.



**LYNDA WISEMAN** and her husband of over 53 years, Dick, a retired college instructor and coach, moved to Lower Macungie in 2009. Previously, they were members of Morrisville Presbyterian where Dick served as an Elder and Lynda as a Trustee. Their son resides in Salt Lake City, with his wife and their daughter. Lynda has a BA in history and French from the University of Richmond and a master's in library and information science from the University of Maryland. For the first half of her career, she was an environmental, health and safety manager and auditor for a global chemical corporation. Later she was a principal consultant and director of educational services for a company whose primary software product enabled strategic alignment and performance improvement. Lynda has also taught information systems classes in Muhlenberg College's accelerated undergraduate program. Since joining FPCA in 2010, she has been an active member of the LOTN small group and last year served on the Mission Study Team. She also has worked with the Buildings and Grounds team, tutored refugees in ESL and citizenship, and recently rejoined the Chancel Choir. Lynda has been Administrative Director of the Emmaus Choral, a docent with Historic Bethlehem, and facilitated strategic plans with several non-profits. She enjoys traveling, reading, and hiking.



**CLIFF YEZEFSKI** and his wife, Carole, have been members of FPCA since February 1978. Their sons, Brent and Todd, grew up in this church and were involved in many youth activities. He has served on the Board of Deacons, served as a Trustee(which included being the Chair of the Property Committee) and has served on Session twice. He recently was a member of the Personnel Hiring Team responsible for filling several non-clergy positions at FPCA. Cliff retired from Verizon with 47 years of service after working as an engineer and as a Network Staff Manager, responsible for the development and deployment of Verizon's fiber optic network. He is currently a volunteer tax preparer for the AARP Taxaide program. He enjoys cycling, gym time, working on home projects and traveling with his wife to visit their grandchildren and take in the US National Parks.

## NOMINEES FOR DEACON



**ALICEN BAILEY-SILFIES** lives in Macungie with her husband of 25 years, Steve, daughter Addy, a student at the College of Charleston and her precious rescue dog, Zoe. Alicen has been a member of FPCA for many years, serving as an Elder and Deacon. Her greatest joy is helping those in need and spreading kindness in any way she can. Alicen is in her 31<sup>st</sup> year working in the Allentown School District as a truant officer. Alicen loves to travel to National Parks in the summer with her husband and daughter and occasionally paints rocks for friends, family, and strangers.



**ANDY BARANEK** and his wife, Sue, were born and raised in downtown Allentown. They have been married for 38 years and have made their home in Orefield for the past 27 years. They raised two sons and a daughter, and now enjoy spending time with their three grandchildren. They are retired public school teachers. They have been members of FPCA for six years. Andy completed Stephen Ministry educational training in the spring of 2019 and is currently serving as a Deacon, working with the Helping Hands and Pastoral Care teams. He has served on two Interim Pastor Search teams. Andy and Sue have been proud to represent FPCA at the annual Lehigh Valley Pride event. They have volunteered at the Jubilee Breakfast and Family Promise, and Andy currently volunteers at the Daybreak meal kitchen. He enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling with Sue and their RV, attending concerts, listening to music, watching sporting events, working on home projects, and fly fishing in beautiful trout streams.



**LINDA BOYLE** has been a member of FPCA for approximately 40 years. She joined with her husband, Bill, and her two sons, William and Robert. She has served on the Board of Trustees, helped with the Youth Club and the choir tours and is now serving on the Mission Committee, helping with Daybreak serving dinners. She is now retired and lives with her daughter, Katie and son-in-law, Brandon. She is in her second term as a Deacon and in the past has served as a coordinator of the Bereavement team. Linda's hobbies include reading mystery books, love stories and others. She also loves to work in her flower and vegetable gardens. She looks forward to her second term on the Board of Deacons.



**DEBORAH GILTZ** relocated to the Lehigh Valley in 2005. She became a member of FPCA in February 2017. Deborah is the proud mother to her daughter, Amanda, who is pursuing her graduate studies at the University of Northern Colorado. At FPCA, she has enjoyed being a member of the Chancel Choir and has previously contributed to the High School Work Camp and Pastoral Ministry. She is currently completing her initial term on the Board of Deacons and is the current Moderator. In her professional life, Deborah has been the Quality Assurance Supervisor at Ignitist Inc. since June 2022. Concurrently, she is in the final stages of completing her graduate degree in Applied Analytics at Muhlenberg College.



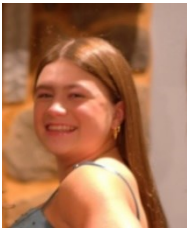
**CAROLINE GRUM** is a member of FPCA and a sophomore at Southern Lehigh High School. She plays ice hockey for the Lehigh Valley Phantoms Youth Girls' Team and is also a member of the Southern Lehigh Girls' Tennis team. Caroline volunteers with Special Hockey of the Lehigh Valley. She is actively involved as a member of the tech crew for Southern Lehigh's theater productions.



**SUE O'NEILL** and her husband, Bill, have been members of the FPCA for 32 years. Their daughter, Elizabeth, lives out of state. They are looking forward to becoming grandparents in May. She has been employed in retail as a New York department store buyer and branch stores management in NJ and Pa. She currently works part-time at Target. She has also worked in education at Muhlenberg College, Admissions and Development and at the Swain School, support staff. She has an AA at Green Mountain College and a BA from New York University. Sue volunteers at the Sanctuary at Haafsville, no-kill dog and cat rescue. At FPCA, Sue has volunteered in the infant and toddler nurseries, kindergarten Sunday School teacher, Junior/Senior High Sunday evening dinners, the Sheridan School and as usher. She attends the Women's Bible Study and enjoys participating in small groups. Her hobbies include gardening, reading, and playing with their dog.



**THINZAR OO** came to the United States in 2017 from Burma after winning the DV lottery (Diversity Visa), and became a US citizen in 2022. She became a member of FPCA in 2018. She and her husband Nay live in Emmaus with their son, San. Thinzar works at Amazon. Thinzar has been active in Small Groups and Faith Formation at FPCA. Her hobbies include listening to music, traveling and cooking.



**LEXIE SIMMONS** was baptized here at FPCA and has been a regular participant in faith formation and was recently confirmed. She is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Salisbury High School where she is a cheerleader for football and basketball. She loves to dance, which she has been doing since she was three years of age. Lexie is a member of her dance studio's competition team and practices ballet, tap, jazz, and contemporary. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, working out, hanging out with her three cats and spending time with the people she loves.

## **NOMINEES FOR NOMINATING TEAM**



**DEB PALMER** is completing her second term on Session where she was, most recently, the liaison to the Compassion, Peace and Justice Team and the chair of the Mission Study Team. She joined FPCA when she and her husband, Greg, moved to Allentown in 1985. Their son, Chris, was raised in (and by) the church, for which they are deeply grateful. FPCA has been the hub of her life, the source of many dear friendships, meaningful work, and a constant challenge to grow in Christ.



**MARIJO TAYLOR** has been a member of FPCA for over 30 years. She is married to David and has three grown children, Rebecca; Anna, who is married to John and has two children, Lilian and Eloise; and Christopher, who is married to Perri. Marijo is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with a BS in Chem Engineering and BS in Administrative Management Science, and is many years now retired from her career as a Sr. Project Engineer and Environmental Engineering consultant. Marijo also has a post graduate certificate from Princeton Theological Seminary in Theology and Ministry. She spends a great deal of time working on creating Bible Studies for FPCA adults and has done so for the last 25 years. Marjo is an elder, currently not serving on Session, and serves on worship, faith formation and mission committees. With Erica Simmons, she coordinates the food drives and packing for the Sheridan School Mission project at FPCA. She has also taught Youth Church School, directed VBS, coordinated Wee Worship, MMO and others over the years. Her other hobbies include tennis, pickle ball, gardening, crafts, especially embroidery and card making.