

First Presbyterian Church

OF ALBEMARLE

Pastoral Nominating Committee



RICH SCHAEFER-CHAIR

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I have been a member of FPC for twelve years and have served both as a deacon and an elder. I have chaired Diaconate as well as the Stewardship and Membership Committees and served on the Personnel Committee.

I have journeyed on life-changing mission trips to Montana de Luz (Honduras) and Mwandia (Zambia). On Sunday mornings I lead the Wired Word discussion group and on Wednesday mornings I work in the church office.

I am a retired marketing executive who worked for three Fortune 500 companies. During my career I served on a variety of non-profit boards. In retirement I enjoy tennis, golf, and bridge.

My wife, Janet, and I have two children and three grandchildren. To our delight, they are all living in North Carolina.



GAYLE RUSSELL

I have been a Presbyterian my whole life and joined First Presbyterian Church Albemarle in 1986 when we moved to Albemarle. I have taught Sunday school, assisted with Music & Arts Camp and Cooking Camp, served as a deacon and an elder. If there is an event with food, you can always find me in the kitchen. My three daughters grew up in this church.

I retired after 30 years as a teacher and am enjoying retirement. I am active in NC Retired School Personnel serving as co-president, treasurer for Delta Kappa Gamma, and serve on the board of Habitat for Humanity.

My husband and I have 6 children and 15 grandchildren who all live within an hours drive. We enjoy raising and competing beagles, camping, and traveling when we have time.



CHRIS WHITLEY

I have been a member of First Presbyterian Albemarle for more than 30 years and have served as deacon, elder and 15 years as treasurer. My wife and I have 3 daughters who grew up in FPC so we chaperoned many camping, skiing, beach trips as well as numerous work trips. I am also a long time member of our church's Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast group which meets weekly on Wednesday morning.

I retired after a 38 year career in banking and a 35 year career in the US Army and N.C. National Guard. I am currently serving my 3rd term on Albemarle City Council and previously served 3 terms on the Stanly County Board of Education.

My wife and I have 5 grandchildren living in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia so we are on the road a lot visiting them! I enjoy pastimes of traveling, running and exercising, spending time at the beach and spending time with family.

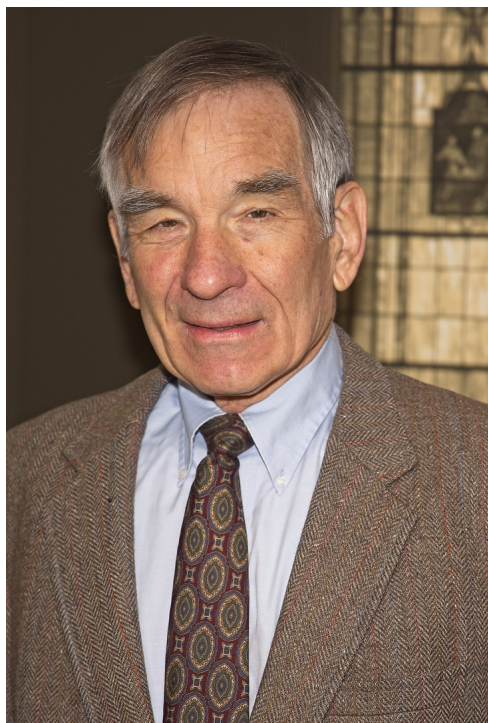


PEGGY FINLEY

I have been a member of FPC for 17 ½ years. I am a Ruling Elder and have served on the Session of this church for four terms. I am a long-serving member of the Mission Committee having chaired it for several years. I have served on a Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee. On the presbytery level, I served six years on the Committee on Ministry.

I am a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry group. I serve as a First Friend to one of our homebound members. I am part of the kitchen crew that prepares the food for our fellowship meals. I have had the privilege of participating in an unforgettable mission trip to Mwandji, Zambia.

I am a retired environmental specialist with North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, knitting and gardening. My husband Ross and I have two children and two grandchildren who also live in North Carolina.



JIM SAWYER

My name is Jim Sawyer. After a 40 year career, I retired from professional Scouting in 2012. These intervening years have been spent in volunteer work and fund-raising for Homes of Hope, the Stanly County Historical Society, and the local Central North Carolina Council, BSA.

My wife, Mary Louise and I have been members of First Presbyterian Church for twenty three years. We were first drawn to this church because of the excellent music in worship and presently are active members of an Adult Bible Study Sunday School class and the Adult Choir. I have served twice as both Deacon and Elder, been a member of the Mission Committee, and presently serve on the Stewardship Committee.



KATHERINE JOLLY

I have been a member of FPC my whole life, and was born and raised in Albemarle. My family's membership in the church goes back many years. I served as the first female youth elder, volunteered in many areas of the church, spent many summers in Montreat, and love to attend Sunday school & youth group every week. I also helped the church to maintain an online presence during the pandemic, through editing pre-recorded services and operating the camera for livestreams. I am a senior in high school who plans to continue my education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in political science. When not doing homework, I enjoy swimming competitively, playing the guitar, spending time with my family, watching/attending sporting events, and counting down the days until summer.



EMILY ANDREW

I am a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church- Albemarle. I have served on the Diaconate along with various other Committees. I graduated in 2017 from Wingate University with a BS in Communications and am currently employed at Uwharrie Bank; a community bank here in Albemarle, where I am a part of the Marketing team primarily focusing on social media for the company. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, going to concerts with my dad, shopping and being a dog mom to my maltipoo Lottie.