



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN  
**WESTFIELD**

**Congregational  
Nominating  
Committee  
Presents  
Nominees for  
Congregational  
Approval**

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## **CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**2020-2021**

*Martha Kieczkowski, Moderator*

*Shannon Crooks*

*Emily Kieczkowski*

*Susan Pink*

*Katherine Serra*

*Gaither Shaw*

*Joe Sobala*

*Terry Spurlock*

*Kathy Zippler*

# Elders Class of 2024

## **Elders:**

- Elders sit on the 15-member Board of Session: three (3) equal classes of 5. Each are elected to serve a term of 3 years.
- The Session is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the church: worship, Christian education, youth, stewardship, finance, physical plant, personnel and fellowship.
- Each elder serves as a Moderator or a Session Liaison on a church commission.
- Commission meetings are held as needed, often on a monthly basis.
- Elders may also be asked to participate as Communion servers during a worship service.

**William Henry (Bill) Cook***(1st Term)**whcook25@yahoo.com**908-789-9097 (h)**908-337-4704 (c)***PCW Position:** Elder**Other active areas at PCW:** Chancel Choir; Middle School Sunday School; Bulletin Delivery**Service most often attended:** Pre-pandemic: 10:00 a.m. traditional**Family:** wife, Carole H. Cook, Children: Davidson A. Trisler (fiancé Angela), William D. Cook and Stefanie L. Cook**Member:** 27 years**Resides:** Westfield**Education:** 1980: Harvard University – A.B. Sociology; 1986: Boston University – J.D.; 2018: Montclair State University – M.A. Music Education**Career:** I am in my 23<sup>rd</sup> year teaching orchestra in the South Orange-Maplewood School District. I also teach private cello lessons.**Hobbies:** Watching and attending sporting events, especially the RBs, Islanders and Mets.**Other:** We love our family vacations in southern Vermont, as well as visiting our sons in Charleston, SC and Somerville, MA.



## **Susan Dougherty**

*(1st Term)*

*crusadersue@hotmail.com*

*732-382-5367 (h)*

**PCW Position:** Elder

**Other active areas at PCW:** Deacon class of 2016 & 2019, Choir member, Circle member, small group participant, Communications Commission member, formerly on Outreach and Welcome Commission.

**Service most often attended:** 10 a.m.

**Family:** Widowed with four adult stepchildren and five grandchildren, all who live in California

**Member:** 10 years; I joined the Chancel choir months before I joined the church because the choir members and director were so welcoming and inviting!

**Resides:** Edison, NJ

**Education:** B.A in English – The King’s College, Briarcliff Manor, NY; M.A. English Literature – The College of New Jersey, Trenton, NY

**Career:** Retired high school teacher of English in Clark, NJ, former PR Coordinator for two private schools, currently writer/photographer for Westfield Leader/Times’ Arts & Entertainment

**Hobbies:** Travel, reading, acting in musical comedies, currently taking improvisation and voice over classes online just for fun!

**Other:** The pandemic has afforded me time to take classes on the racial divide in our country. Also, I deliver Meals-on-Wheels in Middlesex County and I serve as the Kiwanis liaison to the Westfield High School Key Club, a service organization for teens.

**Ethan Harris***(2nd Term)**ethanharris1956@gmail.com**908-233-1666 (h)**347-419-3014 (c)***PCW Position:** Elder**Other active areas at PCW:** Moderator of Mission Commission**Family:** Wife, Gordana, son, Zachary, and daughter, Emily**Member:** 26 years**Resides:** Westfield**Education:** 1978: Clark University – B.A Economics;  
1985: Columbia University – PhD Economics**Career:** Research economist at the Fed and at various firms on Wall Street.

Currently, Global Head of Economics at Bank of America

**Hobbies:** Reading, hiking, golfing and rooting for all the teams from New England**Other:** We love to vacation in Cape May and in the former Yugoslavia



**Ginny Leiz**

*(2nd Term)*

*ginnyleiz@gmail.com*

*908-789-9650*

**Nominated for:** Elder

**Other areas active at PCW:** Presbyterian Women, Small Group participant, Clerk of Session (2019– 2020)

**Family:** Husband, David, son Matthew in FLA, daughter, Christine, Chicago

**Member:** 32 years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** BS in Mathematics from Muhlenberg College, and an MS in Operations Research from Columbia University

**Career:** Formerly a Vice President of business systems development for a major money center bank, she has been an Adjunct Lecturer in the Business Department of a local college, an independent consultant in office and records management, and the office manager in a STEM department of a local college.



**Courtney Nemec**

*(2nd Term)*

*Courtney.R.Nemec@gmail*

*908-400-1787*

**Nominated for:** Elder

**Active areas at PCW:** High School Sunday School Teacher, High School Fellowship Advisor, High School Mission Trip Advisor, Deacon

**Service most often attended:** 10am Traditional

**Member:** 22 years

**Resides:** Fanwood with her labradoodle, Ella

**Education:** Lafayette College: BA Psychology, Kean University: Masters in Instruction and Curriculum

**Career:** Courtney is a fifth grade teacher at Park Middle School in Scotch Plains. She is also a Mentor Coach for the district and has directed the SPF High School musical for the past two years.

**Hobbies:** When Courtney has the time, she loves to cook and read. She recently started taking art classes, a passion from her childhood that has been reignited.

**Other:** Courtney loves spending time with her mom (Norma), dad (Joel), sister (Ashley) and brother (Brett) at their family beach house on LBI. She feels blessed to live near many childhood friends and their families, and loves being an "aunt" to their many young children.





**William (Bill) Tittle**  
*(1st Term)*  
*wltittle@gmail.com*  
 908-232-0596

**Nominated for:** Elder

**Other active areas at PCW:** Stewardship Commission; Sanctuary choir; Theology group

**Service most often attended:** Traditional

**Family:** wife, Sharon Way Tittle

**Member:** 40+ years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:**

**Career:** retired after 50 year career as a management consultant in the global chemical and energy industries

**Hobbies:** golf, music, reading, gardening, making friends across generations

**Other:** Vacations on Cape Cod or Europe; interested in conservation of our planet

# **Board of Deacons**

## **Class of 2024**

### **Deacons:**

- The Board of Deacons consists of up to 38 members who meet the third Tuesday evening of the month September through June.
- The deacons' primary focus is on care and support of members of the congregation and the greater community.
- They are commissioned to visit the sick, befriend the stranger and help the elderly.
- Each deacon is responsible for keeping in contact with a specific group of members by making home visits, phone calls and sending cards or notes by mail.
- The deacons communicate the needs and concerns of the members to the moderators.
- Deacons are also directly involved with service of Communion, including preparation of the elements and clean-up.
- They deliver flowers to those who are sick, home-bound, or celebrating special events, and promote mission opportunities.

**Cooper Andrews***(Youth)*

732-428-4235

**PCW Position:** Deacon (Youth)**Other active areas at PCW:** Youth Program participant, prior to youth program, regularly attended Children's Sunday school.**Family:** dad, Jim Robbins, mom, Melissa Andrews; brothers, Preston & Nicholas, and a sister, Stephanie**Member:** Confirmed in 2020**Resides:** Clark**Education:** attends High School

**Christian Cederqvist***(1st Term)**Christian\_cederqvist@outlook.com**Christian\_cederqvist@hotmail.com**917-701-4841***PCW Position:** Deacon**Other active areas at PCW** Volunteer for Children's Sunday School, Chaperoned for youth trips to Johnsonburg.**Service most often attended:** 10am Traditional**Family:** Wife, Trudy; sons, Owen, Kurt, Tristan**Member:** 13 years**Resides:** Westfield**Education:** B.S. Degree from Syracuse University, High School – The Lenox School in New York City (now The Birch Wathen Lenox School)**Career:** Application Engineer Manager for a Financial Company**Hobbies:** Skiing, Walking / Hiking, Reading**Other:** My wife Trudy was a deacon at this church in her youth. All three of my kids attended PNSK.



**John LaMond**  
(1st Term)  
*jlamond172@comcast.net*  
732-382-0444 (h)

**PCW Position:** Deacon

**Other active areas at PCW:** Senior Network Connection, Senior Sunday Committee, Friday Morning Bible Study, Tuesday Morning Small Group

**Service most often attended:** 10am traditional

**Family:** Wife, Cathy, 1 sister and 2 nephews

**Member:** 16 years

**Resides:** Rahway

**Education:** B.A. Drew University

**Career:** Retired Business Office & Staff Manager, Verizon

**Hobbies:** Reading, Gardening, Genealogy

**Other:** Traveling; spending time at the shore



**Lauren McDonough**

*(Youth)*

*Lauren.mcdonough@comcast.net*

*Phone 908-499-9882*

**PCW Position:** Deacon

**Other active areas at PCW:** Various volunteering: Agape, Gardening, building garden boxes.

**Service most often attended:** Wired

**Family:** mother, Sue McDonough; father, Pat McDonough

**Member:** Confirmation 2020

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** Westfield High School

**Career:** Self-operating my business: LAM Pet Portraits

**Hobbies:** painting, playing field hockey and lacrosse, baking, doing community service



**Lorraine Ruprecht**

*(1st Term)*

*lorraineruprecht@gmail.com*

*908-233-8153*

**PCW Position:** Deacon

**Other active areas at PCW:** Faith Formation, Outreach & Welcome Commissions

**Service most often attended:** Traditional

**Family:** Married to Tom, Mother of Sally (9) and Zachary (7)

**Member:** 3 years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** BA English, University at Buffalo

**Career:** stay at home mother

**Hobbies:** puzzles, gardening, Pilates, audiobooks, knitting

**Other:** We love watching movies together, playing board games and vacations on Cape Cod.



**Madeline (Maddy) Serra**  
(Youth)  
*madddyyserra@icloud.com*  
732-215-9320

**PCW Position:** Deacon

**Other active areas at PCW:** Youth Group

**Service most often attended:** Wired

**Family:** Katharine Serra (mom), Steve Serra (dad), Mark Serra (brother)

**Member:** 6 months

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** Westfield High School

**Hobbies:** baking, skiing, traveling

**Other:** Love hiking in Vermont and going to the beach





**Dan Swartz**

*(2nd Term)*

*Daniel.swartz1@verizon.net*

*908-301-9113*

**Nominated for:** Deacon

**Family:** Wife, Carolyn Driscoll Swartz, son William, and daughters, Anna & Bethany

**Member:** 11 years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Val Stierhoff***(2nd Term)**valstierhoff@comcast.net**908-233-0154***Nominated for:** Deacon**Active areas at PCW:** AGAPE cook for Sloppy Joe Team;  
Cook for the Advent/Lenten Lunches, Bell Choir**Service most often attended:** Traditional or wired at 10am**Family:** Husband, Paul; Kids, Matt (25), Drew (21) and  
Emma (19)**Member:** 22 years**Resides:** Westfield**Education:** BA in Behavioral Science from Drew University  
with a concentration in Education. Teacher Certification  
from The College of St. Elizabeth.**Career:** A little over a year ago, I left my work as a preschool  
teacher to begin working full time at Imagine, A Center for  
Coping with Loss. I'd been volunteering there for several  
years and welcomed the opportunity to join their staff as  
Office Manager. I continue to volunteer there as well,  
facilitating a support group for 3-5 year old children who  
have lost a parent or sibling.**Hobbies:** Love to travel, read and go for long walks. Enjoy  
spending family time lakefront in Maine in the summer. Also  
enjoy family hiking trips, game nights and movie nights.

# CONGREGATION

## NOMINATING

## COMMITTEE

### CLASS OF 2023

#### CNC:

- The Nominating Committee consists of five to seven members who recruit individuals to serve as church officers.
- The Nominating Committee may meet at other times during the year to find replacements for church officers who vacate their positions before the end of their terms. In addition, in those years when there is a change in pastoral leadership within the church, they are responsible for nominating a pastor search committee (PNC)
- After the Nominating Committee creates a slate of candidates for church officers, a congregational meeting is held to approve or reject nominees.



**Melissa Andrews**

*Melissa.andrews@targetbase.com*

336-880-1040



**PCW Position:** CNC (2- year term)

**Other active areas at PCW:** Deacon class of 2017; W4W

**Service most often attended:** W4W

**Family:** husband, Jim Robins, daughter, Stephanie Robins, and sons, Nick, Preston Andrews and Cooper Andrews

**Member:** 8 years

**Resides:** Clark, NJ

**Education:** Communications/Marketing, Appalachian State University

**Career:** Melissa works for a boutique advertising agency leading the healthcare work. You can find her at the Newark airport many mornings heading to Dallas or North Carolina!

**Hobbies:** Traveling, walking the dog with my husband, watching soccer games with the kids, when time allows binge watching good TV .

**Other:** I'm a southerner that made her way to New Jersey.



**Leslie Quinn**  
*leslieaq@aol.com*  
917-841-8529



**PCW Position:** CNC member (2-year term)

**Other active areas at PCW:** Sunday school teacher

**Service most often attended:** Wired

**Family:** husband, Steve, daughter, Ella and son, Beckett Johnson

**Member:** 18 years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** Bucknell University

**Career:** After 25 years in the fashion industry, I recently launched my own business. I want to extend the life of beautiful clothes and accessories, and keep them out of landfills. My business is Elle & Beck, Upscale Online Consignment Boutique.

**Hobbies:** Running, skiing

**Other:** I love to travel and can't wait until we can travel again!



**Dawn Heintz**

*dawnheintz@gmail.com*

908-875-6795



**PCW Position:** CNC member (2-year term)

**Other active areas at PCW:** small groups, Sunday School teacher, 2018 HSMT advisor/nurse

**Service most often attended:** Traditional and W4W

**Family:** daughter, Casey, sons Paul and James

**Member:** 28 years

**Resides:** Westfield

**Education:** BSN from UMDNJ and BS from James Madison University

**Career:** Nurse Manager for the Radiation Oncology Department at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick

**Other Interests:** Yoga, listening to music, spending time with family & friends, driving traveling, and Lake Glenwood



**Drew Thompson**  
*Thompson.drew@gmail.com*  
646-246-5818



**PCW Position:** CNC member (2-year term)

**Family:** wife, Meagan, and 1year old son, Hunter

**Member:** 1 year

**Resides:** Westfield