



Nominees to the Session & Board of Deacons

The 2021 Congregational Nominating Committee of the Towson Presbyterian Church excitedly nominates the following slate of faithful leaders to serve on our church's Session (the governing board of the church) and Board of Deacons (the member-care board of the church).

Nominees for Session—Class of 2024

Tim Burkett

Tim Burkett has been a TPC member for the past 11 years, serving a single term on the Session and as a member of the APNC that had the good fortune of finding the Strom family. Along the way, he led on three high school mission trips, one middle school retreat, served many a Community Lunch, and helped team-teach Middle School church school. As a current member of Session, Tim chairs the Regathering Task Force, and serves on the Mission Committee.



Professionally, for the past five years, Tim has been the Director of Operations for Ayers Saint Gross, a Baltimore-based architecture firm, and for the prior 15 years, the COO of Biohabitats, a nationally-recognized ecologic restoration design firm. Trained as a Chemical Engineer at Bucknell University, Tim pivoted with an MBA from the University of Maryland to focus energy on efficient and effective business operations.

With two young ladies, Paige and Julie, in college and a son, Max, in high school, Tim and his lovely wife, Kristie, are preparing for their next phase of life together -The Empty Nest.

Tim Lotz

Tim joined TPC in 1987. He has served previously as a Deacon and Elder, and currently serves on the Endowment, Stewardship, and Personnel committees.

Since 1990, Tim has worked at T. Rowe Price Group, and is currently a Vice President and head of Compliance and Risk Management for Global Technology.



Tim and his wife, Linda were married at TPC in 1985, and have two children—Matt and Sallie. In his leisure time, Tim enjoys playing golf, reading, traveling, and watching college basketball.

Craig Miller

Craig and his wife, Ann, came to TPC in 2009 from Ascension Lutheran, where Craig served as church treasurer.

Craig and Ann have three wonderful children: Madeline, 25; Corbin, 23; and Caroline, 21. TPC has been a focal point of the Miller household with all the children being active members of the youth group before moving off to college and beyond. Craig has served as the Treasurer, Elder, official dishwasher on a Sunday Community Lunch team, slung java at the coffee hour in Thompson hall, and most recently as a member of the Regathering Committee. As current member of Session, Craig serves as Chair of the Finance Committee.

Craig is a CPA and an Audit Partner with Grant Thornton LLP. Leisure time for Craig is spent playing golf, anywhere at any time, but primarily at Country Club of Maryland



Nominees for Deacons—Class of 2024

Jane Barton

Jane has attended TPC for 4 years and been a member for 2. She has enjoyed participating in several small groups. Prior to coming to TPC, Jane and Rick were active members at Second Presbyterian for many years where Jane served as an elder, deacon and chaired the Youth and the Worship Councils. She organized and accompanied many youth mission trips.



Jane and her husband, Rick, have been married for 42 years. They are the proud parents of two amazing young men. David is a 2nd year orthopedic surgery resident in Jacksonville, Fl and married to Kaylyn, a veterinarian. Charlie is a self-employed silkscreen artist in Baltimore, recently married to Abby Bradfield, a marketing executive. Jane and Rick are looking forward to becoming grandparents in June.

When not working as a realtor with Berkshire Hathaway, Jane is avid walker. She and Chester, their Golden Retriever, can be found most days walking around Stoneleigh where the Bartons have lived for 31 years. Chester and Jane are regular volunteers at St. Vincent's Villa where Jane mentors one child and Chester plays with as many as he possibly can.

Matt Hemm

Matt Hemm is an Associate Professor at Towson University. His passion is involving undergraduate students in research, particularly members from groups traditionally underrepresented in the sciences.

He grew up outside of Washington D.C., where he was confirmed at Burke Presbyterian Church. While a member of TPC, he has enjoyed many years of participating in Camp BeeTree by acting as a co-instructor ("Mr. Matt") at the Rec tent with Chuck LaBerge ("Mr. Chuck").

He and his wife, Stephanie, have a 13-year-old son, Isaac, and an 11-year-old daughter, Phoebe. In his spare time he enjoys gardening in the yard, dreaming about someday winning the TPC Fantasy Football competition, and trying to introduce his kids to the glory of 80's pop rock music.



John Hutton

John and his wife, Cele, became members of TPC in 1980. and Cele were married at TPC in January 1981. previously served as a Deacon from 2012 to 2015.

John worked as a systems analyst for the Social Security Administration at Central Office for 42 years before retiring in January 2014.

John grew up in central Pennsylvania and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1971. enjoys following / agonizing over Pitt football every fall. John and Cele have a grown son, Mike, who was baptized at TPC in 1986. John and Cele are devotees of the "10,000 Steps a Day" program. few days go by without both of them reaching the 10K steps goal.



Kimberly Light

Kimberly and her family were brought to Maryland when her husband, Joel, was invited to become TPC's Associate Pastor in 2014. The congregation lovingly welcomed Joel, Micah (8), Derek (6) and her and continues to be a pillar of spiritual support for the last 7 years. She and her children have been active members in the church life at TPC and continue to enjoy time with this community of faith.



For the past 7 year, Kimberly has strived to pay this love forward through her participation in small groups, Parents Night Out, Camp BeeTree, Sunday Community Lunch, MCAME Church Harvest Meals for the Hungry, and more recently with efforts to help expand TPC's support for our neighbors benefiting from the Student Support Network essential item distributions.

After over 20 years in the field of architecture, Kimberly is seeking a healthy family/work/life balance in order to spend more time with Joel and the kids, expand her community participation, and explore new opportunities such as being blessed with this one, to serve as a Deacon for TPC.

Viraj Mehta

Viraj Mehta has been a TPC member since 2017, but has been attending since the baptism of his daughters, Daphne (6) and Rosalie (4). Viraj is the husband to Kathryn McDougal who is a professor at Towson University, and currently serves as an elder on Session. He has been an active participant in the handbell choir for the past several years, and has been serving on the Board of Deacons for the past three years.



Professionally, Viraj works for the United States Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, where he has worked for 18 years. In his spare time, Viraj allows himself to be dragged into extreme hiking trips in foreign countries.

Jill Thomas

Jill Started attending TPC in 2016 and became a member in 2019. Since joining the church, Jill has enjoyed participating in the Children and Family Ministry Committee, getting dirty in the Intergenerational Garden, serving Sunday Community Lunches, and leading at Camp Beetree.



Jill moved to Towson from Cleveland, Ohio with her husband Dustin and their two daughters, Ruth (9) and Jane (6). Jill and Dustin love watching their daughters be part of the TPC community.

Jill has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs since 2010 and enjoys serving the nation's Veterans.

Dianne Thompson

Dianne joined TPC in the early 70s, during which time her two children, Ian and Amanda, were nurtured by the wonderful youth leaders here. Both children grew to be married at TPC, as well.



Over the years Dianne has been an active participant in many areas of the church. She chaired both the Crafts and the Strawberry Table committees for the Annual Strawberry Festival and was a leader for VBS at BeeTree many times. Having been a Home Economics teacher, she was often called on to use her cooking and sewing skills. She has been both an Elder and a Deacon, chairperson of different circles and active in many UPW projects over the years. She became a Stephen Minister and a Stephen Ministry Leader. From 2004-2014 Dianne was Director of Evangelism and Communications at Hiss UMC in Parkville. There, she participated in many enriching Bible and Faith Studies in addition to performing the duties of her job. She is currently on the CORE committee, active with hunger ministries and a member of Circle 13.

In her retirement, Diane and her husband, Jim have been faithful daily walkers. She enjoys her 5 grandchildren, reading, quilting, yoga at BYKOTA and her friends and family. Serving TPC brings her joy.

Carol Whiteford

Carol has been a member of TPC since 2002. Carol was an elementary school teacher for 32 years. She retired from Hampton Elementary after 28 years with Baltimore County Public Schools. Carol is a widow and has two sons, Craig and Chip, and four grandchildren.



Some of her activities at TPC have included belonging to a bible study group for many years, helping to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter, preparing table decorations for several Homecoming Sundays, and helping to set up for the Madrigal Feasts before Christmas. Recently, Carol has helped pack bags for the Towson Student Support Network.

2021 Congregational Nominating Committee

Shirley Albert (Deacon Rep.)
Pat Keller (Chair)
Viraj Mehta
Mary Jane Obaker
Karen Williams

Lyn Brooks
Kevin McKenna (Session Rep.);
Ann Miller
Judith Rietz
Rob Carter (*ex officio*)