



BMPC Officer Bios for 2025 Candidates

Carolyn Beitmann, Deacon

I feel blessed to have been a part of BMPC all my life. My parents and both sets of grandparents were members, and my maternal great-grandparents were among the very first BMPC members. My husband Jim and I have five wonderful adult children (all baptized at BMPC) and nine grandchildren--the oldest was confirmed here two years ago, and the second oldest is currently in Confirmation class! I taught in the Church School and at VBC for many years and was fortunate enough to work in Children's Ministries for more than a decade. BMPC has always been my spiritual home, my refuge and strength through life's joys and sorrows... truly my church family. I loved serving as an Elder and was, for years, on the Family Ministries Council as well as other councils and committees. I now look forward to the honor of serving as a Deacon.

Judy Ehrman, Deacon

I have attended BMPC since 1980, first captivated by its music and then riveted by its sermons. Over the years, I have served as an Elder, a Trustee, and on various councils: Adult Education, Environmental Justice, Mission, Senior Adult, and Worldwide. I have also participated in the Stephen and Prayer Shawl Ministries and attend Adult Education Classes and Holy Leisure. One of my greatest honors was to serve on several Pastor Nominating Committees, including that for the Rev. Dr. Norfleet. My church home has nourished and nurtured my faith, understood my doubts and questions, and accompanied me on my spiritual journey. I am grateful and humbled to be invited to serve as a Deacon and be provided the sacred opportunity to further serve my fellow congregants.

Jeff Swarr, Deacon

My wife, Claire, and I saw our babies, Michael, now 39, and Emily, now 36, get baptized in BMPC. I taught Sunday school and confirmation classes, chaired the Hunger Committee, and served on the Family Life Council. I continue to participate in the BMPC Men's Group and as an occasional volunteer worker with The Other Carpenter. I served two terms as a Deacon in the '90s, as a Lenten devotional contributor, an Alternative Gift Market volunteer, and another two terms as a Deacon. Outside of BMPC, I am three years into retirement after 39 years as a business development manager in the information technology industry. I enjoy golfing, biking, and helping raise three grandchildren while serving as a Spring Garden Soup Society board member. My faith journey began in Ardmore Presbyterian Church kindergarten, continued in the Paoli Presbyterian Church Youth Choir, and my cup continues to run over here at our beloved BMPC.

Laura Zalewski, Deacon

I joined BMPC in the Fall of 2022, and my son, John (age 10) is also a member. I am grateful to have met so many wonderful BMPC members and families over the past two years while serving as a volunteer helper in the Sunday School and as a new Music and Fine Arts Council member. My son actively participates in the Children's Choir and is always thrilled to perform for the congregation. We also enjoy meeting new friends at the Wednesday night dinners after Choir practice. I am honored to be asked to serve as a Deacon at BMPC, and I look forward to personal and spiritual growth through this new position.

Steve Zeller, Deacon

When we moved to Haverford thirty-five years ago, we soon got to know Randy Charrington, who lived across the street from us. Randy suggested that we attend a service at BMPC and mentioned that we might appreciate the music program at the Church. He was right! We immediately made the Church part of our new home. My wife, Florence, served the Church in a number of capacities over the years, until her passing in July of 2023. We were both active on the Hunger and Refugee committees during that period, and I have continued this work. I'm delighted to be given the opportunity to serve as a Deacon in the coming year, and I know Flo would agree.

Peter McConnell, Youth Deacon

I am a rising Senior at The Haverford School. I enjoy singing in the BMPC Youth Chorale, leading worship, and attending Student Serve. I am a "lifer" of BMPC, attending the Children's Ministry from The Weekday School to Sunday school every year, and then eventually Youth Ministry, where I spend most Sunday mornings and Wednesday Evenings. I currently serve on the Youth Ministry Council and APNC for Youth and Their Families. I continue to enjoy serving BMPC and look forward to pursuing it through being a deacon.

Finley McGuirl, Youth Deacon

I am a junior at Haverford High School. I was baptized and confirmed at BPMC. I became very involved in Church after COVID. I have been on mission trips, been a counselor for Vacation Bible Camp, and have attended church camp since sixth grade. I am a part of the Youth Environmental Committee and attend Student Serve. I am very grateful to everyone at BMPC who has helped me develop my faith over the years. I look forward to the spiritual growth that will be provided by being a Youth Deacon.

Andrew Quigley, Youth Deacon

I am a junior at Radnor High School. I was baptized at First United Methodist Church of Toms River in 2007 by my grandfather Pastor Bruce E. Quigley. I attended the Methodist church prior to coming to BMPC as a sixth grader in 2019 and was confirmed as an eighth grader in 2022. Since then, I have attended Camp Johnsonburg, been a counselor at VBS for the past two years, and am involved with the youth tutoring program. I appreciate the inclusive nature of the BMPC youth that I have been a part of for the past five years, which has helped me grow my faith beyond the foundations my family built for me. Furthermore, I look forward to having the ability to give back to the church community, which the Deacon role will allow me to do.

Marian Chitester, Elder

My husband Tim and I became members of BMPC in 1995 after moving to this area, and our two daughters grew up in this Church. Over the years, I have served on the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team in various officer roles and participated in the Youth Council and Family Ministries Council. I have been a Vacation Bible Camp Director and Teacher, a Sunday School Assistant, a Y-Group member, and a Deacon. I have served on an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and was an at-large member of the Nominating Committee. I currently serve on the BMPC Hunger Committee and Mission Council, volunteer weekly at the Ministry Center reception desk, and have been a passionate Co-Chair of the Advent Gift Market for several years. It is a privilege to be part of the BMPC faith community, and I am grateful to be able to continue to serve and help pave the way for generations to come.

Barb Heaton, Elder

My husband, David, and I joined BMPC in 1978 shortly after we were married. We quickly became involved in teaching Sunday School, working with the youth, and adult education. Both of our children were baptized and confirmed at BMPC, and we have two grandchildren who were also baptized here. One of my greatest joys was serving as a Deacon. Since retiring at the end of 2023 after a 40+ year career as a paralegal, I can now participate more fully in the life of the Church. I am a member of the Hunger Committee and enjoy the Adult Education classes. I was also involved with Vacation Bible Camp this year. In addition, I enjoy greeting people after Sunday services as part of the BMPC hospital group. BMPC is my church home, and I look forward to the honor of serving God and our congregation as an Elder.

William Armstrong, Youth Elder

I am a sophomore at Haverford School. Pastor Frank Pottorff baptized me at BMPC in 2019. I was confirmed in 8th grade, a breakthrough year for my faith. I have been on the last two youth mission trips, most recently to Peru. I tutor on Tuesdays at the Church, am consistently involved on youth Sundays, and Student Serve on Wednesdays. I have also done various other projects with the Church, such as the casserole blitz and painting a church in Philadelphia. BMPC has been an enormous support to me as I continue to explore my faith, and I want to give back to the community that has helped me all these years.

Emily Webster, Youth Elder

I am currently a sophomore at Conestoga High School. I was baptized at BMPC in 2010. One of my fondest and earliest church memories from about three years old is the congregational candle lighting while singing “Silent Night” on Christmas Eve. To this day, it is a sentimental memory I still hold. I am moved to see how one flame creates a community and room full of light. I became involved in the church community in elementary school, attending Sunday school consistently. In 5th grade, a memorable moment and honor for me was participating in a baptism as the youth reader with the elder who later became my mentor in Confirmation Class. This opportunity strengthened my sense of belonging, purpose, and family in the Church. I feel incredibly lucky to have that experience. Last year, I was confirmed into the church family.

John K. Ball, Trustee

BMPC has been my church home since confirmation many years ago. My wife Elinor and I chose BMPC as our Church home; we raised all four of our children in this community of faith. I would be pleased to serve the congregation as a member of the Board of Trustees.

In earlier years, I served as an elder. Much of my time and energy then was devoted to the Church’s outreach in the city of Philadelphia. I’ve also had the privilege of serving on several nominating committees for BMPC’s pastoral staff members.

I recently retired from professional life. During my career, I served as an executive in three different building construction companies; one focused on the city while the others were active throughout the mid-Atlantic region. In addition to those responsibilities, I devoted board service to several business groups and several non-profit organizations.

Patricia Danzon, Trustee

I have been a member of BMPC for over 20 years. I served as an usher for many years, was on the Outreach Council, and have served as a Deacon for two terms. I have also served on the Nominating Committee and on the nominating committee for Associate Pastor for Congregational Care.

I hold a BA from the University of Oxford (England) and a PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago. For over 30 years, my professional career was as an economist and Professor of Health Care Management at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, until I retired in 2016.

In 2013, I earned an MA in Spirituality and Spiritual Direction at Chestnut Hill College, and since then, I have served as a Spiritual Director at the Middleton Center. I have taught several short adult education courses at BMPC and have regularly led a group online in reading books on faith and spirituality.

Since 2016, I have served as a docent at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. I have also served as Treasurer of my condominium Homeowners' Association and am an avid hiker and photographer.

Bill Matthai, Nominating Committee

I have been a member of BMPC since the early 1990s, attracted to the Church by the music and the Weekday School, as so many others have been. In a large church, I was drawn to participation in smaller groups. Over the years, I have been a Deacon and Elder and was on an APNC for a youth pastor. Now, I am on the Hunger Committee, Stewardship, and the Code Blue steering committee. On the Nominating Committee, I hope we can invite young and old members to increase their involvement in BMPC.

Noel Noone, Nominating Committee

I was introduced to the BMPC community when my children attended the Weekday School. We found the community warm, welcoming, and enthusiastic about many youth programs and opportunities to serve. Though I was raised in the Catholic faith, it was the best decision for our family when, in 2018, we joined as members.

My husband, Matt, serves as an usher at BMPC, and both my boys, Tyler (13) and Ryder (11), have loved having BMPC as their spiritual home. I have served on the Children & Family Ministries Council with Pastor Rachel since the spring of 2019. I also returned to serving on the Weekday School Advisory Board as a CFM representative in the fall of 2023. Additionally, when our schedule allows, I volunteer in Sunday School in whatever classroom might need an extra hand. Lastly, I was part of the planning committee that brought the intergenerational fun night of Quizzo to life.

Professionally, I am a licensed psychologist with a private practice in Center City, Philadelphia, where I work with children, adolescents, and adults.

Cindy Pierce, Nominating Committee

How blessed I am to be a child of BMPC. Beginning with my baptism here and followed by years in Sunday School and Youth Group, my journey as a member of BMPC expanded as a parent of children following similar paths. The blessings continue to this day as I reflect on the gift of serving as a Deacon, an Elder, PW and Outreach Committee Moderators. I am inspired and fed spiritually every Sunday, by cherished friendships of many years within our church community and by the opportunity to witness and participate in BMPC's devotion and service to its members and to those in need locally and throughout the world.

Nick Spuhler, Nominating Committee

I serve as Senior Vice President of Applied AI for Fingerpaint Marketing. I graduated from the Hatboro-Horsham Senior High School and received an undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University. A resident of Haverford, my wife Sara and I have two children, son Jackson (6) and daughter Sophie (4). Our family joined BMPC in 2020.

Steve Udicious, Nominating Committee

My wife Kara and I joined BMPC in 2003 when we moved back home and found a church for our then young family. Our daughters Julia, now living in DC with her fiancée Charlie, and Sophia, now living in Philadelphia, grew up in the children and youth programs of the Church. Professionally, I have been an attorney, primarily as in-house counsel for healthcare companies, for over 30 years. At BMPC, I have taught Sunday School for children and youth, mentored several confirmands, served on the Stewardship and 150th Vision Committees, and for six years served on the Session, including as the Clerk of Session for three years. I currently serve on the Personnel Committee. The many missions supported by BMPC are a big part of what drew our family to the Church. I also currently serve on the Board of Directors of the West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WePAC), which was started with the support of BMPC.