



First Presbyterian Church

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Presented at the Congregational Meeting
Sunday, December 4, 2022
11:00 am

These nominees are presented by the Nominating Committee to
serve the congregation of First Presbyterian Church

Meet the Committee



Lana Brunk came to New Bern in 1981 (her 26th move!) with her husband Tom. He was transferred to MCAS New River to serve with VMO1 as a Marine aviator. Their family, including their three children, joined First Presbyterian Church and immediately felt welcomed and quickly became involved in many church services and activities. Lana's first involvement was to volunteer for Vacation Bible School, which she has enjoyed working with several times during the years. She has been a member of the adult Bell Ringer group for 40 years. She has also sung with Sanctuary choir in the past and is now a member of Resurrection singers. Tom and Lana have been active with several House Church groups over the years, which have provided meaningful times to share their faith with others as they gather for a meal and fellowship. Lana presently serves as a member of the Welcoming Committee. It is a pleasure for her to work with the group in welcoming and connecting with new visitors as we strive to provide a welcoming community. God has blessed her and shown her many opportunities to serve our church and community and she welcomes the opportunity to serve you as a member of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.



Betsy Conzelman Betsy Conzelman has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for almost 25 years. She is a member of the Adult Choir and the Resurrection Singers and sings in the Craven Messiah Chorus. She has served three terms as a sitting Elder and served as Property Chair for about 12 years continuing on as a committee member. Betsy is a Professional Engineer working from home, primarily producing structural drawings for residential and small commercial projects. Although she was born in Italy, Betsy's deep roots are in Vermont. She has lived in many places, first as an Army brat, and then during her early career. Betsy lives in Fairfield Harbour and enjoys genealogy, her family (in New Bern, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Florida, New York and Texas), and her dog Molly.



Margaret Cooper was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and graduated from Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA, and East Carolina University. She taught at Newport Elementary School, The Danes School, HJ MacDonald Middle School and Grover C. Fields Middle School. Margaret and her husband Larry, a former Marine, will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary in January. They are the parents of 3 children who grew up attending First Presbyterian Church, and 7 grandchildren. After her retirement from teaching Margaret worked at Merci Clinic in the Patient Assistant Program. She has been a deacon and is currently an elder serving on the Care Commission. She is also the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Margaret enjoys volunteering in the Church Office, being a docent at New Bern Academy, and volunteering at RCS. She loves music and sings in the Daybreak Choir, the Resurrection Singers, and plays handbells. Margaret is looking forward to continuing her service to the Church as a member of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.



John Michael Harris is a native of New Bern and was raised in the congregation of First Presbyterian Church. He has been involved in health care since 1998 after moving to Wilmington, NC. In 2009, John and his wife Grae were married at First Presbyterian Church. An avid student, John completed his Bachelor's in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2014. In addition, he graduated with a Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2020. John is also a den leader with his son's cub scout pack, which is the same troop he received his Eagle Scout from.



Leigh Healy is a native of Ahoskie, North Carolina. She attended Wake Forest University where she met her husband, Joe. They settled in New Bern in 2008 with their family. Leigh and Joe have two sons, Stephen (16) and Ben (15). The boys attended preschool at First Presbyterian and the family joined the church shortly thereafter. Leigh is a reading specialist and private literacy tutor. She is passionate about helping students with learning differences. When Leigh is not teaching, she enjoys reading a good book, singing with the Resurrection Singers, spending time on the river, and walking her beloved black lab, Deac.



Rad Moeller I was baptized at Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta in 1951 and have always attended Presbyterian Churches except during a brief misguided sojourn in the Great Frozen North. Wendy and I joined First Presbyterian Church in New Bern in 1982. I have served on Session and the Christian Education Commission, have taught adult Sunday school, participated in Communion prep and ushered, been a Board member of the First Presbyterian Foundation, been a Board member of the Rothermel Foundation, and have always made sure that there is fresh hot coffee in the Fellowship Cafe. My favorite activity by far has always been Communion Prep with The Honorable Josh Wiley. After nearly 10 years at Duke University Health System, I have practiced Rheumatology in Craven County for almost 41 years. I look forward to assisting the APNC in identifying the Pastor to fill the Reverend Dr. Maren's extremely large and empty shoes.

John Young is a native of Georgia. He is a graduate of Emory University and earned a Master of Public Health from the University of North Carolina. He was Health Counsel to the North Carolina General Assembly for 40 years. John retired to New Bern in 2010. He is a cradle Presbyterian and has been active in a number of churches and activities. His Hobbies are the restoration of historic houses around North Carolina and gardening. He is married and has one son.