



**The 155<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
of  
**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

**Sunday, February 9, 2025 • 12:15 p.m.**

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**Tom Are Jr. and Jeanne Griffin, *Moderators***

**Jared Light and Allison Youngblood, *Co-Clerks of Session***

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and Convening Prayer *Tom Are Jr.*
2. Meeting of the Corporation *Jeanne Griffin*
3. Approval of the 154th Annual Meeting Minutes, February 11, 2024 *Jeanne Griffin*
4. Treasurer's Report *Joe Sifferlen, Vern Broders, Gary Graham*
5. Election of Officers *Rhonda Faulkner*
  - a. Trustees Class of 2028
6. Adjournment of the Corporation *Jeanne Griffin*
7. Meeting of the Congregation *Tom Are Jr.*
8. Report of the Co-Clerks of Session *Jared Light and Allison Youngblood*
9. Election of Officers *Rhonda Faulkner*
  - a. Session Class of 2028
  - b. Deacons Class of 2028
  - c. Nominating At-Large Members 2025–2026
10. Chicago Lights Report *Amanda Felt*
11. Personnel Council Report *Patsy Habicht*
12. Pastor Nominating Committee Report *Jeanne Bishop and Kerry Grady*
13. Interim Pastor Report *Tom Are Jr.*
14. Adjournment of the Congregational Meeting *Tom Are Jr.*
15. Benediction and Closing Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation" (*see back cover*)

## Nominees for Board of Trustees

**Pamela Baker**, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been a member of Fourth Church since 2010. An ardent volunteer with Meals Ministry, she serves on the Meals Ministry Steering Team and also the Personnel Council. Pamela has two adult children and is an avid hiker all over the world.

**Luke Beasley** began attending Fourth Church in 2006 when he was a sophomore in college. He is grateful to have served as a Confirmation Circle leader from 2012 to 2021 and in a variety of other volunteer roles over the years. Currently he supports both the TwentiesThirties and LGBTQIA+ Widening our Welcome groups. A Certified Public Accountant and an audit managing director at a public accounting firm, Luke lives in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood and loves travel, soccer, and hiking.

**Paul Boneham** and his wife, Pam, have been active members of Fourth Church for forty years. Their daughters, Nora and Caroline, were each baptized and married here. Paul has served on the Stewardship Committee and is currently active in the Men's Bible Study group. He has a special passion for the ongoing preservation of the church facilities. Paul is a retired executive with a forty-year career in institutional real estate, and he and Pam live in Glenview.

**John Clum**, who was raised in the Presbyterian church, has been a member of Fourth Church since 2018. In addition to serving on Session and the Adult Education Committee, he teaches for the Center of Life and Learning. A retired professor of English and Theater Studies at Duke University, John has authored books and essays as well as plays and opera libretti. He has also directed scores of professional and university theatrical and operatic productions. He and his husband, art historian Walter Melion, reside at the Clare.

**Gini Lloyd** has been a member of Fourth Church since 2020 and has served as a Deacon and a member of the Joint Finance Committee and Stewardship and Giving Council. She is also on the board of Women at Fourth and on the Volunteer Ministry Council and is active in the Benevolent Guild. Gini is retired from banking/accounting and from a business she started that made coats for greyhounds. She and her husband, Bill, live in the North Center neighborhood with their greyhound, Barbie.

**Robin Moncrieff** joined Fourth Church in 1998. She previously served as a Deacon and as a Trustee on the Joint Finance and Legal Affairs Committees. Robin is most passionate about Meals Ministry and the long-term sustainability of Fourth Church. She is Associate General Counsel advising on contracts, compliance, and strategic projects for a global graphics and omni-channel company and lives in the North Center neighborhood with her son, Alex, when he is home from college.

**Fred Schwartz** and his wife, Mary McFarlane, have been regular attendees at Fourth Church since 2008 and members since 2011. Fred has served on Session, Trustees, and the Strategic Directions Task Force and has been active in youth ministry and Kairos prison ministry. Retired after forty years in engineering and consulting, he works with early stage startups to raise funds and assist leadership with management of their firms. He has three grown children and seven grandchildren.

## Nominees for Session

**Cindy Block**, a lifelong Presbyterian who became a member of Fourth Church in 2014, has served as Chair of the World Mission and Social Justice Committee, led book studies as part of Small Group Ministry, and has been involved with the housing initiative. Cindy and her husband, Steve, live in Michigan and California and, as an elder, will represent the growing needs of remote members. They have five sons and daughters-in-law and four grandchildren on the West Coast.

**Andrew Dust** joined Fourth Church in 2023. He is most passionate about supporting the church's social impact initiatives, including Chicago Lights, and is motivated to help the church grow its online and in-person communities. Andrew cofounded a financial technology startup, which was sold to a publicly traded company. He and his wife, Emily, live in the Lakeview neighborhood and are expecting their first child in February. His hobbies include swimming, reading, and spending time with his dogs.

**Jan Feldman** joined Fourth Church in 1993 at the encouragement of her Lutheran pastor father, who worshiped here while at Midshipmen's School during World War II. Jan has been a member of Session, Trustees, and Deacons and served on two Associate Pastor Nominating Committees, Personnel Council, and the Nominating Committee. She is currently a member of the Stewardship and Giving and the Adult Education Councils. Jan lives in Wilmette with her husband, Joe. They have two adult children, Henry and Alice.

**Rachel Fisher** is a lifelong Presbyterian who joined Fourth Church in 2006. Her passion for music led to a memorable mission trip to Cuba with Fourth Church in 2013, and she has since sung in the Choral Society. Rachel served as a Deacon and as a member of the Nominating Committee. She is also active in Meals Ministry. She resides in East Lakeview with her significant other, Tony Mort, and works in global marketing for a global product development company committed to nutrition and sustainability.

**Kira Lane Gallenbeck** (*youth*) is a lifelong Presbyterian who became a member of Fourth Church in 2018. She has been involved in youth group, summer youth mission trips, and volunteering in the church nursery and is passionate about Children, Youth, and Mission-related ministries. A junior at Glenbrook South High School, Kira is active in field hockey, lacrosse, INTERACT Club, Women in Business, Business Professionals of America, Pep Club, and Cure Club. She lives in Glenview with her parents and brother.

**Mark A. Greenwood** met his wife, Janell Cardinal, at Fourth Church and became a member in 2007. Mark served on the Session and Mission Review Committee of Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City and is passionate about Meals Ministry and Chicago Lights Tutoring. Mark retired in 2021 from a senior leadership position in risk consulting and technology services and enjoys golf, volunteering, reading, and travel. He and Janell reside in the Gold Coast. Daughter Lauren and family reside in Tennessee.

**Tom Hawkins** joined Fourth Church in 2002. After moving back to Miami full-time in 2023, he is now committed to Fourth Church as an online member with frequent visits to Chicago for in-person worship and meetings. He is a member of the Capital Campaign Committee and serves on the Online Church Family Task Force. He retired in 2019 after serving as an executive officer of four public companies as a lawyer and businessperson. An avid reader, he enjoys music, traveling, sports, and physical fitness.

**Dan Miers**, who grew up in the Methodist tradition, has been a member of Fourth Church since 1993. He is most drawn to our unique potential in world mission and social justice. Dan is a strategic advisor to hospitals, health systems, and health companies on matters of business development, health economics, brand, marketing, and growth. He, his wife, Lisa Garay, and their teenage son live in Riverside, and their daughter attends college in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Randy Royer** and his wife were married at Fourth Church in 2008. He worked in the banking sector before moving to the corporate side as Treasurer. Randy now works for a small consulting firm where he specializes in helping companies merge or improve back-office accounting and treasury functions. He also serves on the board of the National Runaway Safeline, which provides help to at-risk youth throughout the country. He currently lives in Lincoln Park with his wife and three children.

**Kim Ruhana** and her family joined Fourth Church in 2009, having been drawn to the congregation because of its accepting nature and emphasis on service. She has volunteered as a first grade Sunday School teacher and is most interested in Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries. She serves on the board of directors of Tutoring Chicago and volunteers as a tutor. Kim currently lives in the Ravenswood neighborhood of Chicago with her husband, three daughters, and dog, Astro, and enjoys traveling, live music, and time with friends.

**Robert Sinclair** has been a member of Fourth Church since 2001. He has served on the Board of Deacons; Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee; Nominating Committee; and Session. He currently serves as co-head of ushers and is lead usher at the 9:30 service of worship. Robert works as Director of Choral Activities and Dean of Graduate Studies for VanderCook College of Music in Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood and he lives in Beverly with his wife, Katy. His current obsessions are fly fishing and cooking.

**Laura Supinger** (*youth*) has been a member of Fourth Church for the last three years and has been participating in youth activities at the church for the last nine. She is particularly passionate about Youth and Children's ministries, as they have been a huge part of her life for many years. She comes from a big family of missionaries and pastors and, though she is still in school, intends to study and pursue youth and children's ministry as well. She lives right here in Chicago with both parents and her four cats and dog.

**Carl Traynor**

**Gretchen Van Natta** joined Fourth Church in 2012. She has served as a member of the Hospitality Task Force and Trustees, was a member of the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee, and has sung with the Choral Society. She currently serves on the Personnel Council and on the Chicago Lights Board. Gretchen spent twenty years as vice president for human resources at two hospitals and Roosevelt University. She is married to Jeff Doane, and they have three grown daughters and seven grandchildren.

## Nominees for **Board of Deacons**

**Robert A. Acevedo** has been an active member of Fourth Church since September 2023 and is currently exploring different ministries to find one that truly resonates with his passion and spirit. Robert works in the finance department of an insurance company, where he manages various financial operations and processes. He is one of four children and an uncle nine times and a great uncle six times with one more on the way in March.

**Pam Block** joined Fourth Church in 1998. She has been Moderator of Women at Fourth and served on Session, on an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and on the Discipleship and Small Group Ministry Council. Currently she serves on the Legacy Advisory and Stewardship and Giving Councils. Prior to her retirement, Pam, who lives in Lincoln Park, worked in fundraising and leadership roles in developing School-to-Work educational programs at the local, state, and national levels.

**Susan Boggie**, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been a member of Fourth Church since 1992. She has served on Session and the Ecclesiastical Relations and the Discipleship and Small Group Ministry Councils. She is also a Commissioner to the Presbytery of Chicago. Susan's primary focus in her many other roles at Fourth Church has been on building community. Retired from a career in marketing and strategic planning, Susan lives in the Old Town Triangle, where she is involved in historic preservation.

**Craig Bomgaars** joined Fourth Church in 2013. He is a lifelong Presbyterian, having grown up in Iowa with considerable Dutch Reformed influence. He is part of Fourth Church's Refugee Resettlement Team, working in the last two years with a West African family. He is also involved with Fourth Church's LGBTQIA+ WOW (Widen Your Welcome) group. He is most passionate about social justice and welcoming refugees. A retired high school biology teacher, Craig lives in Skokie.

**Clarissa Bonilla**, who has a nondemoniational background, came to Fourth Church in 2019 and has been a proud member since 2023. She is most passionate about Chicago Lights and has had the privilege of volunteering in the Social Service Center's Food Pantry and Share Shop. Her parents and siblings live in Indiana. She is the founder of a gelato company that partners with local Illinois family farms to produce high-quality, sustainable products. Her favorite flavor is chocolate!

**Eve Daniels** (*youth*) was baptized and confirmed at Fourth Church. She is passionate about Youth Ministry and spends most Sundays volunteering in the nursery. Eve lives with her parents and two brothers in Evanston and is a junior at Evanston Township high school. Outside of church, she is involved in various clubs at school and as a "child whisperer" she babysits on a regular basis.

**Anna DeGroot** has been regularly attending Fourth Church for six years, having moved to Chicago the fall before COVID. She lived right down the street from Fourth Church and so quickly began attending the church. The TwentiesThirties group was her first exposure to building close relationships at Fourth Church, and she is grateful for their support and friendship. She is also interested in the Chicago Lights Tutoring program. Anna works in the human resources field.

**Sam Evans**, a lifelong Presbyterian, joined Fourth Church in 1993. He is most passionate about teaching and music ministries. Sam is also on multiple boards, both profit and nonprofit. His wife, Terry, is a photographer. Their son, David, and his family live at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, New Mexico. Their daughter, Corey, and her family live in Boston.

**Towanna Griggs** has attended Fourth Church for sixteen years and became a member in 2023. She enjoys helping others and volunteers with the Food Pantry, Share Shop, and Shower Ministry. A relationship banker, she also works with One Summer program, teaching financial literacy to kids and adults. She also work with Deborah's Place, Lifehouse, Catholic Charities, and the Sparkle organization in Bolingbrook. Towanna is also a professional SAG/AFTRA Actress.

**Francesca Gustafson** (*youth*) was baptized as a baby at Fourth Church. Francesca renewed their commitment as a member when they were confirmed in 2022. She has been an active member of the church, including singing in choir since kindergarten, and currently enjoys participating in youth group, as their favorite ministry is Youth Ministry. Francesca lives in the Lakeview neighborhood and is a high school junior at DePaul College Prep; both older siblings attend college in Michigan.

**Kate Hall** moved to Chicago in 2019 and attended Fourth Church for a few years before she and her fiancé, Matt Gauen, became members in 2024. She has been a Chicago Lights tutor and participated in the TwentiesThirties group and looks forward to continuing to be involved with both while serving as a Deacon. Kate works at a growth marketing agency as a Business Development Manager. Her parents and brother live in the Twin Cities area, and her sister lives in Washington D.C.

**Richard R. Knorr** was raised by a devout Christian family in Rockford, Illinois. In 2002 he became a member of Fourth Church and married Gwen B. Knorr at Fourth Church in 2003. Richard is involved with Spiritual Formation, Adult Education, volunteer opportunities, and Men's Bible Study. Richard is an architect and real estate developer. Richard's and Gwen's children are Victoria and Theodore Flynn and Kaylee Knorr.

**Anoopa Koshy** has been attending Fourth Church since 2010 and became a member in 2013. Her two daughters, Eva and Aria, attend Sunday School and youth groups. Anoopa is passionate about the children's programs, including Sunday School, Youth Ministry, Children's and Youth Choirs, and Chicago Lights. Anoopa works full-time as a physician (endocrinologist), and her parents, who live in Kankakee, attend church with her family when they come to visit.

**Margy LaFreniere** joined Fourth Church in 2022 and is grateful for the church's focus on discernment and the collective work it takes to follow through on faith commitments. She is co-chair of the World Mission and Social Justice Council and loves being in community with faith-based organizations and grassroots nonprofits on the South and West Sides. Margy works in nonprofits that serve K-12 students, teachers, and families. She lives with her partner in the Edgewater neighborhood.

**Frances (Frannie) Packard**, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been attending Fourth Church since 2018. She is most passionate about Chicago Lights. Frannie has had several wonderful careers, first as a Special Education Teacher, second as the chef for the governor of Ohio after attending cooking school in Paris. Lastly, she worked for the Department of Defense on an Army base in Vicenza, Italy. After twenty-three years she retired and moved to Chicago. She loves helping others and currently volunteers at Hospice.

**Seth Reatherford** attended Fourth Church for almost a decade and was married here with both children baptized at Fourth Church before becoming an official member. He currently serves on the Youth Ministry Committee. Seth is Chief Operating Officer of Newstead Credit and Political Risk. He also volunteers with BSA Troop 20 in Winnetka lives in Winnetka with his wife, Allie, and two children, Ian (16) and Molly (13).

*(Deacon nominees, continued)*

**Andrew Shanahan** attended the Ash Wednesday service at Fourth Church in 2022 and deeply resonated with the sermon that day. He joined the church that March. Since joining, he has had the privilege of serving through the Bag Lunch program, an experience that has been both humbling and inspiring. He hopes to deepen his service to the church and the community. He is particularly passionate about supporting those who are homeless, older adults, and initiatives such as the Food Pantry, Share Shop, and Urban Farm.

**Katie Tkach** became a member of Fourth Church in 2014, two years after she and her husband, Brian, first moved to Chicago and attended church services here. Katie has served as a Sunday School teacher, and she and her family enjoy taking part in many of the family and children's activities at Fourth Church. Katie works in the field of development and, in her spare time, enjoys volunteering, yoga, and running.

**James J. Young** has been a member of Fourth Church since 2023. He began visiting Fourth Church and participating in the Gathering service in Buchanan Chapel after his latest move to Chicago in 2020. He appreciates that Fourth Church allows him to contribute through the many volunteering opportunities available and loves that the church accepts him without judgment of his "weak" biblical knowledge. His faith journey is always with thoughts of his late grandmother.

## **Ordained Deacons to fill vacancies**

### **One-Year Term**

**Anita Balodis**

**Stacia Edwards**

**Craig Endicott**

**Susan Graham**

**Laura Lee Larson**

**Decima Panitch**

**Susan Wulczyn**

### **Two-Year Term**

**Tim Schellhardt**

**Sally Sharp**

# Nominees for 2025–2026 Nominating Committee

**Kathryn Burkhardt** is a lifelong Presbyterian and has been a member of Fourth Church for twenty years. She is beyond grateful for the numerous blessings she's received as a leader and a volunteer, and that she is able to call some of our congregants her dearest friends. Kathryn is honored to be invited to prayerfully discern the calling of our future board members. She is a Marketing Director in the technology industry and lives in the Gold Coast Neighborhood with her husband, Steve Phelps.

**Anthony Hipp** joined Fourth Church in 2016. He has participated in Meals Ministry sandwich making and was elected as Deacon in 2018. After being Moderator of Deacons, he was elected to the Session in 2021. A lifelong Presbyterian, Anthony was ordained as an Elder at Starmount Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina, and served two terms on their Session.

**Christiane D. Knapp-Andrews** and her husband have been Fourth Church members since 1984. Their three daughters have been part of Fourth Church since birth and two of them remain active members here with their families. Christiane taught Sunday school for many years and has served on Session and the Board of Deacons. The two Fourth Church ministries she is most passionate about are serving as a Sunday Night Supper supervisor—preparing a delicious meal for our guests—as well as serving Communion. Christiane is a high school chemistry teacher.

**Rachel I. Letcher**, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been a member of Fourth Church for more than twenty years, Rachel's favorite volunteer roles have been those that demonstrate the church's mission of welcoming and hospitality, from Prayer with a Deacon to Get Connected Sunday's Block Party. She is looking forward to working with others to identify the church members that will become church leaders, helping to ensure Fourth Church's good work will continue. She lives with her husband, Barry, and standard poodle, Cobalt, in the Uptown neighborhood.

**Bill Patterson**, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been a member of Fourth Church since the last time the Bears won a playoff game. He has served on Joint Finance, Session, and the Board of Chicago Lights and has chaired the Stewardship Council and the Chicago Lights Gala of Hope. Bill is a partner at Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, where he is an intellectual property litigator. He has three kids with his wife, Kaylyn, and lives in Oak Park.

**Brian Satre** and his wife, Norah, were married at Fourth Church in 1993 and have been active since 2006. He has served as a Deacon and Elder and been part of Youth Ministry, Stewardship and Giving, and World Mission and Social Justice, including volunteering with Breakthrough and walking with Saint Sabina. Brian serves as the Vice President of International for Blistex Inc. He, Norah, and daughter Anne reside in Batavia; son Owen lives in Wheaton; and daughter Livia is in her fourth year at the University of Arkansas.

**Katie Truesdell** became a member of Fourth Church in January 2011. Over the years she has served as a supervisor for Sunday Night Supper in the Meals Ministry program, been involved on the Refugee Resettlement Committee, and served as a Deacon and an Elder. She is now serving on the Discover Fourth Committee. Outside of Fourth Church, Katie runs a travel company and enjoys traveling with her husband, Jared Light, and spending time with their nieces and nephew. Katie lives in the River North neighborhood.



**The Nominating Committee thanks everyone**

who nominated candidates for church office! All of your descriptions of peoples' gifts and abilities helped the committee envision the leaders being called in this season to serve as Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and members of the board of Chicago Lights.

We urge you to keep church leadership in mind as you engage in Fourth Church's ministry, so that you will be ready with **new nominations this fall.**

May we all grow in our faith and in our connections to one another, worshiping and serving together. **To find new ways to engage,** stop by the Deacons Connection Corner during Coffee Hour, explore our website and Sunday bulletin, browse our Volunteer Ministry platform at [bit.ly/fpcvolunteers](http://bit.ly/fpcvolunteers), or contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry ([rcrouch@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rcrouch@fourthchurch.org); 312.981.3382).

*Closing Hymn*

**The Church's One Foundation**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.  
She is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

