



BE THOU MY VISION
OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE TAKES SHAPE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT
WHITE MEMORIAL
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

2023 CHURCH STAFF

Colleen Aguirre -Office Manager, **Andrew Amodei**-Executive Director, **Cynthia Baggett**-Director of Weekday School, **Genevieve Brooks**-Director of Youth Ministry, **David Buckner**-Custodian, **Linda Chestnut**-Food Service Assistant, **Cate Church Norman**-Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, **Bridget Cobb**-Administrative Assistant for Weekday School, **Claire Cox-Woodlief**-Director of Operations, **Lisa Crumpler**- Pastoral Executive Assistant, **Leigh Ann Dailey**-Administrative Assistant for Outreach and Administration, **Bec Douthart**-Publications and A/V Coordinator, **Jennifer Eastman**-Director of Young Children's Ministry, **Christopher Edmonston** -Pastor, **Jim Ferry**-Parish Associate, **Antron Fowlkes**-Custodian, **Anne Galliher**-Associate Pastor for Small Groups & Young Adults, **Heather Garra-brant**-Health Ministry Coordinator, **Kelly Gold**-Director of Children's and Youth Music, **Jody Grayson**-Finance Manager, **Rick Gulley**-Lead Custodian, **Karen Haneline**-Videographer/Production Specialist, **Kathy Hart**-Coordinator for Pastoral Care, **Kirsten Homdrom**-Associate Director of Music, **Kathy Howell**-Communications Director, **Lee Hunter**-Pastoral Resident, **Gloria Johnson**- Associate Pastor for Outreach, **John Koppe**-Facilities Maintenance Manager, **Mariel Lee**-Receptionist /Administrative Assistant for Outreach and Music, **Michael Lehmann**-Custodian, **Liz McKee**-Development Director, **Tyquell McMillian**-Food Service Assistant, **Tabitha Melville**-Food Service Assistant, **Blair Miller**-Assistant Director of the Weekday School, **Bill Morris**-Custodian, **Eric Nanz**-Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts, **Linda Nunnallee**-Director of Community Engagement, **Patrick Odle**-Custodian, **Caroline Parker**-Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care, **Paris Parrish**-Custodian **Betty Peterson**-Finance Assistant, **Chip Pope**-Associate Pastor for Family Ministry, **Grier Richards**-Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Adult Faith Formation, **Camille Schaaf**-Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministry, **Judy Yates Siker**-Parish Associate, **Deb Smith**-Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministry, **Lynn Springfield**-Director of Elementary Ministry, **Colisha C. Stanford**-Executive Director StepUp, **Elizabeth Viohl**-Coordinator for Membership & Discipleship, **Drew Walker**-Assistant Director of Communications, **Debra Watson**-Director of Food Service, **Jean Williams**-Parish Nurse and **Karl Zinsmeister**-Director of Music

WHITE MEMORIAL
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

1704 OBERLIN ROAD | RALEIGH, NC | 919-834-3424
whitememorial.org

WORSHIP | EMBRACE | SERVE
in the manner of Christ



2023 will be a year we long remember because we dedicated ourselves to living into our vision plan (you can still find it on the first page

of our website labeled Strategic Vision Document). This plan led us to create a new Associate Pastor position, to adapt our Pastoral Care team to address rising needs in our congregation, to begin laying the foundations for new small group initiatives, and to reestablish our Theologian in Residence program. There will be much more to come in 2024, and we pray you will join us on our journey into the future of our mission and ministry.

It was also the year when attendance - in worship and programs - returned to pre-2020 levels, which lifted the spirits of our entire church family. We cannot thank you enough for your support in participation, financial gifts, prayer, and volunteer hours. The soul of a church is truly the combination of its devotion to the Lord and the contributions of its membership.

Each March, we present an Annual Report so you may see how our various contributions enabled the mission and ministry of White Memorial to thrive during the previous year. We are excited to share our milestones from 2023. Even so, we pray to God that 2024 will bring continued growth in our devotion to the Lord, our continued impact on our community, and our ministry. It is a privilege to be in this ministry with all of you.

May grace abound,

Christopher Edmonston, *Pastor*

A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANDREW AMODEI

It brings me immense joy to witness the profound generosity of the White Memorial community this year. The outpouring of support reflects the touching of hearts and minds by the Holy Spirit, echoing God's boundless generosity. Whether through the revitalized Theologian in



Residence program, the steadfast support of our pastoral staff and diaconate, or the enriching influence of mentors on faith formation, many have actively participated in transforming our community through outreach efforts. The shared experience of worship, with its uplifting music and preaching, has further strengthened our bond. This movement signifies God's powerful presence among us, and I am deeply grateful to play a small role in supporting it. Heartfelt thanks are due to the dedicated staff members and all who contribute to the ministry of our church. Your unwavering dedication is a testament to the vitality of our community, both within White Memorial and beyond. Thank you for your commitment to the life of our church and the betterment of our world.

2023 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Confirmed members reported December 31, 2023.....	4,433
Added on Profession of Faith and Reaffirmation of Faith.....	65
Added on Certificate from Other Churches.....	61
Total Gains for 2023.....	126
Loss by Death.....	28
Loss by Transfer to Inactive/Deletion from Active Roll.....	45
Loss by Transfer to Other Churches	12
Total Losses for 2023.....	85
Net Gain for 2023.....	41
Membership as of December 31, 2023.....	4,474
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 2020.....	4,398
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 2015.....	4,220
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 2010.....	3,863
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 2005.....	3,964
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 2000.....	3,977
Confirmed Members as of December 31, 1995.....	3,992

OTHER INFORMATION

Baptisms.....	56
Sunday School Enrollment.....	1,602
Teachers and Officers in Sunday School.....	198

THE SESSION

OFFICERS 2023-2024

Moderator: Christopher Edmonston

Vice-Moderators: Cate Church Norman
Anne Galliher, Chip Pope, Grier Richards

Clerk: Matt Walker

Moderator Pro Tempore:
Gregg Sandreuter

THE DIACONATE

OFFICERS 2023-2024

Moderator: Scott Wilson

Vice-Moderator: Lori Jones

Secretary: Laura Clark

Treasurer: Stuart Phoenix

Assistant Treasurer: Bill White

Class of 2024

Jonathan Broyles, Laura Clark, Gray Glover, Tracey Hall, Blair Hughes, Sid Hunt, Scott Lasso, Philips Leach, Ann Matteson, Terree Montgomery, Lydia Pickard, Margaret Raynal, Wayne Rogers, Jackie Rufty, Jan Stewart, Alex Wyatt

Class of 2025

Chester Allen, Beth Barnard, Kristye Brackett, Nancy Brawley, Calleigh Crumpler, Toni Hutto, Lori Jones, Gina Minton, Brian Mock, Ford Robertson, Jr., Carole Sawicki, Chris Wilson

Class of 2026

Cotten Barnes, Melanie Biddell, Matthew Brookby, Brent Brockschmidt, Cindy Canning, Paula Corkey, Lee Craven, Amelia Edmonston, Travis Harris, Dalton Carruthers Hunt, Julie Leon, Cissy Livengood, Allan Pharr, Christopher Pharr, Kristen Sloop, Mary Willoughby, Scott Wilson, Heather York

Class of 2024

DeLana Anderson, Bill Barnett, Jr., Kristen Beightol, Nancy Benninger, Mary Chamblee, CC Chiavetta, Jack Clayton, Kelly Cunningham, Tom Davis, Wesley Jones, SuSu Lilly, Don Munford, Mabel Pace, Celia Pope, Ray Watson, Erwin Williams

Class of 2025

Bill Baker, Tyler Craft, Angie Faulk, Burke Koonce, Ruth Landers, Danita Morgan, Diane Payne, Stuart Phoenix, George Ramsay, Gregg Sandreuter, Russ Stephenson, Matt Walker, Rick White, Peter Williams

Class of 2026

Frank Baird, Diane Britt, Penny Carlo, Erin Duffy, Anne Enberg, Debbie Fox, Katherine Gilliland, Jessica Ledford, Glenn Matteson, Caroline Rectanus, Karl Rectanus, Jared Smith, John Thagard, Bill White, Tricia Willoughby, Rob Wyatt IV

2023 MILESTONES

WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS

The WMPC Worship Committee is made up of several guilds and sub-committees that support worship services and the broader worship life of the congregation – extending to programs, retreats, conferences, seminars, and concerts. These guilds/sub-committees are Advent Wreath Guild; Baptismal Guild; Chancel Glorification Guild; Communion Guild; Concert Series Committee; Liturgical Arts Guild; Paraments Guild; Usher Guild; Wedding Guild; and Witness to the Resurrection Guild. All these groups have faithfully fulfilled their leadership through another year of worship.

The Worship Committee also oversees WMPC Music Ministry. Highlights from this ministry area include:

- A tremendous experience at the **June Montreat Worship and Music Conference** attended by our entire WMPC Music Ministry team and a multi-generational representation of our congregation.
- We presented **Carol Fest** in December for a second year with great participation and appreciation.
- **Music ensemble participation has continued to strengthen** post-Covid, ending the season strong in April/May 2023 and further strengthened at the resumption of the fall schedule in September 2023.



2023 FINANCIALS



\$5,842,404 TOTAL PLEDGES GIFTS AND OTHER INCOME

\$5,775,209 TOTAL EXPENSES

PROGRAM AND PROPERTY	\$ 1,260,155
PERSONNEL	\$ 3,231,082
BENEVOLENCES	\$ 1,283,972

2023 Budgeted Gifts and Pledges	\$ 5,588,028
2023 Actual Gifts and Pledges	\$ 5,842,404
2024 Budgeted Gifts and Pledges	\$ 6,080,972

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Vacation Bible School

201 children, 59 youth helpers, 89 adult volunteers, 103 snack providers, and a multitude of staff members joyfully experienced our Hero Hotline VBS on June 19 – 23, 2023! Our church's children learned stories about Bible heroes through daily assemblies, music, movement, art, science, and musical movement. They enjoyed playground time, snacks, and fellowship as they built their circle of friends. Our VBS children served others by bringing in supplies for and packing care bags for Triangle Family Services.

Sunday School Young children, 2s - Kindergarten, gathered for Sunday School which included Bible stories, arts and crafts, music and fellowship time. Elementary children in grades 1-5 explored Bible stories through Rotation Stations, visiting 6 stations: Science, Drama, Art, Prayer, Games, and Music. The children's offering supported the church's major mission, SAFEchild.

Special events for children included:

2's Welcome to Sunday School
Baby/Toddler Music & Storytime
Blessing of the Backpacks
Christmas Eve Bell Services
Easter Egg Hunt

Friday Night Movie Nights
Ice Cream Social
Joy Gift Party
Skating Parties
Trunk or Treat



YOUTH MINISTRY

22: The number of Big Youth Events in 2023! (see list below)

64: The Number of hours we spent training student leaders in 2023

2,452: The number of miles to Chiapas, Mexico. In 2023, the youth had their first International Youth Mission Trip since 2019. WMPC sent 21 youth and adults to Chiapas Mexico.

22 "Big Events" in our youth ministry in 2023: Youth Lock Out, Asheville Middle School Mission Weekend, Youth Sunday, Mardi Gras in March Fundraising Dinner, Confirmation Sunday, Spring Retreat, Confirmation Sunday Genevieve Brooks went on Sabbatical, Graduation Sunday, ASP, Chiapas Mexico International Mission Trip, Montreat Youth Conference, Massanetta Middle School Conference, Charleston Middle School Mission Trip, Leader Training for Sunday School Teachers, Confirmation Mentors, Youth Advisers and Student Leadership Teams, Kick Off Sunday, First Youth Group and the FOAM PARTY, High School Beach Retreat, Middle School Fall Retreat at Camp Kanata, High School Mountain Retreat, Camille Schaaf was hired as the new Administrative Assistant to Youth Ministry, Celebrated Deb Smith's Retirement at the Youth Group Christmas Party
Student Leadership Meetings

Both the High School Leadership Team and the Middle School Leadership Team each had 31 meetings and a finale party. These teams meet each week on Zoom from September until May to learn leadership skills, plan youth group events, and help plan the retreats.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Our Congregational Care Team welcomed a few new members to the team in 2023. We welcomed Lee Hunter as Pastoral Resident; Heather Garrabrant as the Health Ministry Coordinator; and Caroline Parker as Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care. The pastoral and program staff provided active and ongoing care, health resources, pastoral counseling, and grief support for members of our congregation.

Congregational care offerings included our Stephen Ministry program, Cancer Companions, Healing Through Grief groups, and Divorce groups. We continued programs for mental health and wellness and contemplative practices including Lectio Divina and Advent and Lenten contemplative etreats. Guest speakers were invited to speak on various topics such as aging & retirement and diet.

The Diaconate supported congregation members with bereavement care for those facing the loss of a loved one; new member care for those in their journey as official members; and care for new parents by encouraging community and connections.

The Mental Health & Wellness Ministry offered annual blood drives, a flu shot clinic, CPR training, and medical equipment on loan. Caregiver's coffee was a new offering to give those caring for a loved one with physical, developmental, mental health or aging related challenges, a chance to connect with other caregivers. Oncology Yoga was introduced as a new exercise class offering for survivors, thrivers, and caregivers.

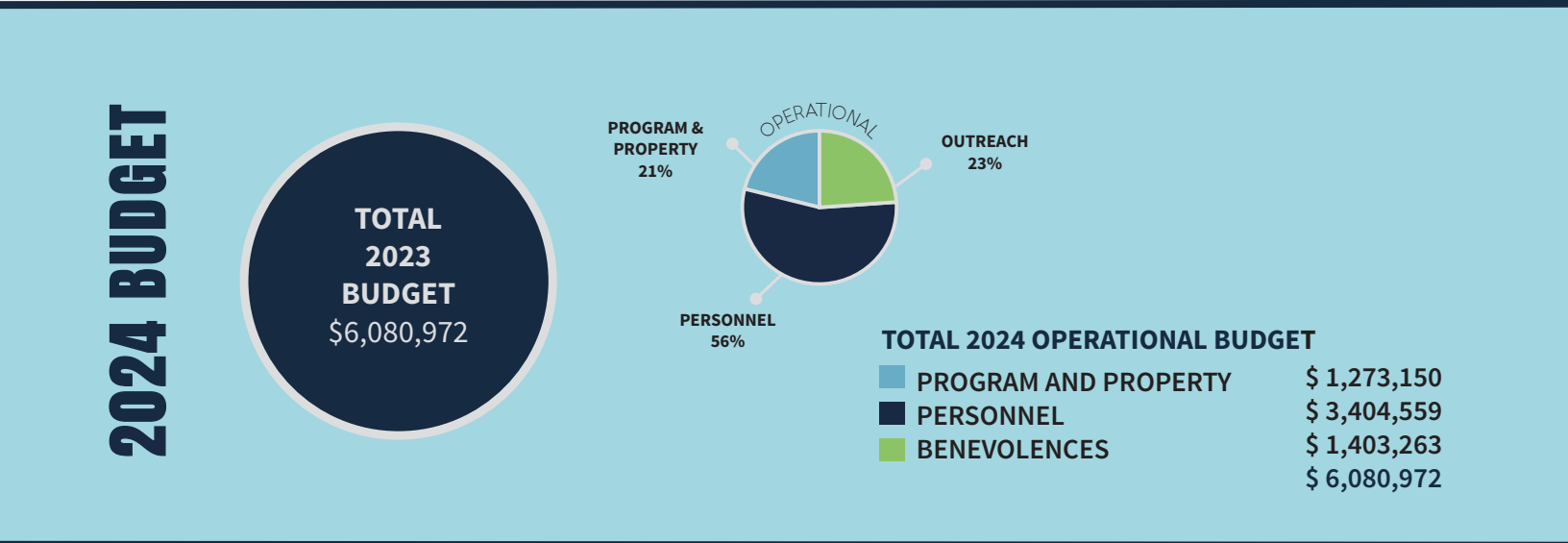
ADULT ENGAGEMENT AND FORMATION

The Theologian in Residence program brought author Karen Wright Marsh to campus to speak about her book *Vintage Saints and Sinners* in September. During her visit, she collaborated with Grier Booker Richards, Anne Galliher, and Karen Haneline to produce a small-group video curriculum called "Vintage Small Groups" to be used at WMPC and beyond.

In September, more than 150 people from WMPC and the surrounding community attended a documentary screening of *At the River* hosted by the MORE Ministry Team. Participants were able to engage the filmmaker and director Carolyn Crowder through a Q&A after the screening.

Under the guidance of the goals outlined in the "Be Thou My Vision document," WMPC discerned the need to hire an additional associate pastor. In October, Anne Galliher was called to be our Associate Pastor for Small Groups and Young Adults.

Four Believing and Belonging new member classes were offered throughout the year. We celebrate the 126 new members who joined our church in the past year.



OUTREACH

We raised \$122,059 for our 2023 Major Mission Partner SAFEchild. Through SAFEchild's new facility, children, families, and the community are served in a facility designed specifically for programs, security and confidentiality. The new facility also adds critical space for the SAFEchild Advocacy Center. The new building will feature three pediatric exam rooms and three interview rooms, immediately tripling capacity to 1,200 child evaluations per year and eliminating wait times.

Tours of Nonprofit Organizations: To help inform the vision of the Allocation Committee, tours were organized to 45 agencies supported by our church.

Began evaluating the overall Outreach Committee structure making sure we provide a meaningful experience for Outreach Leaders and Volunteers while effectively supporting the nonprofit community.

Administrative: Set up Salesforce to manage data for the 49 organizations served by White Memorial Presbyterian Church; Increased engagement with the different church teams; and identified volunteer recruitment as an area for improvement.

We are proud to announce our slate of elders and deacons for this year.

Class of 2027 Elder Nominees



DeLana Anderson: Elder; Deacon; Diaconate Moderator; Young Families Committee Chair; Sunday School Teacher; Presbyterian Women (PW): Circle Treasurer, Nominating Committee, Women's Retreat Committee, Honorary Life Recipient; Associate Pastor Nominating Committee; Wedding Guild; Generosity Committee; Youth Committee; High School Director Nominating Committee; Confirmation Mentor and Advisor; Officer Nominating Committee.



Lewis Jennings (Youth Class of 2026): Life long member of WMPC; Youth Group; Webelos and Boy Scout Troop 395.



Caroline McCullen: Deacon; God Talk; MORE Ministry Team; TNT Sunday School Class; Wedding Guild; Refugee Resettlement Committee.



Abby Pressel: Elder; Presbyterian Women; Women's Retreat Co-Chair; Circle Member; Music & Worship Committee; Youth Committee; Young Adults Committee.



Tom Robinson: Elder; Deacon; Poland International Mission Outreach; Mayview Community Outreach; Sunday School Teacher & Member; Men's Small Group Bible Study; Agape Care Volunteer.



Ray Watson: Elder; High School Sunday School Teacher; Worship Committee; Allocations Committee; Lockout Chaperone; Usher; New Hope Presbytery Nominations and Representation Committee.



Gwen Whiteman: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; Sunday School Coordinator; Assistant Sunday School Superintendent; StepUp Ministry Volunteer; Weekday School Committee; Co-Director of VBS; Co-Director Montreat Family Retreat; Circle Member; VBS Volunteer; Hospitality Committee; Lectio Divina/Centering Prayer Member.



Erwin Williams: Elder; Deacon; Confirmation Committee, Chair; Building and Grounds Committee; Community Outreach Committee; Sunday School Teacher.



Reid Wilson (Youth Class of 2026): Children's and Youth Ministry; Sunday School; Confirmation Class of 2022; CROSS Missions; Asheville Youth Mission; Montreat Youth Conference; High School Leadership Team; Youth Group; 5th Connections; Impact Groups; Small Groups; Campfire Theology; Youth Choir; Youth Retreats, Events, Service Projects, and Outreach; Boy Scout Troop 395; VBS Volunteer; Children's Cherub, Carol, and Joyful Noise Choirs.



Chase Barnard: Mental Health and Wellness Ministry; Nominating Committee; Sunday School Teacher; Parents of Youth Sunday School Class; Chaperone for ASP; Confirmation Retreat and other youth trips; Brass Choir; Men's Breakfast.



Nancy Benninger: Elder; Chair of Weekday School Committee; Stephen Minister; Stephen Ministry Leadership Team; VBS Teacher; Children's Ministries and Choir Volunteer; Past Sunday School Coordinator; past member Lilies Bible Study; Imagine Capital Campaign.



Mary Chamblee: Elder; High School Youth Advisor; Youth Committee; 20s + 30s Group.



Alex Flynn: Deacon; Co-Leader 8th Grade Confirmation (2022-23); Presbyterian Women; Registration Chair Women's Retreat Committee (2022 & 2023); Co-Chair Women's Retreat (2019 & 2020); Co-Director of VBS (2017); Re-Opening Task Force.



Amy Kennemur Hall: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; Sunday School Coordinator; VBS Teacher; VBS Volunteer Coordinator; Nursery School Teacher; Children's Worship Committee; Bible Study; Super Summer Three Days Teacher; Weekday School Teacher; Weekday School Board Member; Weekday School Director Search Committee; Stephen Minister; Stephen Ministry Leadership Team; StepUp Volunteer; Hospitality Committee; Summer-in-the-City; Young Families Committee Member and Secretary; Confirmation Partner; Personnel Committee; Santuario; Boy Scout Troop 395 Volunteer; Associate Pastor Search Committee.



Nan Hannah: Elder; Deacon; Diaconate, Chair; Worship Committee, Chair; Community Allocations Committee Member; Associate Director of Music Search Committee; Re-Opening Task Force; Co-Chair, Communion Guild; Member, Committee of Chairs; Outreach Committee; Colony Care; Strategic Planning Committee; Co-Chair, Usher Guild; Usher.



SuSu Lilly: Elder; Deacon; Advent Wreath Lighter; Stephen Minister; Shuttle Driver; VBS Teacher; Sunday School Coordinator; Sunday School Teacher; Nursery Volunteer and Coordinator; Generosity Committee; StepUp Ministry; APNC; Church Nominating Committee.

Class of 2027 Deacon Nominees



Mary Eliza Angley (Youth Class of 2026): Life long member of WMPC.



Jonathan Broyles: Deacon; Sunday School Leader; Men's Bible Study.



Laura Clark: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; VBS teacher; Member of TNT; Co-Editor of Bountiful Blessings Church Cookbook; Presbyterian Women, Co-Representative; Nominating Committee; Circle E.



George Crane: Stephen Ministry; Koinonia, Ushers Guild; Men's Breakfast & Bible Study; StepUp Ministry Co-Partner; WTR Chair, Worship Committee.



Katie Eves: Presbyterian Women; Women's Retreat Committee; Women's Retreat Small Group Leader; Sunday School Teacher and Music Leader.



Heather Horton: Youth Group Advisor 2005-2008; Sunday School Teacher 2013-2017; Sunday School Coordinator 2017-2022; Sunday School Superintendent 2022-2024; Presbyterian Women's Retreat Committee, Treasurer 2018-2020; Milestone Ministries Committee; Nursery Volunteer; Usher/Greeter.



Blair Hughes: Deacon; Stephen Minister; Stephen Ministry Leader; Presbyterian Women Circle Representative, Secretary; Health Ministries, Co-Chair; Annual Blood Drive Coordinator; God Talk.



Sid Hunt: Deacon; Bereavement Committee; Stephen Ministry Leadership Team; Stephen Minister; Sunday School Teacher; Nursery Keeper; Advisor for ASP; Confirmation Advisor; Generosity Committee Member.



Ann Matteson: Deacon; Colony Care Leader; VBS Volunteer; Sunday School Teacher; Usher; Allocations Committee; Growing Families Committee.



Terree Montgomery: Deacon; Stephen Ministry Leadership Team; Generosity Committee; Chair of Growing Families; Agape Care Team; Associate Pastor for Young Adults and Small Groups Search Committee; Churchwide Nominating Committee.



Julie Nau: Service Committee (liaison to SouthLight, Mayview Learning Center, Raleigh Rescue Mission, Urban Ministries, Wake Relief, Pardoned by Christ); Health and Wellness Committee; Mental Health and Wellness Committee; Allocations Committee; Implementation Committee; WTR Team; MORE Ministry Team.



Tyler Poole: Sunday School Teacher; Intergenerational Men's Small Group; Young Adults Bible Study (2011-2016), Leadership Committee; Young Adults Group; Nominating Committee; Assisted the Committee for new OnPoint Worship service.



Wayne Rogers: Deacon; Sounds on Oberlin; Choir; Property Care Committee; Tuesday Morning Men's Breakfast.



Jackie Rufty: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; Sunday School Coordinator; PYC Leader; Martha Ministry Volunteer; Confirmation Committee; VBS Teacher.



Ashley Silverman: OnPoint Band (2022-present); Sunday School Teacher (2011-2022); VBS Teacher, Youth Coordinator and Co-Director (2011-2023); Presbyterian Women; Women's Retreat Co-Chair (2020-2023); Youth Committee (present); MORE Ministry Team (present); Families with Young Children Ministry (2020-2023); WDS teacher (2019-present).



Taylor Bree Young (Youth Class of 2026): High School Leadership Team (HLT); Sunday School; Volunteer Opportunities for the Youth; Youth Group/ Campfire Theology; Youth Trips.