

PNC Guide 2020

Nominees for the Pastor Nominating Committee

First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, WV



BEN ADAMS

Ben Adams is a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church Charleston. Ben is an attorney, a Charleston City Councilman, and serves on the board of several nonprofits. He is an ordained Ruling Elder, and recently served two terms on Session and as Chair of the former Stewardship Committee. Ben was raised in this church and actively participated in youth fellowship activities through church athletics, youth group, and via First Presby's long term relationship with Bluestone Camp. Ben is also one of the illustrious alumni of the First Presbyterian Church Preschool. He and his wife Elizabeth have two children Hoy and Catherine, who pre-COIVD were familiar faces at First Presbyterian Church functions.



ART DOUMAUX

Art Doumaux has served as an Elder and several years as a Deacon. He currently serves as a Deacon at Edgewood Summit, a privilege he enjoys immensely. For years, he has been on Wednesday Work Crew, helped in the kitchen, and involved on Property and Stewardship Committees.

Art and his wife, Patricia, came to Charleston on August 31, 1966. Patricia taught chemistry at West Virginia University Institute of Technology for 30 years, retiring in 1996. She died in April 2016. Art worked in the Research and Development Department at Union Carbide/Dow, retiring in 2001. He has two sons, Howard, wife Yi-Hua Tsa and daughter Laura, living in San Diego, CA, and Thomas, wife Melinda Kane and son William, living in Greenville, NC. He's been a member of First Presbyterian Church for 54 years, lured by the preaching of Dr. Benny Benfield and the friendly congregation. With no living relatives in Charleston, many members of First Presby are Art's extended family.



KRISTEN HARRISON

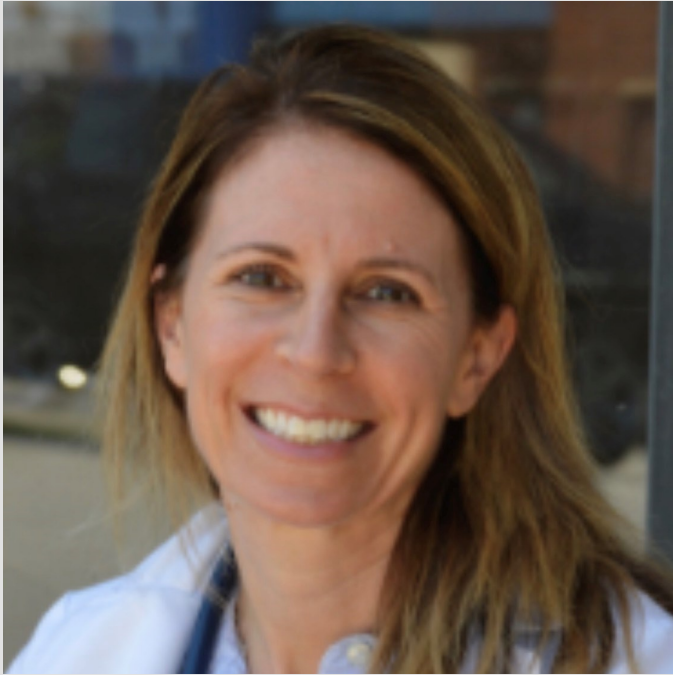
Kristen Harrison is a fourth-generation member of First Presbyterian Church, Charleston. First Presby has been her church home since birth. She actively participated in Sunday school, bible school, youth group, high school basketball, confirmation and retreats. As an adult Kristen has been a confirmation mentor, Ruling Elder and most recently a member of the Presby 2040! committee (Strategic Planning Committee). She is committed to seeing our church thrive and prosper and share our time, talents and treasures with our community. This is a critical time in the life of our church and Kristen is deeply committed to seeking and securing our future spiritual leadership.



DAWN HAWKINS

About 20 years ago Dawn sat in the back of the sanctuary trying to sneak out before anyone could talk to her. One day, her plan to escape was interrupted by a pastor delivering the benediction between her and the door. Since that day in this church, Dawn has found refuge when her soul was broken, married her partner in the Chapel, served on Session, brought a newborn baby to worship, and presented that baby to receive the Sacrament of Baptism. Dawn has served previously as an Elder, and been very active in ministries of the Christian Education Committee. Dawn also pursued Commissioned Lay Pastors studies with the Presbytery of West Virginia.

Dawn and her husband, Les, are the chosen parents of Courtney - the church's baby. Dawn enjoys the time she spends racing Courtney around to her activities.



AMY ISAAC

Amy Isaac has been a member of First Presby for over 15 years. Originally from Vermont, she moved to Charleston with her husband Tom in 2003. Tom has been a member of First Presby since childhood, and their 3 children have been active in youth programs and LOGOS for many years, and were all members of the preschool at FPC. Amy was previously an elder, and has also served on several committees here at First Presby. She has been a table parent and classroom teacher at LOGOS, participated on the Christian Education Committee, and is currently active on the Mission and Witness Committee. She coordinates volunteers yearly for the mission project Hope Village and also helps to coordinate youth mission projects. Amy is very invested in the future of First Presby and hopes that by sitting on this committee she can provide insight and guidance as to what our children and younger generations might need from an incoming pastor.



DAVID PITCHFORD

At six months of age, David Pitchford was baptized at First Presbyterian Church, and has been a regular weekly worshipper ever since that day 58 years ago. When folks arrive for worship, David greets us every Sunday as Head Usher for morning worship services. In addition to serving as a currently Ruling Elder on the Session, David has been a member of the Finance and Stewardship Committee, served as a Trustee, also previously served with the Long Range Planning Committee and the Capital Campaign Leadership Team. He has consistently supported Christian Education, Stephen Ministers, and Fellowship ministries of First Presby. The Reverend Ernest Trice Thompson was the longest serving minister of First Presbyterian Church (1902-1936), and is the great grandfather of David Pitchford. David is married to Jenny, and their daughter Allison was raised at First Presby. Allison and her husband Blake reside in Morgantown, and David and Jenny reside in Charleston.



TAYLOR RAAB

Taylor W. Raab's family joined FPC and he was baptized during his tenure at the First Presby Preschool. He can fondly remember and will never forget the love and nurturing that the director, Jackie Taylor, gave to him and all the students. Taylor still considers her a friend and mentor to this day. He attended Sunday School and Worship services at FPC throughout his childhood. On April 14th 1996, he was confirmed as a member by Dean Thompson, Doug Heidt, and Nancy Williamsberry. After graduating college and returning to Charleston, he renewed his relationship at FPC with the Wednesday Connections. In 2014, he was nominated to be a Ruling Elder of the Session. Taylor states that it has been an honor, during that time, to serve on the Christian Education Committee. Taylor chose that committee particularly because he wanted to have a greater impact with the children of the church and their experience coming to know God. In 2016, after some very big personal changes in his life, Taylor answered the call to be more personally committed to the youth and young people of the church. From then on he participated with the children and youth through LOGOS and with the youth during the Sunday Youth Group. This has allowed him to grow his faith and understanding of the work of the church. Taylor was honored in 2019 to be appointed by the Session to the Mission Study Team. He says that more than anything, that experience educated him on not just our church, but how our church interacts with and is part of a larger faith and nonfaith based community. Taylor is currently the Chair of the Christian Education Committee and strives to make this aspect of church more meaningful and best suited for the Christian formation of the congregation. He is constantly trying to make himself better aware of what God is trying to show him and tell him each and every day. He endeavors not just to make FPC a better church, but to make Charleston and WV a better place, through the ministry of our church as the heart of Jesus in the heart of Charleston.

The Congregational Nominating Committee

Deacon Kim Smith, Chair

Elder Frankie McCain and Elder Dina Mohler, Deacon Pam Kyuk

Trustee David Nolan and At-Large Members Perry Keller, Lyle Sattes, Steve Slack