

Nominating Committee Report

Presented at the UPC Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 21, 2023, 11:00 am

Nominees for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Many of you know that Nancy Myer has been pursuing her theological education in a part-time capacity for many years. Now that she is graduating from Seminary and approved to receive a call, UPC will elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) to call a pastor for family ministry. The idea is that, in addition to the regular Children's Ministry responsibilities, this pastor will also assume some preaching and sacramental responsibilities and also participate in the supervision of our Director of Youth Ministry.

A word about the process: Whenever a church seeks to call a pastor, it must conduct an open search, regardless of an internal candidate. It is a time for both Nancy and the Church to take stock of the relationship and make sure that it is consistent with our respective calls. Clearly, Nancy's work among us at UPC speaks for itself. The members of this APNC understand that and will go about their work prayerfully and considerately.



Mark Bozyski: Mark first called Chapel Hill home when he was in first grade, with years since then also spent in South Carolina and Maryland. A UPC member since 2004, Mark has served as Deacon, Elder, member and chair of the Nominating Committee, and participates in the Men's Breakfast. He volunteered for food distribution during COVID, and makes dinners for shelter several times a year ("The Chili Committee"). He loves that at UPC everyone has a gift to share and in sharing that gift, it leads to so many interconnected relationships within our church family. Mark and Mary have two daughters who

have grown up at UPC: Sarah (17) and Abigail (almost 16). A people person, Mark will enjoy getting to work with the committee and meeting all of the candidates. Mark's professional work is as a Clinical Trial Project Manager.



Sharon Edmiston: Sharon has been a member of UPC for over 30 years. She and her husband Mike raised their children, Carson and Katie, in the church, and she loves how "UPC nurtures young people, encouraging them to discover their faith and participate fully in our community of faith." Sharon has served on the Nominating Committee, worked with the Youth Group, taught confirmation and church school classes, and traveled with our youth to Montreat, Appalachian Service Project mission trips, and various spiritual youth retreats. She knows how important church leadership is, and her experiences at

UPC have prepared her well to serve on the APNC, an opportunity she is most looking forward to. Sharon currently works as a cancer researcher at UNC and is finishing up her PhD.



Amelia Howard: Amelia began attending UPC in 2010 with her husband Jeff. She chooses to serve on the APNC as a way to give back to the church that has given her so much. She loves "the people, the mission, UPPS, the memories I have had made in this church and the way the church and its people continue to help me grow in my faith." Mother of Kelsey and Tucker, Amelia has worked at VBS, on the PYPs Committee, the Children's Subcommittee, the UPPS Committee, and at the Advent Crafts Festival.

Amelia is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist who works for Lutheran Services Carolinas in a management role with adults who are diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness. She also volunteers as a Girl Scout leader and as co-chair of the PTGO at River Park Elementary School.



Patrick Kavanaugh: Having been in Chapel Hill for 25 years and active at UPC since his days in PCM, Patrick says he loves UPC because of "the way our youth feel like they are part of a larger family and that UPC is such a loving, affirming, and safe space to grow spiritually." He has served as a chaperone for the Montreat Worship and Music conference, Confirmation mentor, Deacon, and has supported the youth choir and PYC programs. In addition to his employment as a Family Physician at SAS Institute Health Care Center, Patrick volunteers at the Chapel Hill Homeless Shelter Medical Clinic. He will work to choose "the

person who will love our youth, value their minds, understand their challenges, protect their individuality, and guide them towards their own personal relationship with God." Patrick and his wife Alison are the parents of Ella, Scarlet, and Maisy.



Anna Rose Medley: Anna Rose has spent 14 years in Chapel Hill, including her college years, and joined UPC in 2015. Growing up at Shelby Presbyterian Church as the daughter of a Presbyterian pastor, she has a keen understanding of the importance of community in a church. She said yes to this opportunity to serve on the APNC because, "I very much appreciate and support our ministers and staff and the firm foundation and structure they provide for our church." At UPC, she currently serves as an Elder and the Chair for the Children's Ministry Committee, is involved with VBS, has taught Sunday School, and is a Wedding Coordinator. In addition to supporting her son's athletic teams and volunteering at TABLE, Anna Rose works as the Assistant Dean in the UNC School of Data Science and Society. Anna Rose and her husband Chris are the parents of Sam.



Will Perreault: Will agreed enthusiastically to serve on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee because he has personally benefited from the love, support, and spiritual direction of four former youth ministry leaders at UPC. At UPC, he was actively involved in choir/musicals, weekly youth programming, and served on the Presbytery's Youth Council and Youth Committee. He has also participated in Appalachia Service Project, the DC pilgrimage, Interfaith Council, Habitat builds, the Outreach Committee, and Montreat conferences. Currently, Will serves as Chief of Staff at Self-Help Credit Union, a combination credit union/non-profit loan fund/advocacy group; and as the President of the Community Impact Investment Corp, a non-profit community development financial institution. He and his wife Emily have three children: Arden (9), William (6), and Jude (1).



Kelli Smith: Kelli has been a member at UPC for 10 years. As a Sunday School teacher, former Elder, Confirmation mentor, and Children's Ministry Committee member, Kelli is passionate about children's education and the importance of an excellent children's minister. Kelli and her husband Scott were "drawn here because of the outstanding preaching and worship service, the music, and the people. [They] have stayed for all those same reasons." Her favorite part of Sunday mornings is watching the children eagerly make their way to the front of the church for the children's sermon. Kelli is a 30+ year elementary educator, and is currently an instructional coach at Morris Grove Elementary in Chapel Hill. She also serves the Chapel Hill community as a member of the board for TABLE and on the Alumni Council for the School of Education at UNC-CH. She and Scott have two adult children, Morgan and Brian, and a granddaughter, Avery.



Caroline Vandersea: Caroline was born in Chapel Hill and has been brought up at UPC, being both baptized and confirmed here. She is an active member of PYC, serves on the Youth Engagement Council, and has participated in VBS, choir, and Sunday school. She is deeply grateful for the community she has found at UPC stating, "The friends I've made and the support I know I'm always surrounded by is what I love and think is so special about UPC." Caroline is especially excited that she will have a role in shaping the future of children's and youth ministries through her work on the APNC. Currently in 10th grade at Carrboro High School, she is active in various clubs and sports at school. Caroline is the daughter of Karen and Brian Vandersea and sister to Rachel and Sarah.

Nominee for Elder, Class of 2024



Lauren Mann: When asked what she loves about UPC, where she has been a member for about 30 years, Lauren said, "I love the easy-going style of the church and the overwhelming acceptance of all people regardless of race, creed, color, etc." She loves how people are encouraged to be themselves without feeling pressure to believe any particular political philosophy. She pointed out her desire to make a difference in the world and her recognition that, as a group, we have the potential to go much farther than we could as individuals. She has served on the Global Outreach committee for about six years, in addition to her work as a Sunday School teacher when her children were younger. She has traveled to Haiti twice with UPC's teacher workshop team, and she is currently a board member of Ministry of Hope in Lesotho. A Senior Business Systems Engineer for Duke Corporate Education in Durham, Lauren and her husband Ronnie are parents of two grown children.