

Elder Jim Ballengee – Arch Street Presbyterian Church



Jim is a recently retired educator having served 42 years in independent schools including the last 25 at William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia. Jim grew up as a member of Ardmore Presbyterian Church and joined Arch Street Presbyterian as the congregation began to grow again 8 years ago.

Since then he has served as an Elder at Arch Street in addition to chairing the Personnel and Mission and Outreach committees and working on strategic planning. Outside of church Jim is now a twice weekly volunteer at Broad Street Ministry and serve on the Board of Trustees at both St. James School and Historic Rittenhouse Town. Jim

has also served as the Chair of the Board and a Board member of the Northwest Interfaith Movement from 2001 to 2009.

He has been blessed to be a member of the Commission on Ministry and to have served on Administrative Commissions with diverse congregations in our Presbytery. Jim is looking forward to gathering together with other faithful representatives at General Assembly, engaging in discussions on complex issues and making decisions about the direction of the church in the future.

Elder Ron Cronise – Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

For more than forty years Ron Cronise has been a member of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church in New Hope, PA. During that time he has served multiple terms as a Deacon and as a Session Member. Beginning in 2000 he headed a nine-year project to renovate and enlarge the church carrying responsibility for the capital campaign as well as construction. He was the church's first Business Manager for four years thereafter.

Ron currently serves as a Trustee of the Presbytery of Philadelphia where he chairs the Investment Committee. He is also active in the community serving as a Trustee and Treasurer of his local Public Library.



Ron is married with four grown children and seven grandchildren. Ron is most looking forward to going to General Assembly to learn more about what the church could or should be doing regarding the issues of the day. For him this means healing our divided country, bringing about equality, saving our planet and insuring peace. Ron hopes to contribute to the discussions should that seem appropriate.

Elder Contina Lundy – First Presbyterian Church in Germantown



Contina Lee Lundy is a native of Philadelphia, PA. She has worshipped and served at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown for over 30 years.

She is a former ruling elder and currently serves as the Moderator of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Contina is the Program Director of First Germantown Freedom School and serves on the board of S.H.E. Academy, a program that encourages young ladies from that can achieve anything through education and reading.

Contina is also on the board of Kirkwood Camp and Retreat Center. She has a heart for The Lord's work in the urban church. It is her desire to become more involved in that process. It's her belief that her involvement in General Assembly will encourage others to believe in the work of PCUSA and want to be involved.

Elder Zandra Maffett – Valley Forge Presbyterian Church

Zandra is the proud mother of three adult sons; and enjoys reading, attending the ballet and live theatre, collecting African American art, international travel and studying French and Spanish. She serves on the Mission Committee at Valley Forge. Zandra has volunteered on church mission trips to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) sites in Pearlington, MS (twice); and Towanda, PA. Zandra has recently joined the PDA National Response Team to be called upon as needed to represent the PDA and PC(USA) in the field following a natural or human caused disaster.

For the Presbytery of Philadelphia, she serves on the Committee on Nominations and she is a member of the Israel/Palestine Network. Internationally, she has traveled with delegations from churches in the Presbytery of Philadelphia to Jordan, Israel/Palestine to attend the Sabeel Conference and to meet with Palestinian Christians(2013); and to Zambia(2010). She has also volunteered in Haiti and Mozambique.



She is most looking forward to convening and worshiping with fellow Presbyterians and enjoying the experience of GA of which she has heard so much. Additionally, she recognizes it is a tremendous responsibility to be a Commissioner and is looking forward to participating in discussions and prayerfully considering the issues being brought before the General Assembly.

Rev. Dr. T. Janel Dixon – Cedar Park Presbyterian Church



Janel has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Eastern College. She completed a Master of Theological Studies in 1992 and a Master of Divinity Degree in 1996, both from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (currently Palmer Theological Seminary). Janel earned her Doctor of Ministry Degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey in 2008.

She is noted as being one of only two African American women to have earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Seminary. Janel also serves on the Presbytery's Commission on Preparation and Credentials, as well as serving as co-moderator of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus.

She is married to Calvin Lynn Dixon and they are the proud parents of Samira Lynn and Tai-Durell Calvin. Rev. Dr. Dixon loves spending time with her family and friends, enjoying the life with which God has blessed her.

Rev. Christopher Holland – New Spirit Community Church

Rev. Christopher J. Holland II serves as pastor of New Spirit Community Church (PCUSA) in the Southwest section of Philadelphia since September 2014.

Also as an entrepreneur Christopher is the Co-founder/COO of Connexus Technology, a leading edge technology-consulting firm in Philadelphia since 2003. He is a native of Philadelphia, and holds a Bachelor of Science and Engineering degree in Computer Science from Drexel University.

After co-founding a technology startup, he obtained his Master of Divinity degree from Palmer Theological Seminary. He has served for over 20 years in various ministerial capacities in the Philadelphia Tri-State area and currently serves on the board of the Common Place.

He is happily married to Ime Holland and blessed to be parents of six children. Chris is excited to join his brothers and sisters from across the nation to pray and discern God's will for the Church and God's people at General Assembly.



Rev. Byungil Kim – Podowon Presbyterian Church



Byungil was ordained in the Presbytery of South Korea in 2005. Following his ordination he served the Seoul Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia as a mission pastor from 2008 through 2010.

Since 2013 Byungil has served as the Pastor of the Podowon Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.

He is also the Stated Clerk of the Korean Church Council of Philadelphia for the 2017 term.

Byungil is looking forward to seeing the diverse people and their thoughts at General Assembly as well as witnessing how General Assembly handles the many voices and various issues before them.

Rev. L. Casey Thompson – Wayne Presbyterian Church

Casey Thompson is the pastor of Wayne Presbyterian church. He served the Presbytery of Philadelphia for five years as a member of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership and has become a trustee in the last year.

He has served the larger church recently by helping to create the Cultivating Ministry resource through Next Church, a look at how churches can evaluate ministry in a new way.

In his capacity as pastor of Wayne Presbyterian, he also helped found The Common Place, an educational outreach center in Southwest Philadelphia, a four-year-old initiative that focuses on developing cradle to college educational services to buttress the education of children in that neighborhood. He still serves as the chair of their board.



Casey loves the process by which a group discerns its purpose in the world. He looks forward to being a part of that group when our denomination gathers to consider God's purposes for us.

Young Adult Advisory Delegate Madeline Taylor –Ardmore Presbyterian Church



Maddie is a Junior at Harriton High School and a member of Ardmore Presbyterian Church, where she helps teach Sunday School.

She has an interest in animals and the environment and look forward to discussing these issues at General Assembly. In her spare time she volunteers at a local animal shelter.

In 2013, Maddie traveled to Puerto Rico with others from Ardmore Presbyterian Church for a mission trip. Through Harriton High School, she went to Haiti last year and built a school. Maddie is excited to see all different churches come together from different communities and see how though they come from different places, we may all believe the same things.

