

## Choosing Church Leaders

*Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose some of their own men...  
Acts 15:22*

In the early church only men were elected as elders even though we read stories of how women supported the church in many ways. Today, in the Presbyterian church women serve as elders and as pastors, and New Wappetaw has been blessed to have many female elders who have served this church faithfully.

I share this with you not because it's anything new (women have held formal leadership positions in the PCUSA for many decades. Margaret Towner was ordained as the first PCUSA female pastor in 1956), but because I hope you see that the holy spirit is constantly moving within our midst and raising up folks as leaders. In Isaiah God promises to do a new thing, and my prayer is that we will be open to the spirit's leading as the church does new things in this time when fewer people are committed to worship and outreach within the local community and beyond.

The challenge is before us and I am so grateful that here at New Wappetaw we have folks who are willing to give of their time and leadership ability in service to the church. Our nominating committee (Margy Leland, Sandra Moseley, Jim Scott, Kathy Leland, and Eddie Stroman) will be bringing three names for consideration at our congregational meeting following worship this Sunday, November 5. The floor will also be open for other nominations.

The bios of the three names the committee will be presenting for consideration are below.

### BIOS

*Karen McClellan*



*I grew up in Indianapolis and went to nursing school at Indiana University SON. Soon after graduating I moved to East Texas with my first husband and son. After my son graduated from High School and I was divorced, I moved to Nashville TN to take an administrative position in nursing at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. While in Nashville I completed my Masters.*

*I had been searching for God for many years and he found me leading me to be Baptized in my forties. I eventually moved back to East Texas met Lee and we married. We were very active in church serving on committees. I headed up the hospitality committee which included greeting on Sundays and planning special events. We hosted a Bible Study in our home every Monday night for several years.*

*We joined NWPC in spring of 2022. I have been involved in different activities and projects since joining. I served on the AED committee and organized the training. I have served as the liturgist. I occasionally teach Sunday school. I actively participate in the women's circle. I love to study the Bible digging deeper to understand God's plan for me and our life. Serving in the church and the community helps me draw closer to God.*

*It will be an honor to serve NWPC in any capacity God desires me.*

*John "Scott" Youngblood*

*I was born and raised on James Island, South Carolina. I worked summers for my father, a general contractor, as a shovel tech. Digging foundations and hauling trash ensured that I appreciated returning to Newberry College each fall until graduating in 1978. I was employed by United States Probation, Parole and Pretrial Services until my retirement in 2012. The last 12 years of my career I served as the Officer-In-Charge of the Charleston Division which encompasses the lower nine counties within South Carolina. I moved to McClellanville in 2011. I have a 32 year old son, a 34 year old daughter and a 2 year old granddaughter. I recently married Linda Collins in McClellanville in the chapel of New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church; we are both active members of New Wappetaw.*

*Bob Dunn*



*I was born in Sumter, SC where I spent my first 25 years. After a few years in Columbia, Nancy and I moved to Mount Pleasant where we lived for 36 years before moving to McClellanville in 2021. We immediately knew we found our home here in McClellanville and New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church. Our youngest son Peden also lives here with his wife Gabbe and their two children DuBose and Weezie. Our other son Robert lives in Fairplay, Colorado. My professional career was in commercial construction; I retired from Hill Construction in 2018.*

*I am a lifelong Presbyterian and have been active on a number of committees (missions, finance, personnel, stewardship, building, confirmation and pastor search). I have served as deacon and elder in several churches. My past experiences as an officer have been a mix of accomplishments and challenges. I found Prayer and Faith brought about celebration and resolution respectively. While there is something appealing about "staying under the radar" in the pew, I do feel called to step into leadership. If elected I look forward to serving our Lord in this capacity.*

Keep the church and our leaders in your prayers.

Blessings,  
Mike