

Brookwood Church
**TRUSTEE
NOMINEES**

2024





Members Vote December 3

A business meeting will be held following each service on Sunday, December 3, for church members to vote on nominated Trustees to serve on the 2024 Advisory Team.

Trustee Qualifications and Responsibilities

Trustees are lay persons (non-pastors) who serve on the Advisory Team to provide direction and guidance for our church. They must be members in good standing and fulfill the spiritual qualifications of deacons, as described in **1 Timothy 3:8–13**. Those recommended to serve as Trustees must demonstrate spiritual maturity, a willingness to serve, and practical experience in areas such as finance, facility construction, human relations, management, communications, missions or evangelism.

In the same way, deacons must be well respected and have integrity. They must not be heavy drinkers or dishonest with money. They must be committed to the mystery of the faith now revealed and must live with a clear conscience. Before they are appointed as deacons, let them be closely examined. If they pass the test, then let them serve as deacons.

In the same way, their wives must be respected and must not slander others. They must exercise self-control and be faithful in everything they do.

A deacon must be faithful to his wife, and he must manage his children and household well. Those who do well as deacons will be rewarded with respect from others and will have increased confidence in their faith in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 3:8–13 (NLT)

Trustees serving Brookwood Church shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Provide financial counsel to the Pastoral staff.
2. Assist in the interview, selection and employment of pastoral staff.
3. Determine compensation of the Senior Pastor, and with the Senior Pastor, of other ordained ministers of the church.
4. Serve the church as official representatives of the church in terms of business contracts and other legal matters. Trustees, under the direction of the Advisory Team or, if required, congregational approval, may borrow money and incur indebtedness on behalf of the Church and cause to be executed and delivered for the Church's purposes and in the Church's name, promissory notes and other evidence of debt and securities.
5. Conduct other duties and activities as requested by the Senior Pastor, pastoral staff or Advisory Team.

The Advisory Team determines the number of Trustees annually, and they are nominated to the church body annually by the Senior Pastor. They are elected by the members at the annual business meeting and may only be removed from completing their 3-year term by a vote of the members.

Trustee responsibilities include:

All trustees serve on the Brookwood Advisory Team, which meets quarterly to:

- Review and discuss quarterly financial reports.
- Review and discuss ministry reports and activities.
- Assess, develop and execute strategic direction.
- Engage in new projects and team activities.
- Discuss new business.
- Plan congregational communications.

Additional meetings are held as needed to discuss:

- Annual budget development.
- Pastoral interviews and hiring.
- New trustee interviews.
- Significant projects.
- Other matters as appropriate.



Dawn Carter

Trustee Nominee (2024–2026)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Children: Ryan and Brandon.

Professional Career: Retired Ministry Assistant

Brookwood Member: Since 2014.

Volunteer service at Brookwood: Women's Connecting Point Table Leader, Watchers Prayer Team, Transformation Prayer in Caring Communities, Lay Counselor, Pastoral Prayer Shield Team, Women's Community Group Leader, Care Ministries Training Supervisor, Lay Counselor Supervisor, Auditorium Team, Pre-Service Prayer Team, HUG Table Leader.

Community Group experience: Leader of Prayer in Community Group.

Other church experience: Former Ministry Assistant in Palm Beach FL; Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, Accounts Payable and Women's Ministry Leader at church plant Greenway Church in Kissimmee FL; Administrative Assistant for Navigators in St. Petersburg FL.

My vision for Brookwood: I desire to see Brookwood continue to grow as a light on a hill, drawing many to Christ, providing a loving community for people to experience life in Christ together, and that prayer will increase more and more, with Christ as the center of the church. That more people will become passionate for Christ and want to serve as part of Brookwood Church. The harvest is ripe, and the workers are few.

My relationship with Christ: I gave my life to Christ as a teenager at *Youth for Christ*. I also made a public profession of faith at my church a couple of years later. But I didn't really walk in my faith. I got married. My husband was a non-believer. We joined a church when we moved to Milwaukee WI. There were more moves due to work, but we always joined a church. When we moved to West Palm Beach, we joined Palm Beach Community Church. My faith began to grow and my desire to truly follow Jesus began to develop. Over time, my faith grew, and I experienced God's transformation power. I'm passionate about using the gifts that God has given me to help others and make a difference that will last for eternity. I can only do that with the strength and discernment I get from Christ. I start every day with the Lord in quiet time, being in His Word, reading a devotional, and just talking with Him. This is where I get my direction for the day and, many times, confirmation from something He was talking to me about the day before. There is nothing more fulfilling and exciting than to be in the middle of God's activity and see how it changes the lives of others and me as well.

Favorite Bible verse: *Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.*

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)



BETTY ZELLER

Trustee Nominee (2024–2026)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Spouse: Michael E. Zeller.

Children: Two children, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Professional Career: Previous positions as VP in marketing and advertising, both in the advertising agency and company side of national and regional accounts.

Brookwood Member: Since 1994.

Volunteer service at Brookwood: Community Group Leader, Succession Planning Team, Pastoral Prayer Shield Team, TPM (Transformation Prayer Ministry), Auditorium Team and Sunday Morning Prayer Group.

Other volunteer experience: Served on the Board of Directors for TPM International, B Encouraged Ministries, Boys Home of the South, March of Dimes, member of Mission Carolina Prayer Group and MyFaithVote.

Community Group experience: Community Group Leader, have attended other Brookwood Community Group studies and Bible Study Fellowship.

Other church experience: Set Free Alliance sponsor, Holt International Child Sponsor, Prayer Ministry Leader, developed Prayer Room Ministry, Seeds of Hope sponsor, speaker for various ladies' ministry groups, helped Brookwood leadership develop the Mentoring Ministries, previous member of Pre-Marital Mentors, Youth Director in former church and former Brookwood Trustee (2006–2008, 2011–2013, 2016–2018, 2020–2022).

My vision for Brookwood: That we follow God's will as a church. That we love Him and love people in a way that He changes lives in our church, our community, and around the world. That each person attending Brookwood develops a strong prayer life and personal, intimate relationship with Jesus and experiences hearing from Him daily. Be a church on fire for God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

My relationship with Christ: I live to be surrendered and obedient to whatever God wants to do in my life. The most important thing to me is for me and my family to be in the center of His will as we serve Him each day. I give God the glory for what He has done in my life and how He has used me. I passionately believe deeply in the power of prayer and have a strong prayer life. I thank God each day for one of His greatest gifts—my faithful, loving and devoted Christian husband, Michael.

Favorite Bible verse: *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)



MIKE CLARK

Current Trustee (2023–2025)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Spouse: Debbie S. Clark.

Professional Career: Retired after 31 years from Laurens Electric Cooperative.

Brookwood Member: Since 1993 (Charter Member).

Volunteer service at Brookwood: Intercessory Prayer Team, Former Trustee, Former Marriage Mentor, Former Community Group Leader, ServeFest, Sunday Morning Prayer group, Brookwood Lost & Found.

Other volunteer experience: Meals on Wheels volunteer, serving on the Meals on Wheels Volunteer Committee.

Community Group experience: Current participant in Zeller Community Group, led one of the first Brookwood Community Groups, led a Married Couples Community Group for over 10 years.

Other church experience: Former member of Laurel Baptist Church.

My vision for Brookwood: That Brookwood is a church where the Word of God and the Gospel of Christ are taught and exemplified by our actions of Loving God and Loving People. May God receive the Glory!

My relationship with Christ: I accepted Christ as a young boy of 9 years old. Like many, though, I ventured away from God in my young adult life. But THANK GOD He never left pursuing me, and He led me to Brookwood Church. My wife and I participated in perhaps the first Community Group at Brookwood, the Bible Study of *Experiencing God*. During this study, I rededicated my life to Christ. I have been amazed at how God has used me since that time. All He asks for is a willing heart and to take a step of faith. In doing so, God is faithful to lead you.

Favorite Bible verses: *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

Trust in Him at all times... pour out your heart to Him, for God is our refuge.

Psalms 62:8 (NIV)



ROBERT DENNIS

Current Trustee (2022–2025)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Spouse: Susan Dennis.

Children: Seven sons and three daughters, five of whom were adopted as infants.

Professional Career: Retired from the US Army.

Brookwood Member: Since 2018.

Volunteer service at Brookwood: Auditorium Team, Usher Team, Men's Connecting Point Table Leader, Funeral Team, Watchers Prayer Team, Concourse Team, Pastoral Prayer Shield Team, Co-ed Community Group Leader, Lay Counselor, Security Team Member.

Other volunteer experience: Meals on Wheels.

Community Group experience: Leader of Doing Life Together Group.

Other church experience: Greater Philadelphia Church of Christ Deacon, Leader in Order of Service, Lead Usher for 16 years and Chemical Recovery Ministry for 7 years. Board member for the Philadelphia chapter of Hope Worldwide.

My vision for Brookwood: My vision is for Brookwood to continue to have a spirit-filled leadership and be a Bible-based church with sound messages that meet the people's needs. We need to have a strong emphasis on faith and prayer and worship services, which allow people to experience God's presence and renew their commitment to obey and serve Him.

My relationship with Christ: My relationship with Christ was watching my mother praying at 8 years old and trusting in God keeping the family together. Her love for Christ stayed with me until April 5, 1994, when I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. My dedication and consistency in spending time with Him every morning has helped me to keep my family together and serve others.

Favorite Bible verse: "... Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9 (NLT)



JASON BERGERON

Current Trustee (2022–2024)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Spouse: Jilly Bergeron.

Children: Three children - Jocelyn, Jeorgia and Jude.

Professional Career: Owner, Bergeron Custom Homes.

Brookwood Member: Since 1998.

Volunteer service at Brookwood: High School Ministry Leader, Community Group Leader, Disaster Relief, Teacher in Phase Conference, Men's Mentor, Feeding the Homeless, ServeFest.

Other volunteer experience: Assistant coach to Upstate Home School Coop Archery Team.

Community Group experience: Leader of Bergeron Community Group.

Other church experience: None. Brookwood is the only church I have ever been a part of.

My vision for Brookwood: That Brookwood may be a healthy, thriving part of the body of Christ. That we would love God and love people well. That the people are loving and transformed through God's grace and that we can make the world a better place, pushing back against the spiritual powers of darkness. That we can challenge people to live in obedience and submission to God's law and show them that we can receive true joy and satisfaction if we're willing to live His way.

My relationship with Christ: I accepted Christ on March 8, 1998, at 24. I had been searching for answers since the age of 17. God used a number of people and events to get me to the point of salvation, but God was faithful in answering, revealing and opening His answers to my asking, seeking and knocking. When I accepted Christ, I was all in. I consciously decided to examine my beliefs and discard them if they had no biblical basis. In 2000, I married the most wonderful woman I know. God has used my wife, Jilly, more than any other person to challenge me to grow as a man and Christian. We have three awesome children whom God has used to grow and humble me as well. Life was relatively smooth until the economic downturn of 2008. We almost lost everything financially. It was a time of testing, but we held fast to God's promises and goodness. I found out I had cancer in the spring of 2012. This was another shock after losing so much financially. Through several surgeries and chemotherapy, I was healed of my cancer. It's hard to explain because I wouldn't have wished for either of these things to happen to anyone, but we have seen God's hand move and provide for us in these trials. I can truly say that I am thankful, and I am a better man for experiencing loss like this. I have a life debt to pay to God in the manner Friday honored his life debt to Robinson Crusoe (for you literature fans). I am nothing without Him. I spend time with God and in God's Word on most days.

Favorite Bible verse: *"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

John 16:33 (NIV)



CARL KRAUTH

Current Trustee (2022–2024)

Trustee Nominee 2024

Spouse: Sheridan Krauth.

Children: One son—Cade

Professional career: Owner of Proseals USA.

Brookwood member: Since 2011.

Volunteer service at Brookwood: BrookwoodKiDs Pod A Small Group Leader, Traffic Team, Feeding the Homeless Leader, Welcome Team, Auditorium Team, Brookwood Trustee.

Other volunteer experience: Special Friends events.

Community Group experience: Member of Duggar Community Group.

Other church experience: Former member of Mount Bethel United Methodist Church in Marietta GA

My vision for Brookwood: Through service locally and around the world, we Love People.

My relationship with Christ: Peace and freedom come through Christ. Having the Holy Spirit helps me navigate through life. My relationship with Christ strengthens daily through time in prayer or just quiet time spent with God. I had always thought I was saved and knew Christ, but I realized what it meant to have a true relationship with Christ later in life when I joined a community group at Brookwood. Christ gave His life for me and all my sins and I owe my life and how I live it to Him.

Favorite Bible verse: *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand.*
Colossians 3:1 (NLT)



LOVE GOD
LOVE PEOPLE

2024 Advisory Team

Pastors

Bryan Jones, Senior Pastor

J.C. Thompson, Executive Pastor of Strategy and Community Engagement

David Hardy, Executive Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Matt Plunkett, Executive Pastor of NextGen and Local Evangelism

Gene Beckner, Care Pastor

Mike Hepola, Outreach Pastor

Brantley Smith, Worship Pastor

Trustees

(Pending approval by church member vote December 3)

New Nominee - Dawn Carter (2024-2026)

New Nominee - Betty Zeller (2024-2026)

Current - Mike Clark (2023-2025)

Current - Robert Dennis (2023-2025)

Current - Jason Bergeron (2022-2024)

Current - Carl Krauth (2022-2024)



BROOKWOODchurch

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