

ELECTION OF RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS

Ruling elders and deacons are men and women elected by the congregation from among its members.

See the following definitions as listed in the PC(USA) Book of Order:

Ruling Elders: The Ministry of Discernment and Governance (G-2.0301) Congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they “lord it over” the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament (or Pastors), exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships.

Deacons: The Ministry of Compassion and Service (G-2.0201) The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

Hispanic Fellowship Deacons: Individually commissioned to serve the Hispanic Fellowship (G-2.0202) Deacons may be individually commissioned...under the supervision and authority of the session. Deacons may also be given special assignments in the congregation, such as caring for members in need, handling educational tasks, cultivating liberality in giving, collecting and disbursing monies to specific persons or causes, overseeing the buildings and property of the congregation. Deacons shall assume other duties as may be delegated to them by the session, including assisting with the Lord’s Supper.

RULING ELDERS



Jay Bass — Elder, 2022–2024

Jay was born in California, lived in San Diego since 1980, and he and his wife, Valerie, are 30+ year members of SBPC. Now empty-nesters, they raised their children, Jamie and Ryan, as part of the SBPC community. Jay finished seminary in June. He is exploring new callings to serve God and is excited by the spiritual growth and service endeavors happening within the SBPC community. Although many know Jay through his service as a greeter to Sunday worship services, he has long been involved in small group leadership, usually handling the spiritual side. Throughout his service on nominating committees and PNC, he has always tried to listen for God’s urging and guidance so his people might best understand his desires. Jay is looking forward to serving SBPC in his new role as Elder.



Heather Creighton — Elder, 2022–2024

Heather and her husband, Jeff, have been members of SBPC for 23 years. She has been prayerful and open about her next steps and feels excited and led to serve as an Elder at SBPC. Heather feels God has prepared her through her work outside of and within the church. A few of her most meaningful ministries have been: Come Build Hope home-builds in Baja, serving as co-chair of MOPS and later serving as a MOPS Mentor, and participating in Community Serve Day each year. Entering into another year of uncertainty and the changes it may bring, it is important to be of one mind and one body in Christ. *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...” Heb. 10:24-25 (NLT)* It is with humility and gratitude that Heather accepts this nomination to help discern and affirm the direction of Christ’s leading for SBPC.



Judy Enns — Elder, 2022–2023 (extending term 2 years)

Judy grew up in PA, DE, and NJ in a Nazarene pastor's home, where her faith was firmly rooted in the evangelical tradition. She accepted Christ as a child at a Nazarene camp meeting. After graduating from Eastern Nazarene College, Illinois State University, and Ohio State University with her husband, Bob, she pursued teaching at the college level in the US, USVI, and Saudi Arabia. They came to SBPC over 35 years ago, and Judy has joyfully sung in the Chancel Choir ever since. She co-leads a vibrant small group where her faith has richly deepened. Judy's service at SBPC includes chairing Nominating Committee, Session as an Elder, Come Build Hope, and Community Serve Day. Judy also serves on the boards of Pathways to Citizenship, Plant with Purpose, Kingdom Builder Foundation, San Diego Rescue Mission, and as the chair of the HR Committee for the SD Presbytery. Retired from a San Diego-based human resources business, Judy participates in Community Bible Study and is grateful for God's call in this season of her life.



TJ Freeland — Elder, 2022 (extending term 1 year)

TJ grew up in a non-faith-based home. However, he turned to Christ at the age of 35. In 1993 he met his wife, Kim, while singing in the choir at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach. They have been actively singing in choirs and ensembles ever since. They have one son through a previous marriage and two grandchildren. Over the years, TJ has developed an appreciation for what true worship means to him in experiencing God's presence each Sunday and a keen ear when listening for God's call to serve. TJ has served in various ways at SBPC, including Chancel Choir Treasurer and President, Hungary Partnership Team Leader, Community Serve Site Leader, High School Leader, and on the Choir Director Search Committee, which brought Aaron Burgett to our church. He is currently on Session and serves as the Finance Review Committee Chair. TJ heeded the call to serve as an Elder three years ago and looks forward to an additional year, bringing his skills and talents to a vibrant, ever-changing church environment.



Peggy Parrish — Elder, 2022–2024

As a 7th grader, Peggy realized being a Christian did not mean just believing in Jesus and going to church on Sundays. Instead, it is to impact her entire life. Peggy desires to continue to grow in her relationship with God, to become more like Jesus, and use her talents and gifts to serve Him. She has tried to do that at work as an elementary school teacher for 36 years and at home. Peggy and her husband, Scott, have attended SBPC for 34 years. They have two adult daughters, Emily and Robin, who now live in the Bay Area. Peggy and Scott became involved in children's ministry at SBPC even before their children were born. Peggy has continued to serve in many roles that include teaching at KidsGames, Sunday School, and in the nursery. She has also helped with Community Serve Day, Nominating Committee, and small groups. SBPC is an integral part of her life, and she believes God is now calling her to serve in a new role as an Elder.

DEACONS



Diana Ambrose — Moderator, 2022–2024 (second term)

Diana was raised in a church-going home. She came to San Diego from Imperial Valley to go to college at SDSU. After graduating, Diana taught English and Reading for 17 years at El Capitan High School. She came to SBPC in 1992, and it instantly became her church home. Diana has been active in Divorce Care, Shipmates, KidsGames, and tutoring at Casa de Amistad. She has served on two mission trips, as well as previously serving as a Deacon. Diana and her husband, Don, have participated in building homes in Mexico, Community Serve Day, and Sermon-based Small Groups. These activities have matured Diana and opened her eyes to the important work that God calls each of us to do. One highlight of her spiritual journey is the in-depth study Community Bible Study provides, where she has had various leadership roles since 1998. She also enjoys playing tennis, bridge, travel, and family time. Diana is so pleased to have been called to serve on the Deacon board in this new role as Moderator.



Phebe Doig — Memorial Receptions, 2022–2024

Phebe grew up in the small town of Shelter Island, New York, surrounded by a large, extended family. There was a real sense of knowing and caring for your community. Being raised in a Presbyterian Church nurtured her knowledge of Jesus Christ, the decision to follow Him as her Lord and Savior came in her adulthood. Phebe and her family moved here in 1985. Soon after, she found SBPC and felt she was home! Being the youngest daughter of middle-aged parents, Phebe always sensed a calling for the older generation and helping others. She has served at SBPC as a Deacon and Stephen Minister and served Home Communion for many years. Her other involvement has been with women's Bible study, CBS, small groups, and the meal ministry. The Deacon position for Memorial Receptions brings together her SHAPE gifts of Faith, Encouragement, Mercy, and Hospitality. Phebe is privileged to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus and is "blessed to be a blessing."



Kim Peterson — Prayer, 2022–2024

Kim was born in New York City. At the age of five, she moved to the Los Angeles area with her parents and brother. She was brought to Concordia Lutheran church by her mother, along with her brother. As she matured (at age 25), she once again found her way back to following God's path for her life and has remained a faithful follower by staying close to God's word and remaining in a body of believers. Kim and her husband moved to Solana Beach in 2005 and have been attending SBPC (as members) since 2009. She enjoys the fellowship of her small group studies, traveling with her husband, and spending time with her five adult kids, two grandchildren, and mother, who also attends SBPC. She has been involved in Stephen Ministry with SBPC and volunteers as a Casa de Amistad study buddy. Kim is looking forward to serving as a Deacon.



Stephanie Richards — Communion, 2022–2024

Stephanie and her husband, Jason, have been members of SBPC for many years. They have always felt a warm welcome at this church and wondered how it comes together behind the scenes. Stephanie has been blessed by many experiences at SBPC, including Worship, MOPS, Moms Always, Community Bible Study, and small groups. She would like to give back to the SBPC community that has given her family so much. A while ago, Stephanie prayed to find a more authentic community in her life and, within days, was called and asked to consider this Deacon position. Stephanie is not sure where God is leading her but felt a tug and decided to take the leap and say yes. She prays that she will listen to God when he calls her and that whatever he calls her to do, she can follow his will with her abilities.



Ann Siemens — Care, 2022–2024

Ann was born and raised in Long Beach, CA, where she and her family attended the Episcopal church regularly. She and her family accepted Christ when she was in high school. Ann attended the University of CA, Irvine, Biola College, and UCLA, studying biological sciences and business, and also studied abroad. She participated in multiple missions while in school and after her daughter was grown. Ann integrates her love of science through playful science quests with her grandson and throughout her career (working in academia, early-stage biotech/medical device companies, and non-profit research organizations from Santa Barbara to San Diego). Ann started attending SBPC shortly after moving to San Diego in 2002. She currently co-leads a Sermon-Based Small Group with Judy Enns. Her top Spiritual Gifts are Mercy, Leadership, and Giving.

Hispanic Fellowship Deacons



Cruz Saldivar — Deacon, 2022–2024

Cruz es uno de los miembros fundadores de la confraternidad hispana y ha sido parte de la comunidad SBPC durante más de 22 años. Cruz ha participado extensamente en muchos ministerios, incluido el liderazgo de un grupo pequeño, Desayuno para trabajadores diurnos, Come Build Hope, Día de servicio comunitario, Mercado navideño alternativo, Caminos hacia la ciudadanía y el Equipo de liderazgo hispano. Cruz vive con sus tres hijos adultos en Solana Beach. Su pasión es compartir el Evangelio con todos sus amigos, vecinos y familiares.

Cruz is one of the founding members of the Hispanic fellowship and has been part of the SBPC community for more than 22 years! Cruz has extensively participated in many ministries, including leading a small group, Breakfast for Day Workers, Come Build Hope, Community Serve Day, Alternative Christmas Market, Pathways to Citizenship, and the Hispanic Leadership Team. Cruz lives with her three adult children in Solana Beach. Her passion is to share the Gospel with all her friends, neighbors, and family members.



Jpetul J'ernantes — Deacon, 2022-2024 (second term)

JJ nació en Chiapas, México y llegó a San Diego en 1974. Él está agradecido con Dios por sus padres quienes le enseñaron La Palabra y la fe en Jesucristo aunque le llevo tiempo hacerlo personal, pero en toda las situaciones Dios estaba allí demostrando su amor y fidelidad. Él sirvió como AGC en la Iglesia Presbiteriana Emmanuel hasta el 2017 y luego transfirió su membresía a SBPC, convencido de que El Espíritu Santo lo guiaba. Jpetul ahora sirve como AGC con la confraternidad hispana y está agradecido por el espíritu de bienvenida en este cuerpo. También aprecia la oportunidad de ayudar en Estudios Bíblicos y Clases de Escuela Dominical. Él espera ser una bendición mientras la iglesia busca adorar y servir a Dios sirviendo al cuerpo, a la comunidad y al mundo como Cristo lo ha hecho, lo hace y lo hará.

JJ was born in Chiapas, Mexico, and relocated to San Diego in 1974. He is grateful to God for his parents, who instilled in him the Word and faith in Jesus Christ even though it took a while to take root, but in all ways, God was there demonstrating His love and faithfulness. He served as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) at Iglesia Presbiteriana Emmanuel until 2017 and transferred his membership to SBPC, convinced that the Holy Spirit was leading. Jpetul now serves as a CRE with the Hispanic fellowship and is grateful for the welcoming spirit into this body. He also appreciates the opportunity to help in Bible Studies and Sunday School Classes. He looks forward to being a blessing as the church seeks to worship and serve God by serving the body, the community, and the world as Christ has done, does and will do.