

Nominees to Presbyterian Women's 2024-2027 Board and Search Committee

Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will begin a new triennium in 2024 with a new budget, new priorities for the work of the Board of Directors and new leadership team members. Presbyterian Women is an adaptive organization with a strong commitment to holistic ministries, good stewardship and vibrant partnerships with Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ministries.

The 2021-2024 Search Committee diligently worked to build a capable and diverse Board and Search Committee. The individuals on the following pages have accepted the call to serve PW at the national level.

PW, Inc.'s 2024-2027 Board includes the churchwide moderator, vice moderator, finance committee chair and search committee chair, members at large representing communities of color and young women's representatives—all pictured here and elected at PW's 2024 Triennial Business Meeting. The Board also includes Synod representatives (one from each of the 16 synods), who are elected by their PW in the Synod groups. One new young women representative is elected each fall between Triennial Business Meetings and a new representative from the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board is sent every two years. While only the Search Committee chair serves on the Board, all members of the Search Committee perform the vital work of soliciting, encouraging and reviewing candidates for PW's future national leadership.

At the time of this printing, nominations are still being sought for an Indigenous/Native American Representative at Large and one Young Women's Representative at Large.



Moderator
Patricia "Pam" M. Snyder
Staunton, Virginia
Presbytery: Shenandoah
Synod: Mid-Atlantic

My desire is to work in concert with PW's Board and staff to help maintain a culture of responsiveness to an ever-changing world and church. This includes meeting women where they are and responding to their issues and needs. We also need to ensure that we are effectively connecting with and supporting PW in the congregations. I bring years of adaptive leadership experience to this role and my hope is to use these experiences to help build and maintain an organization that is built for change, thrives in response to God's call.

Church: elder; organist; director of music; director, Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir; chair, Personnel Committee; treasurer and chair, Finance and Stewardship Committee; Committee on Presbytery Administration

Presbyterian Women: Honorary Life Membership recipient; PWC—chair, PW Circle; PW moderator; PWP—leadership coordinator; chair, Justice & Peace Committee and PW Search Committee; PW Disaster Preparedness trainer; PWS—moderator; co-chair, PW Synod Summer Gathering; Synod Racial-Ethnic Dialogue Team; PW Churchwide—vice moderator for mission relationships; planning team, PW Churchwide Gatherings; participant, USA Mission Experience and Global Exchanges; delegate and planning team member, UN Commission on the Status of Women

Community: vice chair of Staunton Salvation Army Board; member of Staunton branch of NAACP; chair, Administration Committee of Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center Board

Education/Career: bachelor's in business management; worked for more than 30 years as a human resources professional; retired as corporate director of human resources for ComSonic, Inc.



Vice Moderator
Kelsey Law
Irvine, California
Presbytery: Riverside
Synod: Southern California and Hawaii

Forgiven, freed and empowered, I hope to create transformative spaces of allyship. I am committed to innovative ideas for mission engagement that are rooted in responsive justice, peace and liberation. Presbyterian Women's multi-generational and intersectional movements will uplift our beloved community in holy labor to embody the Purpose of Presbyterian Women.

Presbyterian Women: PWP—member at large, hunger and mission; Presbyterian Disaster Preparedness trainer; PWS—member at large, mission; PW Churchwide—tech help desk, 2021 PW Churchwide Business Meeting; planning team, 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering; delegate, UN Commission on the Status of Women

Community: mentor, Women and Girls in STEM and Asian American, Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian Women in STEM; coastkeeper, Coastal Clean-up

Education/Career: bachelor's degrees in biological sciences and sociology, University of California, Riverside; research/data scientist, University of California, Irvine



Finance Chair
Susan Brooks
 Concord, North Carolina
 Presbytery: Charlotte
 Synod: Mid-Atlantic

I look forward to working with Presbyterian Women staff on budgeting and reporting, and on enhancing communication and leadership development for Presbyterian Women groups. As PWP treasurer, I am aware that not all PW groups have the same level of understanding about the processes and opportunities for giving. Providing training materials and better communication to these groups will help develop skills that will ultimately benefit the entire organization.

Church: treasurer; elder; deacon; chair, Finance and Stewardship Committee

Presbyterian Women: PWC—coordinator, Missions/Backpack Program, a weekend food program for a local school students and their families; PWP—treasurer

Community: volunteer accountant, Opportunity House

Education/Career: Miami University (Ohio); master of business administration in accountancy, Wright State University; controller, Wilberforce University and University of Vermont; associate vice chancellor for finance, University of North Carolina at Charlotte



PW Search Moderator
Terri Sherman
 Lincoln, Nebraska
 Presbytery: Homestead
 Synod: Lakes and Prairies

The primary goal that I would like to see Presbyterian Women accomplish is welcoming and involving younger generations. We need to show them what we believe in, what we support, what we strive to accomplish with our local, presbytery and churchwide groups. If we can accomplish this at the churchwide level it can be a model for our local congregations and PW at the synod and presbytery levels.

Church: elder; clerk of session; youth leader; music director; chair, Worship Committee, Property Committee and Member Nurture Committee; member, Stewardship & Finance Committee; secretary, Church Corporation; moderator, Presbytery; moderator, Council; chair, Strategy Committee and Implementation Committee

Presbyterian Women: PWC—circle leader; treasurer; moderator; PWP—secretary; treasurer; vice moderator; PWS—synod representative; treasurer; member and treasurer, Synod Gathering Committee

Community: Eastern Star; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; several local, state and national offices held, Women of Today

Education/Career: community college; various medical and corporate offices; engineering and security, Zoetis



Search Committee, Western Region
Carolyn Platt McBurney
 Torrington, Wyoming
 Presbytery: Wyoming
 Synod: Rocky Mountains

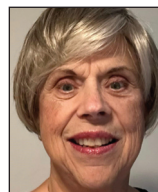
Presbyterian Women's future depends on expanding our vision to be more open to the realities of life today and beyond. We need to embrace the "permission" Jesus gave us to lead. Presbyterian Women can work for justice in so many ways—affirming the priesthood of all believers, advocating for equality by unseating patriarchy, promoting education (and honoring our legacy of educated clergy), raising awareness around and promoting justice for missing Indigenous women.

Church: lifelong Presbyterian; deacon; leader, Bible study; participant, multiple mission initiatives nationally and internationally; member, Presbytery Committee on Ministry; commissioner, General Assembly

Presbyterian Women: PWC—co-moderator; PWS—member, coordinating team; PW Churchwide—delegate, UN Commission on the Status of Women; participant, 2023 USA Mission Experience

Community: chair, Goshen County Mainstreet Committee; vice-president, Goshen County Community Theatre; more than 50 years in theatre acting and directing

Education/Career: bachelor's in theatre, English and history, McMurry University; worked for 30 years in television marketing, production and promotion; consulting; retired, office manager, Presbytery of Grand Canyon and Presbytery de Cristo



Search Committee, Southeast Region
Janice (Jan) Albert
 Bowling Green, Kentucky
 Presbytery: Western Kentucky
 Synod: Living Waters

PW has been a place of encouragement, support and trust with opportunities for wider participation in PW. For PW to continue to be a thriving organization, we need to provide varied opportunities to work toward common goals. Clear goals and flexible structure assist and assure that success is possible. Relationships and connections built on acceptance of and acknowledgment of one's unique personhood is foundational.

Church: elder; CLP/CRE certification (pulpit supply); member and moderator, various committees; participant, various mission projects; Sunday school teacher

Presbyterian Women: PWC—moderator; PWP—vice moderator; PWS—moderator

Community: Habitat for Humanity; Precinct Committee Woman; Quilt Guild; chair, book club and quilting group; chair, Legacy

Education/Career: bachelor's degree in nursing; master's degree in education



Search Committee, West Central Region

Linda "Kitch" Shatzer

Washington, Iowa

Presbytery: East Iowa

Synod: Lakes and Prairies

PW's influence and leadership have grown over time, becoming bolder and more creative in the ways we invite and mentor ministries of justice and mercy and continue to study God's Word. I hope to motivate new generations to continue to network and share resources enabling us to live more like Jesus.

Church: retired minister member and moderator, East Iowa Presbytery; frequently filling vacant pulpits and moderating church sessions; member, Presbytery Committee on Representation and Nominations; member, Pastoral Care Team.

Presbyterian Women: PWS—secretary

Community: SHIIP Counselor; facilitator, Coping with Suicide Loss Support Group; hospice volunteer; member, Hawkeye Area Community Action Project Site Council

Education/Career: bachelor's, Hastings College; master of divinity, Union Theological Seminary; ordained in PCUS in 1978; installed pastor, temporary supply pastor and interim pastor of 18 congregations during 39 years of active ministry



Search Committee, East Central Region

Marvella C. Lambright

Dayton, Ohio

Presbytery: Miami Valley

Synod: Covenant

My vision for PW is to continue being an organization where women can build relationships and encourage each other as they discern their God-given purpose in life. I want individuals to live, strive and thrive in Presbyterian Women. Surely, with this in mind, identifying women for leadership in PW will become my solemn quest.

Church: elder; various roles, College Hill Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of the Miami Valley, Synod of the Covenant; member, National Black Presbyterian Caucus and National General Assembly Committee on Representation.

Presbyterian Women: PW Churchwide—synod representative and member of various committees, PW Board; delegate, UN Commission on the Status of Women; participant, National Black Presbyterian Women; recipient, Lucy Craft Laney Award for Service

Education/Career: South Carolina State University; master's degree, teaching from Winthrop University; educational administration, University of Dayton; retired teacher



Search Committee, Northeast Region

Adebisi (Bisi) A. Shofu

Monroe, New Jersey

Presbytery: Coastlands

Synod: Northeast

I would like to educate the younger women in our presbyteries about the value of contributing in service and funding to Presbyterian Women. Working on filling the Board for the upcoming triennium, my goal is to change the perception that Presbyterian Women is a product of a by-gone era, raise awareness about our organization's varied programs and ministries, and encourage the many ways to participate in PW.

Church: elder; vice moderator, Coastlands Presbytery; pulpits supply

Presbyterian Women: PWS—moderator

Community: advocate to provide access to healthcare, educational chance, library access and technological opportunities to underserved individuals

Education/Work/Call: master of divinity, New Brunswick Theological Seminary; created Education Outreach Network to help young people become bilingual, earn college admission or obtain certified training in healthcare; fundraising consultant, various non-profits



Asian/Asian American

Representative at Large

Ruth Fong

Monte Sereno, California

Presbytery: San Jose

Synod: Pacific

I hope for Presbyterian Women's Board of Directors to continue promoting the safety and dignity of women everywhere. I believe we can accomplish this through advocacy, education and funding, while also spreading the word of God.

Church: handbell choir; Stephen Minister; member, Presbytery Committee on Representation and Empowerment (CORE)

Presbyterian Women: PWC—co-leader, PW Morning Circle; PWP—at large board member; vice moderator, Northern California Asian Presbyterian Women

Community: Chinese American Women's Club; Chinese Historical and Cultural Project; Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity Alum Chapter

Education/Career: bachelor's degree, Louisiana State University; master's degree, San Jose State University; retired music and kindergarten teacher



Black/African American/African
Representative at Large

Andrea Ralph

Albany, New York

Presbytery: Albany

Synod: Northeast

I would like for Presbyterian Women to actively support literacy through various initiatives and advocate for fair immigration policies. By organizing book drives and literacy programs in communities, we can empower individuals with the gift of knowledge and access to educational resources. Simultaneously, Presbyterian Women's advocacy for compassionate and just immigration policies aligns with the Christian values of

love and hospitality, ensuring that newcomers are welcomed and supported. This dual commitment to literacy and social justice showcases the profound impact Presbyterian women can have on their communities, fostering a brighter and more inclusive future for all.

Church involvement: elder; clerk of session; member, Worship Committee; teacher and superintendent, Sunday school; member, various congregational committees; executive administrator, co-chair of the Martin Luther King Scholarship Committee, Communications Committee and Nomination Committee, Capital Area Council of Churches

Presbyterian Women: PWP—moderator

Community: member, recording secretary, financial secretary and corresponding secretary, The Links, Inc.; chair of services, Youth Facet Albany District Links; tutor and board member, Two Together



Hispanic/Latina/ Latino/Latinx Representative at Large
Janira Colon

Altamonte Springs, Florida
Presbytery: Central Florida
Synod: South Atlantic

I would like to support Presbyterian Women in raising awareness about and expanding the resources of our denomination in Spanish, and broadening contributions of new talent of Hispanic Latina women. At the same time, I hope that PW can develop new programs that address the needs and support of immigrant women in the United States.

Church: ministry candidate, secretary, Consistory; moderator, Global Missions; liaison between congregation members and community and/or Central Florida aid services

Presbyterian Women: PWC—moderator; PWS—moderator; secretary and spiritual coordinator, Hispanic Latin Presbyterian Women

Community: sponsor, Oviedo Community Food Pantry; volunteer for helping individuals access senior services and/or financial resources

Education/Career: bachelor's degree, pastoral care; master of divinity; real estate/business owner



Korean/Korean American Representative at Large
Woong Soon Lee

Boston, Massachusetts
Presbytery: Boston
Synod: Northeast

I would like to help grow the PW Board's understanding of Asian American and Korean American Christian women's experiences. I would like to listen to and learn from the Presbyterian women from various cultures and backgrounds and reflect their opinions and ideas during the PW's Churchwide Board's 2024-2027 triennium. As a member of the PW's Churchwide Board, I will do my utmost for God, working in harmony and humility with my PW sisters, listening to the Holy Spirit's guidance, and living the way of peace and love that Jesus Christ teaches us.

Church: deacon; member, Choir and Praise Team; vice chair, Domestic Missions Committee; leader, Interpretation Team; member, Justice, Peace & Environment Committee; president, vice president of Young Adult Group II

Presbyterian Women: planning team, 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering

Community: board member, Women Together, Inc.

Education/Career: bachelor's in clinical psychology, Tufts University; curriculum design and instruction, University of Massachusetts at Boston; teacher, tutor, medical/legal interpreter/translator, administrator; currently, professional staff, US Department of Justice



Middle Eastern/North African Representative at Large

Youna Momtaz

Yorba Linda, California
Presbytery: Los Ranchos
Synod: Southern California and Hawaii

I hope that Presbyterian Women can continue supporting individual women in living out the call to be the hands and feet of Christ, and helping to guide and empower women to understand their worth in God's eyes. I would like PW to be a place where participants can deepen our personal knowledge of God's greater plan for us while working for justice and peace for everyone—especially those who are marginalized or in need.

Church: deacon; leader, Youth Ministry and Women's Ministry; teacher, Sunday school

Community: host and coordinator of small, weekly Bible study meeting

Education/Career: bachelor's degree in linguistics and translation; travel coordinator; English to Arabic translator; floral designer for weddings and other events



Young Women's Representative at Large

Bianca Osorio

Tempe, Arizona
Presbytery: Grand Canyon
Synod: Southwest

I want to continue carrying the timeless, universal and unifying message of justice and peace. By holding to this message, I believe Presbyterian Women will boldly move into the coming years, adapting in ways that are nurturing and inclusive for all.

Church: elder; usher; Mission Month Committee; chair, Congregational Outreach and Involvement Committee; Tech Team for Sound and Livestream; presbytery commissioner

Presbyterian Women: participant

Community: member and volunteer, 12-step program

Education/Career: bachelor's in sustainability, Arizona State University; account manager, logistics company 🍌