Shannon Blankenship, Clerk (nominated for a first term)

Shannon has been a member of Bethany since 2013. He has a rich and varied background, having lived in New York, the Bay Area, and Minneapolis in his twenties. He is happily married to Jeanette, and they have two wonderful children, Ryan and Julia. They have resided in Magnolia for over a decade. Shannon works as a sales engineering leader at Microsoft, where he helps academic medical centers and research institutions achieve their digital transformation goals. Shannon has a passion for serving God and his church, and he was an elder at First Presbyterian Livermore in the Bay Area when he was a teenager. In his spare time, he enjoys watching and supporting his children's activities in soccer, baseball, and gymnastics.

Micah Sanders, Local Outreach (nominated for a first term)

Micah is from Salem, OR, and did his undergrad at Whitworth University. He spent most of his 20s working in youth ministry and now works for a software company helping mental health professionals more easily handle insurance. He recently finished his MDiv at Seattle Pacific, and in his free time enjoys quality time with friends, playing basketball, visiting new places, and the dark chocolate peanut butter cups from Trader Joe's.

Jessica Fossum, Newcomers and Membership (nominated for a first term)

Jessica lives in Queen Anne, where she works as a professor at Seattle Pacific University. After spending a few years in Southern California, where she attended graduate school at UCLA, she's grateful to be back in the Seattle area. She grew up in Bellevue and completed her undergraduate degree at SPU, and it is such a joy to be back. Outside of work, Jessica enjoys playing viola in an orchestra, knitting, and trying to figure out how to bake the perfect chocolate cake.

Michelle McFarland, Congregational Life (nominated for a second term)

Michelle has been a part of Bethany since moving to Seattle in 2001. She has been a member of the nominating committee, taught Sunday School, served as the church wedding and event coordinator, and even worked on staff on the communications team. She is passionate about helping people connect with one another and looks forward to seeing how God will help us all reconnect in this "post"-COVID world. Michelle and Chuck have three adult kids (Audrey, Emmett, and Elsie). After 13 years at SPU, Michelle recently became Marketing Director at Chuck McFarland's State Farm. She's enjoying learning about the business and serving the needs of neighbors, friends, and community members. She loves plants and animals of (nearly) any kind, traveling, and hanging out with people of all ages and backgrounds!

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - SESSION NOMINEES (CONT.)

Suzzanne Lacey, Adult Christian Education (nominated for a second term)

Suzzanne Lacey is the Executive Director of nonprofit Museum Without Walls (MWW). She has been a Bethany member for over 25 years. Suzzanne has served on the local outreach committee, ushered, and worked with high school and middle school youth groups while at the church. She has also had the pleasure of leading many Bethany outreach travel programs in the southern US and beyond with MWW.

Dan Evans, Administration (nominated for a second term)

Dan and his wife, Terri Johnston, started attending Bethany almost 20 years ago. Dan, a preacher's kid, served previously on the nominating committee. Dan worked 20 years as senior staff to three members of the Washington Congressional Delegation, is a "recovering lawyer," and co-founded a company that produces low-carbon fuels from wastes. Dan & Terri live on Queen Anne, where they raised two BPYG graduates, Luke & Matthew. Dan enjoys biking, hiking, surfing, history, who-done-it series, and dinners with family & friends.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - DEACON NOMINEES

Leah Marston, Recording Secretary (nominated for a first term)

Leah grew up in Portland, moved to Seattle to attend SPU and has happily lived in Seattle since. She has been attending BPC with her husband Matt since 2003 - the same year they got married. Over the years she has cared for the children of Bethany in the nursery, Sunday school, and VBS. It has been a joy to watch children from Bethany grow into confident young adults. This includes her three teenage girls who have also been a part of the Bethany family since birth.

Leah currently works at Shoreline Christian School (PS-12th grade) as the Office Director and Registrar. In her free time, she loves to sit down with a good book, snuggle with their wonderful doodle, take a neighborhood walk, pickle/can/make jam with friends and enjoy the gorgeous sunset views from their balcony in Broadview.

Timothy Chang, Nominating Committee (nominated for a first term)

Timothy has been a Bethany member since 2017 and previously served as Bethany's treasurer. At church, he sings in the ensemble and delivers children's messages. He works as a history teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School in Auburn. In his free time, Timothy enjoys hiking, reading, exploring third places especially coffee shops and bookstores, and extolling the virtues of public transit. Timothy lives in West Seattle by Lincoln Park, one of his favorite places to walk after work.

Jane Gunningham, Projects (nominated for a first term)

Jane Gunningham has counted Bethany as her home church since 1984, when she came to the USA to study at SPU. She has worked and studied overseas but returns to Bethany where she has always felt seen, loved and able to be herself. That Jesus-centric approach to faith has been a key factor in her life journey and spiritual development. She is happy to feel well enough to serve with the deacons again. She recommends church service to everyone as a way to challenge the darkness.

Beth MacLean, Deacon Moderator (nominated for a second term):

Beth has been at Bethany since 2003. She previously served as a co-leader of Alpha and on the nominating committee. She is married to Matt, and they have two kids, Josh and Rachel. She works as a RN Practice Manager at The Polyclinic and has spent most of her nursing career in the surgical setting. She started her career as a captain in the military as an Army Nurse. She loves spending time with her family and doing crossword puzzles.

John Bernhardt, Projects (nominated for a second term)

Originally from Arlington, Virginia, John moved to Seattle in 2017. He and his wife, Robin, work as physical therapists at an orthopedic outpatient clinic in Bellevue. She introduced him to Bethany during their dating years, and they became members. A lover of all things outdoors and food, John's favorite activities include hiking along the I-90 corridor, baking sourdough bread, and having friends over for pizza. He joined Robin's Bethany small group, and you may have seen him up front doing the children's message. He and Robin love hosting people at their Greenwood home or taking a bike ride to Carkeek Park for a sunset view of the mountains.

Jacque Ives, Deacon Fund (nominated for a second term)

Jacque joined Bethany in 1988 and has served and participated in many aspects of our church family, including various small groups, Sunday school/Godly Play, deacons, elders, and Wednesday Night Dinner. She is married to Brian, and they have two adult kids, Wilson and Nathan, and a daughter-in-law, Theda. Jacque enjoys spending time outdoors (walking, hiking, swimming), baking at home, searching for new bakeries that inspire and satisfy, fixing things and learning to use new tools, and welding yard art.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOMINATING COMMITTEE AT-LARGE NOMINEES

Kay Westburg (nominated for a third one-year term)

Kay has been at Bethany since 1992, after she met and married Dave (who had already been attending Bethany). Kay previously served as an elder for Children and Family Ministries; she has also taught Fifth Grade Girls Sunday School at Bethany and led Middle School Youth Group with Dave. Kay and Dave have two children (Steven and Abigail—Bethany babies!) and another son (Jeremiah) who joined their family when he was a junior in high school. Kay manages student billing and tuition assistance at Bellevue Christian School and works for Dave's business on the side. When not answering email or crunching numbers, Kay heads outside—for running, biking, hiking, or rearranging the garden.