



CLASS OF 2029

ELDERS

Shelly Akins has been a member at St. Andrew's after returning to Tucson in 2014. For the past five years, she has worked as a middle school English teacher. She was raised in the church and began serving God by singing in the choir starting at age 4. Shelly continues to find worship meaningful and grounding, especially the music. She and her family, (Steve, Erin, and Joel), enjoy playing games and traveling. You can almost always find her with a book in her bag.

Stewart Cooper was baptized in a Presbyterian church in rural Missouri in 1983 and was thrilled to begin attending SAPC in the summer of 2023 when invited by his future wife, Karen Sweet. They joined the Mission Committee in November 2023 and were married in the Chapel in April 2024. They enjoy ballroom dancing, working out, visiting their adult kids, and daily devotional readings.

The theme scripture that has governed his life is Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." This inspired Stewart to become a psychologist, an occupation that has been a deep gift and blessing for him. He maintains a private practice and also contributes nationally via leadership roles in the American Psychological Association.

SAPC provides Stewart many opportunities to carry out Christ's commandments to love God and each other. He is honored to be selected to serve as an Elder.

Ed George is the son of a Presbyterian minister and is of Armenian descent. He grew up in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and graduated from the University of Rochester. Ed spent more than 40 years in industry as a program manager, leading large technology integration efforts for federal and civilian government agencies.

Ed first lived in Tucson from 1982 to 1995. After many years in San Diego, he returned to Tucson in 2017 and now lives in Oro Valley. He is an Elder at St. Andrew's and serves on the T3 Committee.

Ed's Presbyterian faith has been a constant throughout his life. A verse his father often quoted continues to guide him: "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." — Psalm 90:12. For Ed, it is a reminder to use the time and gifts God has given us faithfully and in service to others.

Jen Lewis Johnson reluctantly arrived in Arizona in 2018 after living in Illinois, China, and Germany. Raised in a Scandinavian Lutheran tradition (this is most certainly true), she grew up across the upper Midwest and Canada. She holds a BA in Communication Arts. Jen married Sean 29 years ago, and together they have three adult daughters. Jen teaches refugee English to Muslim women with Tucson Refugee Ministry, helps lead the Mom's Group at SAPC, and trained as a Stephen Minister in the most

recent cohort. She enjoys reading, writing, empty nest traveling, visiting her kids and grandkids, gardening, hiking, and exploring Tucson (a place she has grown to love!) Jen feels thankful for her church family at St Andrew's. She finds her faith focused in Micah 6:8, " ... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

Fran Tuell and her husband, Gary, became members of St. Andrews in 2009 after retiring and living six years off-grid on a wildlife refuge as full-time volunteers. Before retiring in 2002, she was a bakery/deli owner.

In the first month of being members, they were asked to serve as First Sunday ushers, a job they held until this year. Six of those years were also served as usher coordinator. Other committees and ministries Fran has served include Memorial Reception, Youth Taco Nights, Alpha kitchen, Information Office, and HUGS.

Fran has been a church member since the age of five when she was baptized in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Over the years, attendance was at several different churches, but she kept returning to the Presbyterian Church she first attended with her children.

Fran and Gary have five children that somehow managed to grow to adulthood, giving them eight grandchildren and four great grands.

Outside of work, Fran has maintained a fifty-plus year of membership singing in Sweet Adeline International organization with choruses and quartets and still has an active quartet here in Tucson. For several years she was active in Challenger Little League Baseball as a mom and as a sponsor. Fran looks forward to this new challenge and prayerfully hopes that she can contribute to the success and growth of St. Andrew's as we walk the Christian pathway.

TRUSTEES

Annette Bartlett and husband Joe Clark have been members of SAPC since September 2016. Annette has served as a volunteer data loader for the past five years, an usher, a greeter and is currently a member of the Safety and Security Planning Committee, and a Safety and Security Team member. Annette was born in Houston, Texas, and spent her formative years there and later in Springfield, Ohio, where she graduated high school. She attended the University of South Carolina and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. Annette has a diverse employment history. She has worked as a disc jockey, a dental assistant, a buyer for the Guam military base PX, ten years in the banking industry as the manager of a savings bank and 23 years as a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. During her tenure with the FBI her investigative focus was counterterrorism with ancillary certifications as an Evidence Response Team Leader, an undercover agent, a hostage negotiator, and a member of FBIHQ Foreign Emergency Support Team. Annette retired from the FBI after serving five years as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Tucson FBI office. Post retirement, Annette continued her support of the law enforcement community serving as a volunteer

Victim Witness responder for the Pima County District Attorney's Office, and as a board member of the non-profit organization Law Matters.

Annette is thankful that God has blessed her with skill sets that enable her to support SAPC ministries, missions and administration.

Brad Tilly – no bio available

DEACONS

Nancy Bomber – no bio available

Julie Coates and her husband, Ed, moved from Michigan to Tucson in 1992 and became members of St. Andrew's in January 1994 when their daughter Madeline was baptized. This is Julie's second time serving as a Deacon, she has also served as interim Children's Ministry Director, Sunday School teacher, interim HUGS director, and member of Families Together team. She and Ed have 2 daughters, Madeline, 32, currently living in West Haven, CT with her husband Micah and their two beautiful cats and Kelly, 29, who lives in Tucson. Both girls attended St. Andrew's Preschool and Kindergarten and were active in youth group and Contemporary Worship team. Julie works at Presidio Group Wealth Management. She and Ed are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in October, and in their free time enjoy travel, live music, books, and cheering on their Detroit sports teams.

Jena Gillette and her husband Steve moved to Oro Valley a little over two years ago to be closer to her father and to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. A wonderful bonus was getting a couple of extra years with their sons, Nick and Owen, while they attended UA. After Steve's 26 years in the Marine Corps and 12 moves, they are excited to finally be putting down roots. Jena enjoyed the nomadic lifestyle and is grateful for the opportunities it offered and the close family bonds it fostered. Jena realized that volunteering was the best way to connect with others and over the years, she served with Casa De Ninos, Hospice, several Marine Corps charities, and their sons' schools.

Jena and her family would attend services at SAPC when in town visiting her parents and it became a "church away from church" for them. Joining officially was the easiest decision they made during their last move. Outside of church, she enjoys tennis, gardening, biking, reading, and hosting Sunday dinners for family, friends, and neighbors. Her faith is ever-present and continually evolving; she approaches it much like a "continuing education" process—fun, challenging, and filled with growth.

Doug Hengstler moved from Indiana with his family in 1978 and became a member of St. Andrew's in 2002. After 47 years, he recently retired from Dumas Products, a local model manufacturing company. Doug has previously served as an SAPC Deacon from 2004 to 2006 and has been an active member of the St. Andrew's Tappers since 2005. He is so grateful for the warmth of this congregation and the peace of Christ that sustains him daily. Doug looks forward to serving our church family once again.

Eric Jacobs is honored to be nominated to serve as a Deacon at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Born and raised in Tucson, he has a lifelong connection to this city. Having accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at age 21, he has been a believer now for nearly 30 years, and his faith remains the foundation guiding his daily walk with God and how he serves others.

Eric has been married to his wife, Jessica, for close to 18 years, and together with their children, Natalie (14) and Evan (12), have attended St. Andrew's for the past 6 years and are thankful to be part of this community. Professionally, Eric has worked in the IT field for 20 years and has a Master of Science in IT Management. He currently serves as the IT Operations Manager at Marana Health, where he has worked for the last 7 years. Outside of work, he enjoys traveling, camping, trail running, tinkering with technology, tackling DIY home projects, and driving the kids to their activities. Eric looks forward to serving our congregation with a humble, dedicated heart.

Jessica Jacobs is a proud Arizonan with family roots in territorial cattle ranching. Her husband, Eric, and their two children, Natalie (14) and Evan (12), are native Tucsonans.

With degrees in Elementary Education and Language, Reading, and Culture from the University of Arizona, Jessica has taught for 30 years, including over 20 years in the Amphitheater School District. She currently teaches reading and gifted education to kindergarteners and first graders at Innovation Academy. Outside the classroom, Jessica enjoys pickleball, hiking, reading, traveling, and watching British and Scandinavian mysteries.

The Jacobs family's faith journey with St. Andrews began several years ago through VBS and Service Sunday. After watching services online during the pandemic, they returned in person once doors reopened and called it their home church. Jessica now serves on the Children's Discipleship Ministry committee, where she loves knowing she is helping kids experience the love of Jesus.