



# GETTING TO KNOW

## 2018 GOVERNING ELDERS

Elders are elected by the congregation to lead the church in life and mission. They are mature followers of Jesus who together seek to understand and do God's will by equipping, teaching, and encouraging all the members of the church.

**Governing Elders** are Shepherding Elders who for a short term (3 years) serve in overseeing and leading the direction of the church. Acting in unity together they are called "the Session" trusting that God gives wisdom and direction to the gathered body of elders beyond what he does with them as individuals. They guide the church in strategic planning, stimulating generosity, leadership development, and oversee finances and personnel.

### GOVERNING ELDER



*Class of 2020*

**Jimey Ames:** Kathy and I have three grown children and four grandchildren. We have been members of Third for over 35 years. I have been a Trustee and an active Elder three times. I sing in the choir and was the interim music director for a year. I also have sung with the early primary Sunday School classes for almost 25 years. I look forward to working with the church leadership as we discern the future of Third.



*Class of 2020*

**Allene Brown:** I have been attending Third since 1982 and met and married my husband Doug at Third. We have two grown children David (23) and Jenna (20). During my long tenure at Third I have served as deacon, as elder, on the strategic planning committee and most recently on Third's Dismissal Committee. I have spearheaded the Dinner 8's program for many years, and in recent years have co-lead a season's small group and participated in Wednesday night tutoring. I am excited to follow God's call into a leadership role in His church once again, and to work to discern and follow His leading during the next - never dull - season as He continues to shape Third Church for His work in Richmond and elsewhere.



*Class of 2020*

**Fritz Kling:** I have been attending Third for 35 years. Third has been a vibrant, happy, and central feature in Val's and my lives, and in the lives of our three grown children. Val and I have enjoyed serving in many ways, sometimes together and sometimes separately -- including tending to infants, teaching 5th-6th graders, and teaching young adults for many years. I am particularly excited about the younger people and families whom the Lord is drawing to Third. I want to help Third to faithfully inform, inspire, and involve future generations -- just as it has profoundly done for me and my family.



*Class of 2020*

**Dave Skove:** My wife, Judy, and two children, Christopher and Laura, started worshipping at Third when we moved to Richmond in 1990. During the intervening decades I have regularly taught an adult Sunday school class, served on the Session for three terms, participated on a number of Third's committees, and been profoundly blessed by the deep friendships we have made with other followers of Jesus. I look forward to serving as a Governing Elder on the reconstituted Session.



**Class of 2019**

**Stephen Tyler:** My wife Mel and I moved back to Richmond in 1995. Having grown up in Richmond, I knew of Third's reputation as a strong church and we made it our church home. Since then, we have raised 5 children here. Our oldest, James is 20 and off to West Point, our other 4 ages 16, 16, 16, and 13 are active in the church youth program and have really grown through mission trips to Mexico and Minnesota. This is my second round as an Elder at Third. I have served in Children's ministry and now I am on the Budget and Stewardship committee. I am an Engineer/Manager at a Dominion by profession with degrees from Virginia Tech and the University of Richmond. Most of my free time is spent on my family and my scout troop. I love to hike and spend time outdoors.



**Class of 2019**

**Mike Armstrong:** Ellen and I transferred to Third at the turn of the century, when James (19) was an infant. Our daughter Meredith (25) was married at Third this summer, and our son Michael (26) remains an active member while studying medicine at VCU. I taught 5-6th grade Sunday school from 2008 to 2017, when I became a governing elder serving on the missions and personnel committees. By profession, I am an otolaryngologist (ear, nose and throat) and facial plastic and reconstructive surgeon, with a particular interest in sinus and nasal diseases. When I have free time, I like to be on, in or near the water.



**Class of 2019**

**Heidi Little:** Raised at Third Church, I was shaped by the children's ministry and youth programs during the 1970s and 1980s. I served on volunteer youth staff at Third in the 1990's, and after returning to Richmond and Third Church in the 21st century, my husband Ross and I have begun to root our own family in the rich web of relationships of this church family and have been drawn toward hospitality opportunities, small groups and various committees ranging from Strategic Planning to Vacation Bible School.



**Class of 2019**

**Jennifer Parham:** I have been attending Third since infancy, so Third has had a really significant role in my personal and spiritual development. I am currently serving my third term as an elder and have been focusing this term on Denominational Affairs and Strategic Planning (I had the privilege of co-chairing the "Love Our Neighbors" Working Group). I serve on our presbytery's Pastoral Ministry Ordination Team, which helps prepare individuals to become new pastors, and on the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission. I love teaching Scripture and have co-taught the "Reveal" Sunday School class for the past 3 years with Grant Holbrook and Andrew Fuller. I live in North Church Hill and have been really involved with affordable housing issues through Urban Hope, Inc. and chairing my neighborhood civic association.



**Class of 2018**

**Jeff Hassler:** My wife Lyric and I have been in Richmond since 2008 and at Third since 2010, along with our four daughters, Aurelia, Eliana, Renata, and Annora. I've served on the worship committee and as co-chair of the strategic planning working group focused on community and discipleship. We also sing in the choir when we can and help out with parish groups and children's ministry. I'm excited to see the new ways God is calling His people at Third to do His work, and look forward to growing together as we respond to that call.



**Class of 2018**

**Scott Ziegler:** I attended Third as a University of Richmond college student in the early 80's. Amy and I were happily married by Third's former pastor Dr. Long and raised our family (Adair and John) here at Third. Amy and I joined Third because of its focus on Biblical preaching and missions. We have been very blessed to be a part of the Third family all of these years. I have participated in a number of ways with many happy memories working with the new member class, going on mission trips, and helping with strategic planning at various points over the years. My current role has me helping with strategic planning again. It is exciting to see what God is doing!



**Class of 2018**

**Stephen Piepgrass:** Third has been our family's church home since we moved to a nearby neighborhood from the Museum District in 2010. Candace and I have three children, Caroline, Jack and Evie, who love their Sunday School classes and the many friends they have made here at Third. I have enjoyed serving in various roles at the Church, including as an Elder, an usher, and a member of the Missions, Communications and Personnel Committees. Third is a place where my family and I have been able to grow through dynamic preaching, excellent teaching, and vibrant community groups. One of the things I have loved most about serving on Session is that, when we gather, our meetings often feel more like worship services than business meetings. I am thankful to share leadership responsibilities with a wonderful group of believers, who have a shared vision for building community and reaching the City with the message of renewal and hope available through Christ.



**Class of 2018**

**Andrew Fuller:** Jill and I and our three children have attended Third since 2005. As a governing elder I serve on the Budget and Stewardship Committee. I am also a member of the Missions Team. I am excited that Third expresses a deep commitment to the outward mission of the church and am involved with a number of aspects of the outreach of the church. I regularly teach adult Sunday School and enjoy relating to a wide range of people across the Third community.

