

Biographies for Council Candidates

Name:	Deborah Ezell	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	10:45 a.m. Praise Service	Years at GSLC:	12

Personal History:

- Born and raised in Atlanta, GA
- Attended Catholic schools K-12 and St. Mary's College, Notre Dame where I was a member of the Folk Choir and marching band at The University of Notre Dame.
- Taught high school science after graduating and then PreK-5th grade science and music at Hillside Preschool and Academy for the past 10 years.
- My husband, Wade, and I enjoy cooking, playing pickleball, and spending time with our two kids: Trent (15) and Alena (14).



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- Praise Team (12 years)
- Middle School Sunday School teacher (4 years)
- Vacation Bible School – Science and Music teacher (multiple yrs)
- Youth Retreats and Mission Trip chaperone (3 years)
- Confirmation and FX3 parent volunteer (3 years)
- Faith Formation Committee member (3 years)

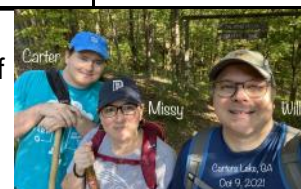
Brief statements on your impact on council:

- With a background in education, I am familiar with the benefits of working as a team to advance common goals. I have a vested interest in the growth and sustainability of Good Shepherd. I chose this church specifically because I felt most comfortable here with my family. I want to help our church continue to foster the outreach needed to grow our community. As a parent who is very involved with our youth programming, I feel I bring a passion for our youth and their future in the church as well as an ability to offer support to our young families who are looking for a way to contribute and plant their roots here at Good Shepherd.

Name:	Will Jayroe	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	8: 30 a.m. Traditional Service (preferred), 10:45 a.m. Praise Service (due to the service time)	Years at GSLC:	10

Personal History:

- Born in Mississippi with parents that were both in education. I grew up attending First Baptist Church.
- I graduated from University North Texas, studied Music and Art. While earning my master's degree in Art Education, I met my wife, Melissa. We have an 18 year old son, Carter.
- After teaching music briefly in Texas and Mississippi, I started a career in Web Design in 1999. I have over twenty years of technology and design consulting with small start-up businesses to fortune 500 companies.
- I am very active with Boy Scouts. I served as Chaplain, am a member of the BSA Atlanta Area Council Religious Relations Committee and completed an Interfaith Service Guide. I earned Eagle Scout in 1991.
- Since college, I have studied theology, philosophy, science and technology. I have also explored faith communities including: Baptist, Bible Church, Buddhist, Catholic, Church of Christ, Episcopal, Hindu, Jewish, Methodist, Muslim, Presbyterian and Lutheran.



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- I attend the Men in Mission small group
- I was a teaching contributor to Jim Cady's Sunday School class until he retired.
- I have performed special music on trombone in the past accompanied by Thomas Eisner.
- I have served on the Technology Committee and assist with the GSLC Website

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- I can bring an ecumenical perspective to the council, especially around Protestant variations of Christianity.
- With my history in education and youth volunteering in Scouting, I can bring an awareness of current issues and culture that can serve our young adult members. For example, I feel that GSLC has a unique faith based, progressive culture that would appeal to those whose view of organized religion is based on less inclusive traditions.
- As a technologist, I can bring those skills to bear as we reevaluate how church can be done post-Covid.

Biographies for Council Candidates

Name:	Holly Jones	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	8:30 a.m. Traditional Service	Years at GSLC:	20

Personal History:

- Life-long Lutheran
- Former high school Spanish teacher
- Married to Keith for 27 years
- Children: Madison (20) and Michael (14)



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- I have served as a Sunday school teacher/ assistant.
- I was elected to Council in 2008 and served two terms, including one year as president.
- I have been involved in many Outreach activities, particularly MUST Summer Lunches and MUST Thanksgiving collection.
- I served in and directed VBS for several years.

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- I believe that serving on Council is an important way to support the mission of GSLC.
- I believe that I can help GSLC during this critical time of transition.

Name:	Barbara Kidder	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	8:30 a.m. Traditional Service	Years at GSLC:	4

Personal History:

- I am a retired school teacher from Ohio. My husband, Ken, and I relocated to this area about 10 years ago to be near family. We have two children, Todd and Mary, and 4 grandchildren.
- We have always been very involved with our church, but come from a Methodist and then Presbyterian tradition. We feel that the ELCA best expresses our Christian values, and we have felt very at home at Good Shepherd.



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- Chancel Choir
- Sunday School
- Thursday Bible study
- Fellowship Committee
- Caring for Creation Committee

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- I feel that my past experiences and involvement in other churches equips me to contribute to the leadership of Good Shepherd.
- I have served in many leadership positions, such as Bible School Director, pianist and organist as well as choir member, Sunday School Director and teacher.
- I've held leadership on numerous church committees.

Biographies for Council Candidates

Name:	Matt Provost	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	8:30 a.m. Traditional Service	Years at GSLC:	10

Personal History:

- Born and raised in Maryland and South Carolina, then finished college in Georgia and have lived here ever since.
- I was raised Presbyterian, my wife Michelle was raised Catholic; we were married 23 years ago in an Episcopalian ceremony, and finally found a church home here as Lutherans.
- Have worked for 22 years at a medical software company, where I currently lead a service team that assists home care nurses across the country in providing home health and hospice care.
- Michelle and I have two daughters - Sara, who is 14 and loves to play piano and write stories, and Emily, who is 11 and enjoys playing the guitar and beating me at chess.



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- Have attended services here for the past 10 years, our family has been members for 5.
- Have ushered at the 8:30 service for several years.
- Delivered 2021 financial stewardship talk.
- Support youth bells and confirmation.

Brief statements on your impact on council:

I believe that we are all called to serve, that this truly is OUR church, and that we need to find ways to help where we can. I think contributing my voice to the Council discussions is a way I can help.

My business background focuses specifically on conflict resolution and consensus-building, which ideally could assist in Council discussions.

Name:	Sharron Ryan	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	8:30 a.m. Traditional Service	Years at GSLC:	22

Personal History:

- Originally from Huntsville, Alabama
- Attended University of Alabama
- Moved to Georgia 44 years ago, moved to Woodstock 24 years ago
- Raised 3 Amazing Daughters in Cobb County
- Grandmother of 4 Wonderful Grandsons and 3 Beautiful

Granddaughters

- Retired From William M. Mercer as an Employee Benefit Consultant, Major Accounts
- Member Services Manager for Kaiser Permanente
- I like spending time with my family, friends and my new puppy. I also love to read and watch all kinds of sports.



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- Lifelong Lutheran
- Church Council, President, Vice-President, Secretary
- Call Committee, Chair
- Fellowship & Congregational Care, Chair & Member
- Stewardship, Caring for Creation, Mutual Ministry & Empty Nester Member
- Sunday and Bible School Teacher, Youth Advisor
- Altar Guild, Usher, Prayer Chain participant.

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- When I was first asked to serve on Church Council, I wasn't sure if this was something I wanted to do again. I spent a lot of time praying and asking God to guide me. Then I thought of something a member of our Stewardship Committee said: "He said God has given us so many blessings and it is our responsibility to give back." I have had a variety of wonderful opportunities to serve, and I feel this experience can be used as a member of the Church Council to help write the next chapter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.
- I assure you if I am elected I will work hard to represent all areas of our church family, always keeping our Lord and Savior as the focus of this work.

Biographies for Youth Council Candidates

Name:	Alena Ezell	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	10:45 a.m. Praise Service	Years at GSLC:	13

Personal History:

- Freshman at Etowah High School
- Varsity XC and Track athlete and Honor Roll student
- Born and raised in Woodstock
- My brother, Trent, is a sophomore at Etowah. My mom, Deborah, is a Sunday school teacher for the middle school. My dad, Wade, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserves. I have 3 dogs and 2 cats.



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- I have attended Good Shepherd since my baptism in 2008.
- I attend Sunday school regularly and have completed 3 years of confirmation classes.
- I have participated in retreats and youth group events at the church and synod level.
- I went on a week-long Mission Trip to Nashville, TN.
- I have participated in and volunteered at multiple Vacation Bible Schools here at Good Shepherd.

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- I feel that I can offer a good youth perspective because of my diverse involvement in the youth programs offered here at Good Shepherd.
- I am strong in my faith and rely heavily on the power of prayer.
- I am compassionate and try to understand others' opinions and beliefs.
- I speak up for what I believe in and feel I can represent others and their concerns.
- I am a good listener and can report information well.

Name:	Lily Schwartz	Date:	10/29/21
Service(s) typically attend:	10:45 a.m. Praise Service	Years at GSLC:	5

Personal History:

- 10th grader, straight A honor roll student at Etowah High School
- On multiple leadership clubs, and tutors and works a part-time job in my free time
- Swims with the Cherokee County Aquatic Center
- Daughter of Elizabeth (Schwartz) Fennell, Step daughter of Alice Fennell, Sister to Eva and Dylan



Church Involvement (list 3 – 5):

- Completed confirmation and gave my Statement of Faith
- Won the GSLC Baking Competition :)
- Involved with youth group activities and volunteering for four years
- Has served as a worship assistant and acolyte for four years.

Brief statements on your impact on council:

- I hope to bring a voice to the Council to faithfully represent the youth of the church.
- Honored and grateful to get the opportunity to have an impact on the church during this time of transition.
- Will prayerfully commit myself and time for a year.
- Looking forward to collaborating with adults on the future of the church.