



# Children's Ministry Renovation Team

## **Natalie Bishop- Supply/Classroom Coordinator**

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Natalie has been a member of First Presbyterian since 2004. She has served as a children's Sunday School teacher, IHN volunteer, and has been a member of the Worship Division. Over the past ten years, Natalie has taught three, four, and five year olds (Pre-Kindergarten) in the church weekday school and first grade in the Clarke County School District. She is married to Matt Bishop and is the proud mother of Abigale (9), Jimmy (6), and Lanier (2). Natalie is very excited about a thriving Children's Ministry at Athens First Presbyterian!

## **Melinda DeMaria- Volunteer Coordinator**

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Melinda DeMaria has been a member of First Presbyterian since 2012. She has been a volunteer serving meals with Our Daily Bread, IHN volunteer helping to provide meals, an usher and greeter, atrium host and taught Children's Sunday School with her husband Don. Melinda is the Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions at UGA. She and Don are the parents of Maggie(12) and Cate (8). The future of our church is in the halls of our children's ministry. Melinda hopes to see everyone taking time at some point in the year to give back to this vital ministry.



## **Jerris Hayes- Prayer Team Coordinator**

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This church has been an integral part of my life since 1980. I am married to Julie and we have one grown daughter, Camille. It has been my pleasure to serve as a deacon and an elder at First Presbyterian. I teach Sunday school in the Hooper Bible Class and I am part of a Prayer Team which is asking individuals to pray for our work with the Children's Ministry Program. My vision for the Children's Ministry involves members of all ages praying for and participating in our efforts to love, teach, and nourish our children in a way which is pleasing to the Lord.

## **Ann Jones- Policy and Procedure Co-Coordinator**

(706) 540-1345 • [annsj@att.net](mailto:annsj@att.net)

Ann Jones has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for over 40 years. Ann served as the Director of the Weekday School and as a teacher for seventeen years. She has volunteered over the years in various ministries throughout the church such as Bible School, choir, Sunday School, Congregational Care and with the Youth Ministry. Ann and her husband Everett have two sons, two daughter-in-laws and are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren. Ann believes the Children's Ministry is the beginning of building a relationship with God and establishing a strong foundation that will last throughout a lifetime.



### **Karen Phillips- Curriculum Coordinator**

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Karen Phillips is the Curriculum Coordinator for the Children's Ministry Renovation Team. She joined the church a few years ago and has been helping out as the Craft Teacher at Vacation Bible School this week. She participates in adult Sunday School and has taught the 3-5 year old Sunday School class. She has been teaching elementary art in Monroe for 13 years and was Teacher of the Year in 2011. She designs her own art curriculum for Pre-K through 5th graders. Karen also sells her lesson plans online to a world-wide audience on Teachers Pay Teachers through the username "Masterpiece Momma". She is a photographer, tap dancer, and gardener. Karen is married to Nathan and they have two sons, Charlie (5) and Owen (2). She is excited about providing a meaningful and engaging Sunday School and Children's Church curriculum for our children.

### **Jim Scanlon- Policy and Procedure Co-Coordinator**

(706) 548-4458 • [jjtscanlon@yahoo.com](mailto:jjtscanlon@yahoo.com)

Jim Scanlon has been a member of First Presbyterian Church in Athens for a total of 14 years, seven years in the early 1980's and again since 2008 after moving elsewhere for 22 years. He has served on the Session twice, serving as Chair of the Worship and Music Commission and more recently a member of the same commission. Jim sings in the Chancel Choir. Jim recently retired from Technology Consulting and now enjoys doing things he wants to do. He was recently appointed to serve on the Planning Commission for Athens-Clarke County. Jim and his wife, Judy, have two adult children. Jonathan is an ordained Presbyterian minister, serving a small church in Austin while attending UT Austin to obtain his Masters of Social Work degree. Anna is a doctoral student at the University of Leicester in England. Jim believes that the key to a vibrant church is a healthy children's ministry.



### **Leslie Trier- Chair/Communication Coordinator**

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Leslie Trier has been a member of First Presbyterian since 2006. She has served as an Elder, an IHN volunteer, an usher and helped plan the 2015 Women's Retreat. She participates in adult Sunday School and the "Crafty Christians" group. Leslie works as an events specialist with Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services. She is married to Dan and they are the parents of Susanna (20 months). Leslie hopes to see a Children's Ministry where our youngest members learn how much God loves them and that they are an important part of our church and God's family.