

Servant Leadership Team

Angela Childress has served in ministry since she was a child. Angela was raised in Panama City, Panama in a deeply rooted Catholic family. She has been a member of St. Luke's since October of 2016. Angela is in her final year on SLT, works with the Hispanic ministry, and participates as a collaborator for Cornerstone Campaign. She teaches elementary school Spanish in the Charlotte Mecklenburg School District and has taught Spanish for 14 years. In 2017 she was recognized as the teacher of the year for her. Angela enjoys working with students of all ages. Her journey began as a teenager in Panama when she made the decision to pursue her education in the United States by enrolling at Daytona Beach Community College. She then spent two years at Bethune-Cookman University graduating with a B.A. in Mass Communication. After a few years in the banking industry and a move to Wichita, Kansas Angela felt the call to continue her education by pursuing a Master's in Spanish Literature at WSU. She worked for the Wichita School District for a year and then the Catholic School Diocese for 8 years. Angela had the honor of joining the staff at Charlotte Catholic High school where she obtained experience in teaching and preparing young adults for college and beyond. In addition to teaching, volunteering and being a Mom she is also currently a student at UNCC Charlotte working on her administration license.

Brian Cohanski has been a member of St. Luke's for nearly 10 years. Brian is originally from New York, but spent most of his life in Virginia Beach, VA. Brian has a variety of degrees and certifications in K-12 education, risk and project management. He has spent the majority of his career in the education field and been blessed to work in districts/schools in all 50 states. Prior to moving to the Mint Hill area and joining St. Luke's, Brian was active in a variety of ministries in other parishes focusing his time on leadership and educational roles. Currently, Brian is the Vice Chair for SLT, a member of Finance Council, and participates in a variety of activities for the Corner Stone Campaign and the Building Planning Committee.

Father Paul Q Gary, was ordained February 11, 1984. He is a native of Long Island, New York before moving to Charlotte with his family in 1978. He joined the Diocese of Charlotte as a seminarian in 1980 after completing studies at UNCC. Ordained a priest by Bishop Michael Begley in 1984 at St. Patrick's Cathedral and served throughout western North Carolina since ordination. Pastor of St. Philip in Statesville for 8 years, Rector of the cathedral for 12 years and pastor of St. Luke's in Mint Hill 12 years.

Gary R. Grossman was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana, home of the "Greatest Spectacle in Racing". He was raised in a loving Christian home and was educated in the Catholic faith and attended both Catholic grade school and high school as well as several excellent universities. Gary served in the United States Air Force from October 1967 until September 1974. While stationed in England, he met and married his wife, Carol. They have three children and six grandchildren. After leaving the military, Gary entered a career of sales and sales management. He is now semi-retired but still dabbles in the flooring business, where he spent the last 35 years. Gary has been attending St. Luke Parish since 2009 and has served on several ministries,

including: RCIA, Kairos, Welcome, SLT, Daily Bread, EYH and is in the Knights of Columbus. He enjoys serving the Lord through these ministries and hopes to continue to do so.

Verna Ingrassia, is a relatively new parishioner. Since joining this parish in August of 2018, she has found St. Luke's Community inspiring and supportive. She moved from Connecticut to Indian Trail and resides with her daughter's family. Her other two children and their families continue to reside in CT. Family has always been important to Verna. Unfortunately, her husband of 42 years became very ill which resulted in Verna leaving the work scene to become his full-time caregiver. Prior to that, Verna spent 33 ½ years as a (DRE) Director of Religious Education. After the death of her husband in 2007, Verna developed a Bereavement Ministry to help others in similar situations. Through the Bereavement Ministry she also witnessed some truly dramatic and positive changes within the lives of the participants. Verna's background in training and education has been a great joy in her life. She earned her BS degree from Sacred Heart University in Religious Education; a MA from Fordham University in Church Leadership, and Youth Ministry; and a MA from Fairfield University in Pastoral Ministry. She is thankful that God gifts us with so many wonderful opportunities! Since arriving at St. Luke's, she has been an active member in the Spirituality Ministry and serves as a Facilitator and Instructor. This is her first year on the Servant Leadership Team.

Maria "Lola" Poldolski [Bio Coming Soon]

Jill Reed has been a member of St. Luke Parish for almost 20 years. She is originally from Ohio where she joined the Catholic Church in 1994 after participating in the RCIA program at St. Mary Magdalene in Columbus. Since moving to NC in 2000, with her husband David and their three children, Jill has been involved in various ministries at St. Luke including serving on the Cornerstone Committee, as liaison to Finance Council, as a Liturgy Chair, Altar Server Coordinator, First Sacraments Assistant, and as a Faith Formation teacher. Jill and her family also coordinated the Porter Ridge Easter and Christmas Masses for many years. She currently serves as the Chair of SLT and is in her third and final year on the team. Jill earned her BS degree from Miami University and a Juris Doctor from Capital University. She is an attorney who works mostly on commercial real estate matters.

Ralph Ricci has been a member of St. Luke Parish since the late summer of 2009 when he and his wife, Christine, moved to Indian Trail from Boardman (Youngstown) Ohio. They moved here to be near their daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren! Ralph holds both BS and MS degrees from Youngstown State University, where he was an adjunct faculty member in Criminal Justice and Sociology. He retired as the administrator of the Mahoning County Juvenile Court in Ohio and then entered the real estate profession upon moving to North Carolina. He and his business partner are co-owners of Southern Way Homes Realty, LLC. Ralph has had several volunteer experiences serving the Church in many capacities over the years: altar server; teaching Faith Formation; Eucharistic Minister; President of St. Dominic School PTA; Finance Committee and serving on Parish Council (SLT) in two different parishes in

Ohio. He decided to step back for a while after moving to NC, but is now eager to serve St. Luke's and share his knowledge and skills. He is hoping to help create new parish-based services for our senior population and is excited about the future of St. Luke's as we continue to grow as a parish and plan for the future!

Ruth Marily Santos joined St. Luke Parish in January 2009. She is originally from El Salvador and emigrated to the US when she was only 14 years old. She lived in Simi Valley, CA, and then moved to Charlotte, NC back in 1999 where she met her husband Ricardo Santos who is originally from Guatemala. They have 2 beautiful daughters ages 22 and 17. Marily has an Associate Degree in Accounting which she started in Moor Park Community Collage and finished at SPCC in 2004. She has spent all of her career in the Apartment industry as a Property Manager for large Apartment Complexes where she enjoys working and helping the community of all cultures. In 2010, she became a member of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Group at Saint Luke's where she grew in her Christian Faith. Marily has been involved in various ministries such as being part of the CCR's Intersection Ministry, she was in charge of CCR Hispanic Youth group, she is a member of the Hispanic Committee, she served for 6 years in the Hispanic Chorus, she is an Eucharistic Minister, and is in her first year as a member of the SLT.

Cindy Takah was born and raised in Avella Pennsylvania, 45 minutes south of Pittsburgh, where she was a member of St. Michaels. Cindy served as the leader of the Faith Formation, after many years of teaching various levels of faith formation. Cindy was very active in Christian Mothers, sang in the choir, and served as a eucharist minister. Cindy has 35 plus years as a faith formation teacher. Cindy graduated from West Liberty State college with a BA Degree in teaching. Cindy was a teacher at Burgettstown Area School district for over 16 years. Cindy has a variety of certificates, including an EMT. Cindy served in that capacity for the Avella Volunteer Fire Department for 5 years. Cindy has been a member of Saint Luke's, teaching faith formation since moving to Indian Trail with her husband to be near their two sons.

Celinda Trull has been a parishioner of St. Luke's Parish since 2006 when she moved to Matthews from Greenville, SC. She was born in New York, and moved to Guam where she spent her early childhood until age 15. Her family then moved to Jacksonville, FL, and she earned a BA degree from the University of North Florida with a degree in Marketing. Celinda will mark her 36th year with State Farm Insurance this coming March 2020. Her career has taken her from Jacksonville, FL to Sumter, SC, to Greenville, SC, and finally to Charlotte. Her current role is as a State Farm Agent in downtown Matthews. Celinda has served on the Children's Liturgy at St. Luke's, and she is MOM to son Evan (21) and Elise (17), both of whom have served on ministries at St. Luke's. She is excited to be entering her 2nd year on SLT and is honored to be part of this important ministry!

Pamela Weghorst has been a member of St. Luke's since 2008. She has been active in Music Ministry and Young Adult Ministry throughout her time at St. Luke, and has also been an RCIA sponsor, a Faith Formation catechist, and now is mid-way through her term on our Servant Leadership Team. Originally from Michigan, Pamela earned

her BS at the University of Michigan and her MS in geology at Kent State in Ohio. She met her husband while doing a year of service through Dominican Volunteers USA. Pamela has been volunteering in church from a young age, including experience as an altar server, usher, greeter, Eucharistic minister, reader, and member of parish council and retreat teams. Outside of church, Pamela has served on Stallings Storm Water Advisory Council and is currently an environmental science teacher with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.