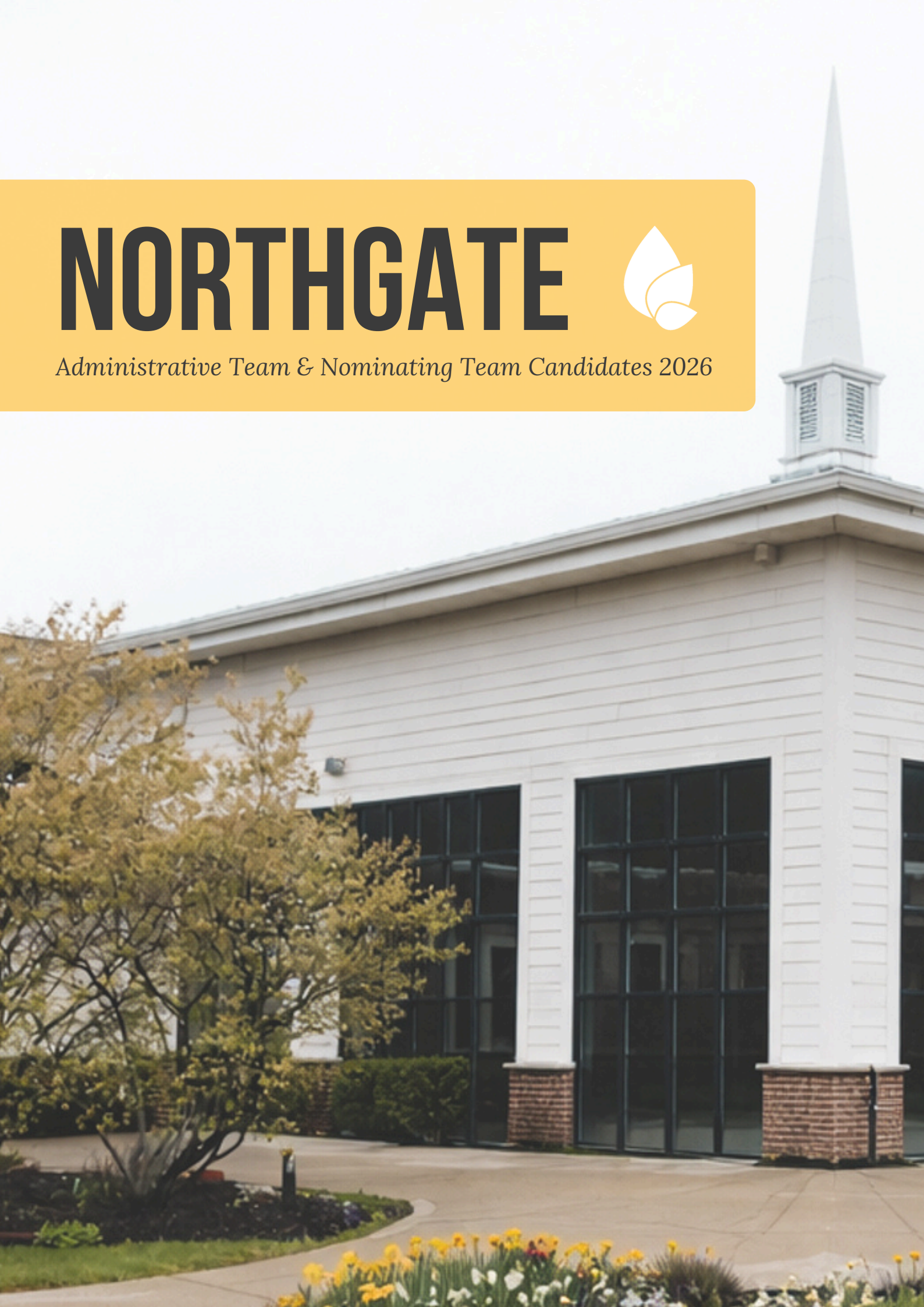


NORTHGATE



Administrative Team & Nominating Team Candidates 2026



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ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

- 01 Dave Adams
- 02 Bill Hayes
- 03 Dave Kibler
- 04 Diane Phelps
- 05 Nathan Varland
- 06 Bob Wood

NOMINATING TEAM

- 07 JoAnn Hayes
- 08 Michele Keberle
- 09 Sara Kent
- 10 Brenda Miller

Voting Instructions

Each voting member/partner is asked to select three (3) candidates for the Administrative Team and two (2) candidates for the Nominating Team. Elections will take place on May 14 and May 17. Please take time to review each candidate's responses before making your selections.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CANDIDATES

Voting Instructions

Each voting member/partner is asked to select three (3) candidates for the Administrative Team. Elections will take place on May 14 and May 17. Please take time to review each candidate's responses before making your selections.

DAVE ADAMS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

My involvement at Northgate is in its early stages. I attended worship for about a year and a half and continued to see Northgate as a church based in biblical roots with a focus on growth and service to its community. Shortly after, I approached Pastor John to learn how to become a partner (member) and completed that process almost two years ago. I have assisted with the rummage sale, Spring cleanup of the building grounds and was invited to be a part of the Safety team.



How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

Outside of Northgate, I have been a member of the board of directors with Batavia Players, Inc. for more than 15 years. While there I have additionally served on the executive board, been treasurer and continue as chair person of the Building Maintenance and Construction Committee. Also when my son Matthew was young, I coached youth baseball for a time moving from ages 9 through 13.

While I am generally an introverted person; aside from my individual time of devotions, study and prayer, I attend Centered Worship nights often, I participate in Bible Study with Pastor Vern and am part of a men's group which completed the Freedom course and is now engaged in the Practicing the Way course, The support of the Northgate community helped me to be more comfortable sharing my faith and inviting others to come to Northgate. Whether a friendly conversation or need of someone on staff this church family has become a safe, respectful place full of generous and compassionate people that serve others in the way Jesus taught.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

What excites me about Northgate and its direction is that it utilizes a team approach in its operational values. Guided in our faith Northgate seems to recognize that each of us brings our talents, insights and ideas of how to best serve the church and community. As I said, I feel my involvement at Northgate is in its early stage so a view of future direction is limited at this time. A few things that come to mind are that the building itself will have maintenance issues to address, that the property size may lend itself to future projects and continuing to find service partnerships in the local community that assist children, teens and adults.

BILL HAYES

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

My daughter, Christina and her friend in high school Linsey Pierce invited JoAnn & I to a Sunday service in the year 2000. Pastor Mitch Pierce was the Senior Pastor, Max McGinnis and Vern Saile were his Associate Pastors. We became members of the church a few years later. To this day, I thank my daughter for the invite and for God using her to do so.



What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

JoAnn & I were 5th grade Sunday school teachers in our previous church in Batavia From 1996 to 1999. At Northgate, JoAnn & I were Senior Teen leaders with Darlene & Skip Meiney, Jim & Cheri Yerger. I was on the Dream Team for the new Church. Our slogan God gave us was “ Build and They will come” I have been on the Finance Team since I can remember, May since 2005, I have been on the Administrative Team for a few terms now and a Delegate for my last term. I have been an Usher in the past having to count the offerings in the attic. At times, Bob wood tapped me on the shoulder and I would be ready at anytime to help him. I am on the board at All Babies Cherished now for over two years. I have been involved with this ministry for many more years when I had my business. I could add some other small details, but truly know I am all in when it comes to serving the church.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

When I owned my own business from 1991 to 2022, I would make myself available to the church since 2000. Having the honor to install the HVAC system for the new church I was excited for The Dream Team a firming my recommendation to installing in floor radiant heat primarily for the children in the church because they were going to be the closest to the floor. I was there for Mark Logan and now Allison Lang for any concerns with the building itself. Being on the Finance Team, Administrative Team, and Delegate I make myself available to Northgate in any capacity it needs me in. I am the liaison between pastors and congregation for any concerns either may have via phone, text, email, or privately. What ever it takes to maintain harmony and praise God for all He does for us through Jesus.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

The core values have stayed the same since we have been there. Primarily Bringing people to Northgate and building them up in a relationship with Jesus. Having been invited by my daughter years ago, I know that the youth play an important role in families coming to Northgate. Our youth wing is awesome along Pastor DL and Base kids keeping them focused on Jesus. I have 3 grandsons that tell us so.

What changes or initiatives do you think the church should prioritize in the next 5 years?

We are growing and we need to expand the church building. I have to go back to the first slogan “ build and they will come” I see our church growing another 4-500 members in the next five years. We need to be ready for God’s plan!

DAVE KIBLER

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

38 years, that have gone by quickly.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

Over the 38 years I've been on the Pastor's Cabinet (what Administrative Team used to be called when there was just South), on the Administrative Team and a delegate for several terms. I handled the donations and giving records and deposits for several years in the 90's. Kim and I helped lead the youth group for a few years, we led an ABF called Genesis for several years. I've volunteered in the Nursery for a lot of years because I just love the little ones.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I do my best to always treat people the way Jesus would no matter what. I enjoy engaging with people and hopefully bring a smile to their face and make them curious about my faith to help spur conversation. I am also on the board of directors for Family Life Ministries in Bath NY.

What changes or initiatives do you think the church should prioritize in the next 5 years?

I think a priority on the world events and how it ties in with Revelation. I feel a huge priority is helping people dig deep into getting to know who God really is and the immense love He has for us. Also His desire for us to be with him for eternity. Not the cliché's and platitudes, but the deep, honest, let's be real because that's where we meet Him relationship He longs to have with us.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

There's a lot, the focus on the children, from newborn to high school is wonderful. Jesus held them and showed the priority they have. I continue to be excited about Northgate's constant desire to be God's church, focused solely on spreading his love and truth to those in the seats and all the way across the world. I'm also very excited about our partnerships with local ministries like All Babies Cherished, Salvation Army and others in Rochester.



DIANE PHELPS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



How long have you been a part of Northgate?

I have been attending Northgate since 2010. I became involved at that time in a Sunday morning small group and eventually an evening Bible study.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

Throughout my adult life I have served in various roles within the church. Some of them include: Children and adult Sunday school teacher, VBS director, youth group leader, women's ministry chair and administrative board member. Within the local community I have served with Samaritans Purse OCC, co chaired a home school co-op, community sports league assistant and parental school activity roles.

What changes or initiatives do you think the church should prioritize in the next 5 years?

I am not sure I see the need for NG to make big changes. However I would love NG to continue ABOVE ALL to point everyone to Jesus first! If we are truly doing that, our church should reflect God's character to those attending, and those in the community. I would encourage NG to stretch our vision to reach more people for the kingdom and disciple them, I believe it is vitally important for NG to emphasize prayer and continue to ensure our worship, teaching and preaching is Biblically Christ centered.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

In the community I feel it is important to live out my faith. Growing relationships with believers and non believers is essential in hopes others will see Jesus through my daily walk.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

It's exciting to see Northgate making a difference both within the local and Gahanda communities. Missions can be right outside our door or around the globe. I love that NG is investing in the children and teens of our church with solid programs.

NATHAN VARLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

25 years!

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

While I have led groups at Northgate and served on the Administrative Team in the past, much of my relevant experience comes from serving on Boards like the Salvation Army, Leadership Genesee, Batavia Development Corporation, Office for the Aging and state-wide networks.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I feel like a big part of my purpose here is to help people, so I look for ways to do that with my work, my family and my extra time. Whether I am coaching basketball or helping someone living with disabilities in their apartment, I try to pray that I can be a small piece of Jesus for that person in that moment.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

Northgate is so mission focused! We are doing such cool things in each area of Bring, Build and Send. I love our church.

What changes or initiatives do you think the church should prioritize in the next 5 years?

I think we should do whatever we can to win the Super Bowl in the next five years... oh wait, that is probably not what you are asking. I would love to continue our missional focus. I am interested in people connecting meaningfully, diverse perspectives and support when it matters most, and I think those things come naturally as we work to bring more people in touch with Jesus, build/grow deeper and extend out in various ways. Let's do this - God bless and Go Bills!



BOB WOOD

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

I have been part of Northgate Free Methodist Church for 48 years.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

The current experiences I am serving at Northgate are being part of the Ushering & Greeting teams. I love sharing my excitement of Northgate to newcomers and families on a weekly basis. I enjoy serving and showing the love of Jesus to the people who attend. Other places I have served within the Church are the Administrative Team, a Delegate, and several years ago Finance Committee and Youth Ministries.



How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I live out my faith within the church by being involved with activities, helping in areas where needed, being part of a small group, and attending Sunday morning worship on a regular basis. Outside of church, My wife and I sponsor a child in Gahanda, help support missions, and love to support Great Day of Giving and other organizations.

What excites you most about the direction of our church?

I am excited about how our church takes leaps of faith! (trying something new or different) Worship music, Children & Teen Ministries, Adult Ministries are all growing to make us stronger in our love for Jesus. As a church body we are strengthened by our fellowship in Christ.

What changes or initiatives do you think the church should prioritize in the next 5 years?

In the next 5 years we should continue to strive to bring people from the community to our facility by offering use of the Prayer walk, Nights of Worship, Disc golf, playground & Pavilion, Pickleball, to incorporate the community's involvement in Northgate!

NOMINATING TEAM CANDIDATES

Voting Instructions

Each voting member/partner is asked to select two (2) candidates for the Nominating Team. Elections will take place on May 14 and May 17. Please take time to review each candidate's responses before making your selections.

JOANN HAYES

NOMINATING TEAM



How long have you been a part of Northgate?

I've been attending Northgate since approximately 2000.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I stay connected with long-time church friends, some who still attend Northgate and some who have moved away. Relationships were fostered through serving together as well as small group fellowship. I also stay in contact with my student from literacy volunteers and offer her encouragement and assistance. When I am out in the community or beyond, I often point to the source of my strength and hope that I reflect Christ's love in what I do.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

I volunteered as the church secretary to take minutes for the Administrative Team meetings under the leadership of Pastor Paul Peterson, Pastor Andy Sass, and also Pastor Vern Saile. These were normally monthly meetings over the span of approximately 13 years. I served along with my husband and others as a Senior Teen Leader for grades 9 through 12 for 5 years. We taught lessons, attended and chaperoned several Christian events and camps along with the teens, and helped to minister and grow our youth ministry. I was a mentor Mom for MOPS (Mothers of PreSchoolers) for about four years. I attended bi-monthly evening meetings to listen and share maternal experiences and also help minister and encourage mothers of infants and young children. Past Volunteer for Literacy Volunteers and Habitat for Humanity.

What qualities do you think are important to consider when nominating potential future Administrative Team members?

I think it is most important to reflect God's love and live within integrity. Truthfulness, compassion and wisdom are also great qualities for those serving on our church's Administrative Team.

MICHELE KEBERLE

NOMINATING TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

31 years

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

MOPS & MOMSNext participant & leader, nursery/toddler/pre-k helper, offering teller & cafe. I have also taken the Leadership class with Pastor John.



How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I am in worship every time I am able. I do my best to be in the Word every day & love & serve like Jesus. Constant communication with Him through prayer. Participation in Sunday morning groups & Bible Studies.

What qualities do you think are important to consider when nominating potential future Administrative Team members?

I believe the best quality is actively pursuing a deeper walk with Christ - daily quiet time, meeting with other believers, service & worship. Wanting what is best to further the Kingdom of God & advance the mission of our church to bring, build & send.

SARA KENT

NOMINATING TEAM



How long have you been a part of Northgate?

My family and I have been attending Northgate since 2013.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

I grew up in a small United Methodist Church and was active from an early age, serving in roles ranging from youth board member to lay speaker. At Northgate, my husband, Rick, and I have led small groups in our home and currently facilitate the Bible in Context group on Sunday mornings. I have also served in the women's ministry, assisting with the IF:Gathering and several craft nights, and I regularly serve as a communion server and usher.

What qualities do you think are important to consider when nominating potential future Administrative Team members?

I believe it is vital to nominate individuals who are actively pursuing their relationship with Christ. I would also look for specific areas of expertise that benefit the team, as well as candidates who understand the history of Northgate and the Free Methodist Church, remain open to sharing new ideas, and feel comfortable raising concerns or questions.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

I strive to lead by example in following Jesus. This is reflected in my service in church, interactions with coworkers and patrons at the library where I work, as well as through showing love to everyone I encounter. At home, I focus on helping my children know Jesus better and ensuring our house is a welcoming place for their friends to experience what it means to be a Christian.

BRENDA MILLER

NOMINATING TEAM

How long have you been a part of Northgate?

I have been a part of Northgate for 25+ years.

What qualities do you think are important to consider when nominating potential future Administrative Team members?

Important qualities when nominating potential future Administrative Team members would be someone who attends service regularly, be a member in good standing, participate in various church and community ministries, be approachable, open-minded and have the ability to work with others.

How do you actively live out your faith within the church community and beyond?

Living out my faith within the church community and beyond involves attending services and also financially supporting our connected community in Gahanda. I have two sponsor children. I am a co-leader with an online Bible study group and also participate in two online Bible studies. I meet bi-weekly with 3 members of our congregation as well. Supporting those in the community such as Salvation Army's Angel Tree and All Babies Cherished is very rewarding.

What experience do you have serving within the church or community?

My experience serving within the church and the broader community has been deeply positive and truly life-changing. Through these years, I have built meaningful friendships and have consistently felt supported through encouragement and prayer. I have served on both the Administrative Team and the Nominating Committee in the past and enjoyed it very much. Ministries I am currently involved in are the We Care program for new volunteers, serving at the volunteer desk on Thursday's and Sunday's, and assisting wherever needed with activities both during church and after church.



