

# LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



2022-2025

Kate Berger has been attending Highlands since 2013, when a chance encounter at a line dancing bar led her here. She is an educator and instructional designer and loves living in Denver with her wife, Jillian, and their four fur babies. Her favorite thing about Highlands Church is the Ethos, specifically, "Doubt or believe here, all can receive here."



2022-2025

Bill Bonds is married to Shannon and they have three children. They found HCD in 2021 with God's gentle smack to the head and heart. Bill's favorite thing about Highlands church is building relationships through greeting Highlanders on Sunday mornings. When not working, he enjoys cooking and long walks with a beach ball.



2021-2024

Bob Bongiovanni was born and raised in Colorado into an Italian immigrant family when Denver was still a small city. He has worked as a nonprofit manager and an advocate for LGBTQ folks and people living with HIV. At Highlands Church, he co-chairs the Justice League and periodically delivers sermons. He and his husband Marc live in northeast Denver.



2023-2026

Michael Buckley is from New England and has been attending Highlands since 2018 where he found love at first sermon. He most appreciates the community covenant as commitments we make to each other. He is happily divorced with zero children, a flag football player, and enjoys a life of meaningful work and ridiculously fun play.



2021-2024

Sara Leeper has attended HCD with her partner Cindy since 2014. They both enjoy helping with worship and Sara volunteers with the toddlers regularly. She retired in 2020 after 27 years with a local nonprofit and enjoys golfing, biking, working in the yard, and walking. She loves and believes in the Ethos and is so grateful to have created lifelong friends through HCD.



2022-2025

Julie McShane is starting her 6th year of attending Highlands. The music really brings her JOY and lifts her up and the sermons have helped her understand the message Jesus is teaching: LOVE. She is a Disneyland geek and, in her spare time, loves to ride her bike, attend the theater, take barre yoga classes, and watch any zombie or time travel shows or movies.



2023-2026

Miguel Oliveira has been attending Highlands since 2018, when he moved from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to Colorado, and found a place to call home and be his authentic self in our community. A psychologist by trade and certified coach, Miguel has developed his whole career in HR. He lives with his husband Jim. They traveling and exploring new restaurants together.



2020-2023

Kathryn Spadanuta-Castello has been attending Highlands since moving to Colorado in 2019. She lives in Centennial's Southglenn neighborhood with her husband Jason and toddler Clark. Kathryn works from home and has a background in Human Resources and education policy. She loves Highlands because it is truly a welcoming place for ALL people.



2022-2025

Lori Westermann has been at Highlands for almost six years. She started attending shortly after moving to Denver, knowing she really needed a faith family. Her favorite thing about Highlands is its constant reminder that we ALL belong. In a divided world, it's nice to be reminded every week that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves.



2023-2026

Chelsea Williams found Highlands in 2022 and thought it was too good to be true. She loves the way our community walks the walk of loving ALL people. Chelsea manages a bakery at Whole Foods and is an inspiration of positivity to her colleagues and friends. She lives with her cat, Becky, and would probably go for a walk with you.



2023-2026

Scott Wolf has been attending Highlands since the first Sunday service in 2009. He is an educator with Denver Public Schools in his free time when he is not hanging out with his wife, Jamie, and two daughters. His favorite thing about Highlands is its emphasis on inclusion and being welcoming to everyone.