



Gayle Stepp, Worship Director

Gayle came to employment at First Presbyterian Church in 1973 to direct two children's choirs, a junior high handbell choir, and a teen folk group. In 1979, she left to work for the school system.

In 1988, Gayle returned to First Presbyterian as Director of Music Organist, holding that position until the church became Hendersonville Presbyterian, when she became Worship Director.

Gayle directs the adult choir, handbell choir, hand chime choir, and provides information for the volunteers who serve on the worship committee, sound and livestream crew, and plans the basic information for the bulletin, subject to the pastor's approval.

Gayle believes it is important to welcome those who are willing to serve to use their gifts and that by using those talents, they grow. Those who sing and play in the worship service are instruments of the congregation used to praise God and the many styles of music and variety of instruments are gifts from God to be used to honor Him.

Gayle holds a Colleague certification from the American Guild of Organists. As a member she has served on the board of both the Western North Carolina Chapter and the Blue Ridge Chapter. Through this she has been privileged to encourage young organists to develop their talents. Gayle is also a member of PEO, an organization which provides scholarships to women and girls.

Gayle is a seventh generation native of Henderson County, North Carolina: descendant of Robert Hamilton (schoolmaster 1803); Samuel King (Revolutionary War Soldier), and Solomon Jones (Roadbuilder). Because of her love of history, she has been a resource for local historians and continues to give presentations, while retaining a lifetime membership in the Henderson County Genealogical and Historical Society. Gayle would be the first to tell you, if you don't want a long answer, don't ask her about the History of Henderson County!

Gayle has been married to Larry Stepp for fifty-five years; and their greatest joy is their son, Larry Junior and his wife Kelly and their two children Luke and Natalie. Gayle loves spending her vacation time at Larry Junior's greenhouse where she maintains many devoted friends.

