

CONGRATS TO OUR 2024-2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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Architecture*



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*Nathaniel
Christian III,
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New York City*



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*Alex Weis,
Principal,
Matter Real
Estate*



Vice Secretary
*Karen Falco, Chief
Operating Officer
Metropolitan New York
Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church of America*

NEW BOARD DIRECTORS



Joshua Burcham

**MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR
RADISH LAB**

Joshua Burcham is the Managing and Creative Director at Radish Lab, an award-winning, purpose-driven creative agency shaping stories and sharpening brands for organizations improving the world. Radish Lab focuses on helping social impact organizations tell compelling digital stories, deeply engage their audiences, and apply smart creative and technical solutions to significant challenges. Their client portfolio includes notable organizations such as the Clinton Foundation, Sesame Workshop, New York Community Trust, and the Women's Refugee Commission.



Ellen Liu Chan

**ASSET MANAGER
REAL ESTATE DIVISION, EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND**

Ellen Liu Chan supports parishes by working to align the needs of the parish with opportunities offered by the parishes' real property. Parishes should reach out to Ellen when considering leasing or selling property. Parishes that wish to reimagine and rebuild their properties should also reach out to begin an exploratory process of development on their property. Ellen's goal is to approach property as an opportunity to carry on and grow ministries within the diocese.



Nathaniel Christian III

**TRUSTEE
PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK CITY**

Nathaniel H. Christian Nathaniel H. Christian III has served for ten years on the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery of New York City; four years as the chair of its property committee and three years as Chair of the Board. As such he focused on the many real estate issues of the various churches including development, property management, and repositioning, all in the context of mission fulfillment.

Mr. Christian has extensive board experience. Mr. Christian was recently appointed as Chair of the Board of Directors of the All Stars Project, Inc., which focuses on meeting the needs of inner city youth by forming partnerships with corporations and caring adults to build communities that bridge racial, economic and social divisions. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of HomeBridge Ventures, which focuses on meeting the needs of the formerly incarcerated.



Nell Derick Debevoise

PARTNER
PURPOSEFUSED

Nell Derick Debevoise is a vibrant, holistic, and grounded Speaker, Coach, Facilitator, CEO, Advisor, and Author. She is enlivened by guiding leaders and organizations toward meaningful and healthy growth.

Her focus is on individual enlightenment and transformation as the path toward fairer, healthier, and more inspiring ways of leading and living. Debevoise's studies at Harvard, Columbia, London Business School, and Cambridge, along with experience on four continents, across industries and sectors, informs her work, including her international best-selling book, *Going First: Finding the Courage to Lead Purposefully and Inspire Action*. The companion *Purpose Party Playbook* is an accessible tool for purpose-seeking professionals to apply the framework. As a Coach, EQUUS Faculty, and GCologist, Debevoise integrates neuroscience, research and data, and horses' ancient wisdom to provide immersive, transformational learning for executives and teams. She is a Partner at PurposeFused, and Founder of the Purposeful Growth Institute.



Karen Falco

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Karen Falco recently joined the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America as Chief Operating Officer. Karen comes to MNYS with 30+ years of experience in the insurance industry. During her 22-year tenure with UMC Medical Consultants, Karen held various positions. For the past nine years as COO, she handled HR functions, managed the Operations, IT, Sales and Finance teams, who together, successfully achieved industry related accreditations and certifications.



Scott Hackenberg

CHIEF LENDING OFFICER
UCC CORNERSTONE FUND

Having spent the first half of his career working in private equity and leveraged lending, Scott turned toward social impact investing, looking to make a greater difference in the world through high-impact, community-driven initiatives.

After graduating with Distinction from Cornell University, Scott began his career in finance with Blackstone. He went on to co-found Swander Pace Capital, a private equity firm with over \$1 billion under management focused on building and growing world-class consumer businesses. Driven by a passion for using the tools of finance for the good of those who need it most, Scott then worked for the Non-Profit Finance Fund and RSF Social Finance, two Bay Area organizations at the forefront of the impact investment sector. Given his rare combination of for-profit and non-profit finance experience, Scott brings a depth of experience and diligence to sourcing and gathering catalytic capital, financial structuring, and grant-making programs for social impact investment initiatives. He is passionate about bringing the tools and skills of finance to community-focused organizations looking to affect long-term change.



Matthew Murphy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NYU FURMAN CENTER

Matthew Murphy is the Executive Director of the NYU Furman Center. Previously, he served as Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Policy and Strategy at the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). As an urban planner working at the intersection of housing policy, affordable housing finance, and land use, Matthew has been quoted on New York City and national housing issues in the New York Times, PBS News Hour, NPR, NY1, Politico, Crain's, Real Deal, City Limits, Gotham Gazette, among other media outlets. Matthew has a Masters of Urban Planning from New York University in New York City and a B.S. in Business Administration from DePaul University in Chicago. He and his family reside in Brooklyn.



Amy Schwach

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TEMPLE SHAARAY TEFILA

Amy Schwach joined the Temple Shaaray Tefila team in 2015. Amy has been a Synagogue professional for 25 years and has worked at Central Synagogue in New York City and North Shore Synagogue in Syosset, NY, respectively.

Amy participated in UJA's Muehlstein Institute for Jewish Professional Leadership as well as UJA's Jewish Greening Fellowship. She is currently an officer on the Reform Pension Board and President of NATA, the National Association for Temple Administration and holds a master's degree from Baruch College in Public Administration.



Alex Weis

PRINCIPAL
MATTER REAL ESTATE

Alex Weis has 15 years of real estate experience and currently serves as Principal of Matter Real Estate. Alex provides strategic advice and leadership to NYC-based clients by successfully planning, overseeing, and executive complex real estate projects. Alex founded Matter Real Estate in 2017 to develop a new model of collaboration between like-minded architects, engineers, builders, and others.

Since establishing the firm, Alex has successfully provided real estate advisory and owner's representative services to a multitude of clients based in NYC. Notable clients include Goodwill, Brennan Real Estate, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, and Manhattan Bible Church.

From 2013 to 2017, Alex led the real estate work for Uncommon School in Brooklyn, Rochester, and Troy, NY. Alex managed acquisitions and leases, consistently meeting affordability goals and programmatic needs. From 2009 to 2013, Alex worked at U3 Advisors managing large-scale real estate projects from conception through pre-development on behalf of not-for-profits, universities, and commercial developers.



Paul Wolf

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRESIDENT **DENHAM WOLF REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

Paul is an established leader in the field of real estate, with more than 30 years of development, brokerage, and nonprofit consulting experience. Paul's expertise is shaped by a breadth and depth of experience in New York City real estate and is proven by his strong record of realizing complex projects.

Paul's insights and creative approaches bolster the expertise of Denham Wolf's diverse staff, bringing to bear a high level of technical excellence for every client.

As a Managing principal of Denham Wolf, Paul provides strategic guidance and technical expertise for a range of arts, cultural, community development, healthcare, social service, and educational organizations. He regularly advises nonprofits on major development projects, represents tenants in acquiring and divesting property, advises organizations on team assembly for major capital projects, helps nonprofits secure project financing through traditional and less conventional routes, and provides strategic planning guidance to help ensure that a nonprofit's real estate is in service to its mission. Working collaboratively with nonprofits to articulate their real estate needs and organizational goals, Paul positively shapes each client's strategic real estate decisions and grows their capacity to keep mission first.

Paul has spearheaded numerous projects that have shaped the cultural and civic fabric of New York City. For St. Luke in the Field, Paul supported the faith-based institution in evaluating their property's potential, running a developer selection process, and negotiating a 99-year lease for a new development, which will provide program-sustaining cash flow. In working with Covenant House, Paul helped lead the selection of a developer to purchase part of the nonprofit's real estate and develop a state-of-the-art shelter for Covenant House, which also catalyzed an additional 400,000-square-foot of new development. Paul also represented a foundation in the purchase of a 60,000-square-foot building in the East Village, the first step in a unique process that will preserve the building for community use.

CONTINUING DIRECTORS

TAYLOR AIKIN

PARTNER

MBB ARCHITECTURE

DR. DEBBIE ALMONTASER

PRESIDENT

MUSLIM COMMUNITY NETWORK

META BRUNZEMA

PARTNER

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CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK