



Staff Spotlight: Destinee Friskey, Communications Administrator

During 2026 the Personnel Committee intends to bring information to you about the work of our Lay Staff. Some of them may be very familiar to you, others work behind the scenes to achieve the Mission of Second Presbyterian, **Making Disciples Who Make a Difference**. One such staff member is Communications Administrator, Destinee Friskey. Most materials in hard copy or digitally produced have been generated by Destinee.

Some Background Information

Destinee graduated from Mercersburg Academy and received a Bachelor's of Science from Wilson College with a major in Psychology and minor in Sociology. She acquired experience in her senior year at Wilson through a work-study position where she did databases, mass mailings, and worked in archives in alumni relations. Computer coursework offered learning Microsoft programs and developed her interest in graphic design.

Destinee married her husband Brett in 2013 who works for Adidas. In 2017 they welcomed their first daughter, Campbell, and in 2019 their second daughter, Ripley completed the family. Both girls are academic high achievers and participate in competitive cheerleading teams which keep the family busy traveling to events.

Following graduation, Destinee was employed as therapeutic staff support for an autistic teen, Pre-K teacher and did Customer Service for a Credit Card Company. In search of more stable employment, she applied for the Second Presbyterian position on her birthday, February 26 2015. She was drawn to the role because of the focus on working with people and felt capable of handling the administrative tasks. In Destinee's words the position at Second Presbyterian was a wonderful opportunity

The Position Changes — from Office Manager to Communications Administrator

Initially, Destinee's responsibilities were administrative assistant/secretarial work. However, as the needs of Second have changed so have Destinee's responsibilities. She is pleased to have expanded her knowledge of graphic design and taught herself to build and edit websites. However, during the Covid shut down the needs of Second Presbyterian accelerated dramatically. Covid sped up our move from in-person to digital communication. We reduced the use of paper, mail and landline communication to digital, email and cell/text-based communication. Our paper bulletin became streamlined, and Chronicles moved to 6 issues a year. At the same time the congregation began receiving 4 emails/week – Second News, the Wednesday Devotion, and the worship connect card. These shifts save time and money while getting information to the people more quickly. Fortunately, Destinee's skillset and positive attitude supported these necessary changes.



Comments from Those Who Work with Destinee

"Working with Destinee has always been a very positive experience for me, whether it was for the CYF committee or help in other areas. She is always quick to respond with professional and creative suggestions for communicating a message. Our weekly emails are just one testament to her skills for keeping us informed."

Deb Masland

"Destinee and I have worked together on many tasks and projects. She is great to work with, bringing skills and knowledge to the table as an integral part of a project team. She is so knowledgeable about areas of tech support that I had no idea could be done. She is the mastermind behind the beauty of the Wednesday Devotion. She receives a plain word document and creates the email you see, with the scripture, graphics, and colors. Many years back, when the church was converting to the current database, Destinee worked side by side with Vicki, Lee Reuger and me. She understood and implemented the complex tasks that the database can do. She continues to keep the information current and maximize the functionality of the database for the church. Destinee works quietly and efficiently, getting done what needs to be done, but never calling attention to herself." **Pat Butler**

"Destinee manages many of the congregation's communication hubs. When we need an email to go to the whole congregation or a subset of it, Destinee creates the lists and merges the email. She manages our presence on Facebook and YouTube. When we need the congregation to know of a prayer concern, Destinee gets that information out fast through social media or our Second News emails that she designs 3 times a week. When we need a logo, flyer or banner to promote a new ministry opportunity, Destinee designs it. When we want the congregation to be able to find detailed information quickly, Destinee puts it on our website and updates it continually." **Pastor Jeff Gibelius**

Destinee achieves a balance of work and home responsibilities because of her work ethic, creativity and flexible nature. She appreciates that she can be present with her family, but the tradeoff is working Saturdays and Sundays and often late at night. Destinee finds the creative nature of the position enjoyable. She says she has gained knowledge in collaborating with a team and learned new programs and perspectives. We are fortunate and grateful to have Destinee as part of the Second Presbyterian Staff.

