



CHRIST COVENANT  
CHURCH

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## 2025 Candidates for Elder & Deacon

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**These officer candidates have been nominated by members of the congregation and are commended to you by the Session for congregational approval.**

**New candidates have successfully completed the leadership training class and passed written and oral exams.**

**Returning sabbatical officer candidates, in addition to successfully completing the leadership training class and written and oral exams at the time of their ordination, have been examined recently for their theological views and the welfare of their personal and family lives.**

**"If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task."**

**1 TIMOTHY 3:1**

## ELDER CANDIDATES

### **Michael Garvey** | [michael.c.garvey@gmail.com](mailto:michael.c.garvey@gmail.com)

Michael was born in Silver Spring, MD and went to college at UNC-Charlotte where he received a bachelor's degree in architecture. He is employed by BHDP Architecture as Client Leader. He grew up in the reformed evangelical faith and cannot recall a day when he did not believe in the saving faith of Christ. Mike and his wife, Gwenna, have been married 22 years and have five children, ages 6-18. They have been members at CCC since 2002. He enjoys teaching, guiding, and serving others.



### **Howard Guthmann** | [howardguthmann@gmail.com](mailto:howardguthmann@gmail.com)

Howard was born in Albuquerque, NM. He has a B.S. in biology from Oral Roberts University, an M.D. from the University of Tennessee Health Center, and completed his residency in family medicine at City of Faith Hospital in Tulsa, OK. Howard retired from Novant: Waxhaw Family & Sports Medicine in 2023. He is active as a JAARS physician and with World Medical Mission, Kenya. He came to know Jesus at a United Methodist Tent Revival at age 16. His life was so changed by God that it sparked his father's conversion. Howard and his wife, Alice, have been married 46 years and members of CCC since 1990. They have nine adult children and 15 grandchildren.



### **Kyo Oh** | [kyoyul.oh@gmail.com](mailto:kyoyul.oh@gmail.com)

Kyo was born in Seoul, Korea and lived in Jakarta, Indonesia. He received a Ph.D. in engineering mechanics from Virginia Tech and is VP & GM for AMMEGA US for Power Transmission & Fluid Power Solutions. Kyo and his wife, Petrina, have been married 36 years and moved to the Charlotte region in 2022. They have two adult married children and are enjoying their grandchildren. Kyo came to saving faith in Jesus in 1989. His spiritual gifts are administration, teaching, and leadership.



### **Mark Russell** | [contact@markrussell.org](mailto:contact@markrussell.org)

Born in Las Vegas, NV, Mark was raised in a Christian home and baptized upon profession of faith in first grade. Mark received a B.S. in business administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. He then earned an M.A. in religion from Reformed Theological Seminary. Mark is self-employed in commercial real estate. In 2013, Mark and his wife, Zaira, were married, and they have four preschool and elementary aged children. He looks forward to serving as an elder and has gifts of teaching, hospitality, administration, and mentoring.



### **Artie Van Sciver** | [artie.vansciver@gmail.com](mailto:artie.vansciver@gmail.com)

Born in Connecticut, Artie has lived much of his life in central NC. He came to Christ in middle school during a youth retreat, where he understood for the first time that he was personally condemned by a holy God because of his sin. He graduated from Davidson College with a B.A. in economics and serves as Campus Outreach Charlotte Associate Director. Artie and his wife, Kittery, have been married almost 14 years and have four living children, ages 4-10. One son is waiting for them in heaven. Artie & Kittery have been members of Christ Covenant since 2009. He was ordained as a deacon in 2019 and now feels called to serve the church as a shepherding elder.



## RETURNING SABBATICAL ELDER CANDIDATES

### **Danny Church** | [dannymovesme@gmail.com](mailto:dannymovesme@gmail.com)

Danny was born in Miami, FL and moved to Charlotte in 1986 after college. He graduated from Wheaton College with a B.A. in economics and is currently Vice-President/Regional Director for Bluerock Capital Markets. He has been a member of Christ Covenant for 36 years. Danny met Peggy at a Christ Covenant 4th-of-July picnic, and they have been married 33 years. They have four children, ages 20-29, who all attended Covenant Day School. Danny & Peggy welcomed their first grandbaby in October 2024. Danny made a public profession of Christ when he was four and has never known a time when he didn't believe in Christ. His spiritual gifts are teaching, encouraging, and providing help wherever the Lord leads.



### **Ken Dabbs** | [0924dabbs@gmail.com](mailto:0924dabbs@gmail.com)

Ken grew up in Statesville and has been in Charlotte since 1985. He and his wife, Tara, have been married for 33 years and have two grown sons (Nick, 31, and Jonathan, 29). The Dabbs have been members of Christ Covenant since 1997. Ken was ordained as an elder in 2008. He feels called and gifted by the Spirit to shepherd, teach, and walk with others by faith.



**John Faber** | [john.p.faber@gmail.com](mailto:john.p.faber@gmail.com)

John was born in Chicago, IL. He received a BSEE from the University of Illinois and an MBA from Northwestern University. He retired in 2018 as Senior Manager for Sargent & Lundy (architect/engineer). John has been married to Carol for 38 years. They have three grown children and six grandchildren. John and Carol have been members of Christ Covenant since 2015. He has been active in the Kendal ministry and as a worship coordinator. John was ordained as an elder in 2020. He is grateful for the opportunity to serve the body of the church.



**Patrick Keaton** | [pkeaton@us.ibm.com](mailto:pkeaton@us.ibm.com)

Patrick was born in Greensboro, NC and has lived in Charlotte since 1997. He earned a business degree at Georgia State and works as a Sales Executive for IBM. Patrick and his wife, Marianne, were discipled by a couple using the book of John, and Patrick surrendered his life to Christ a month later. They have been married since 1994 and have three young adult sons, one of whom is married. Patrick was ordained as an elder in 2020 and previously served as deacon since 2003. Patrick has served on the Christ Covenant ELT and various committees, and he co-leads men's and small groups.



**John McPhail** | [jmcphail22@gmail.com](mailto:jmcphail22@gmail.com)

John has lived in Charlotte since 1998 and has been a member of Christ Covenant for 11 years. He was born in Oxford, MS and graduated from Radford University with a business administration degree. John was saved while serving in the Navy. He has been married to Melissa for 30 years, and they have four grown sons, each with their own family. Giving and encouragement are just two of his spiritual gifts that he would like to continue using while serving the church body.



**Don Moseley** | [donmoseley52@gmail.com](mailto:donmoseley52@gmail.com)

Don is a native North Carolinian and grew up in Greensboro. He graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill, receiving bachelor's and master's degrees in business and accounting. Don currently works for CLA as a Client Relationship Leader. He grew up in a Christian home and came to know Christ as his Savior at the age of eight. Don and his wife, Allison, have three boys ages 22-28. They have been married for 32 years. Don's gifts are in the areas of music, leadership, encouragement, and service.



**Jason Shannon** | [jashannon@yahoo.com](mailto:jashannon@yahoo.com)

Jason was born in Nashville, TN and has lived in Charlotte for 27 years. He and Elana have three children, ages 19-24, and have been married since 1998. Jason earned a B.A. in economics from Furman University and is the Executive Vice President for Quality Builders Warranty Corp. He was ordained as an elder in 2015 and previously served as a deacon since 2008. He grew up in a Christian home and desires to serve the church with his gifts, time, and treasure.



**Greg Verret** | [greg.verret@gmail.com](mailto:greg.verret@gmail.com)

Greg was born in Natchitoches, LA and has lived in Charlotte since 2003. He and Amanda married in 2000, and they have two sons, ages 18 and 16. He is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance at UNC Charlotte. Greg became a Christian at a young age and has grown steadily in his faith since that time. Greg was ordained as an elder in 2021 and prior to that served as a deacon since 2006. Greg's spiritual gifts are teaching and administration. He also plays guitar for the worship band.



**Thomas Willingham** | [willinghamtc1@gmail.com](mailto:willinghamtc1@gmail.com)

Thomas is a native North Carolinian who grew up in Charlotte, graduated from East Meck, studied engineering at Clemson and Purdue, and now owns and operates a custom cabinet shop. He has been married to Jane for 34 years, and they have six children and three grandchildren. His family has been part of Christ Covenant for 10 years. Thomas grew up in the church and came to know the Lord Jesus in a saving way at a Young Life retreat during high school.



## DEACON CANDIDATES

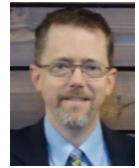
### **Jon Narveson** | [jon.narveson@gmail.com](mailto:jon.narveson@gmail.com)

Jon was born in Littleton, CO. He received a B.S. in business administration from UNC-Chapel Hill and is currently employed by Accenture as Managing Director/Partner. Jon was blessed to grow up in a Christian home and came to Christ early in life at a Christian camp. He and his wife, Sara, were married in 2007 and have lived in the Charlotte area for 20 years, becoming members of CCC in 2018. They have two daughters, ages 13 and 11. Jon enjoys helping people in a variety of ways and putting others' needs ahead of his.



### **Samuel Snapp** | [samuel.snapp@gmail.com](mailto:samuel.snapp@gmail.com)

Samuel Snapp was born in Hattiesburg, MS and received his bachelor's degree from King University in Bristol, TN. He works as Director of Credit/Automotive Finance Division of Ally Bank. Samuel and his wife, Amber, have been members of CCC for six years. They have been married since 1999 and have three sons, ages 19-23. Samuel became a believer in kindergarten and grew up in a reformed, Christian home. He has served in the Children's Ministry and with HisAbilities. He looks forward to serving others as a deacon.



### **Jon Van de Riet** | [jongvanderiet@gmail.com](mailto:jongvanderiet@gmail.com)

Jon was born in Detroit, MI and has lived in the Charlotte area since 1989. Jon received a B.S. in mathematics from Wingate University and a MAEd in instructional technology from East Carolina University. He worked for Union County Public Schools in various roles. Jon now works for Direct Equipment Corporation as President. Jon and his wife, Heather, have been married for 30 years and have one daughter in college. They have been members of CCC since 1995. Jon sings in the choir and has been involved with the Kendal ministry. He looks forward to using his gifts of wisdom and hospitality as a deacon.



## RETURNING SABBATICAL DEACON CANDIDATES

### **Andy Caldwell** | [randrewc@gmail.com](mailto:randrewc@gmail.com)

Andy grew up in College Park and Peachtree City, GA, and has lived in Charlotte for more than 22 years. He has been married since 1999 to his wife, Teresa, and they have three young adult children. Andy graduated from Georgia Southern University and is the owner of Genesis One Productions, working as a video producer and tech entrepreneur. He has been a member of Christ Covenant since 2003. He became a Christian during college through the ministry of Campus Outreach, when God used fraternity brothers to share the gospel with him. He has worked in college ministry and with the global mission agency SIM USA. Andy was ordained as a deacon in 2009. His spiritual gifts include encouragement, hospitality, leading worship, and shepherding.



### **Tripp Gabriel** | [trippandkaygabriel@gmail.com](mailto:trippandkaygabriel@gmail.com)

Tripp was born and raised in Charlotte. He and Kay have two adult children and have been members of Christ Covenant since 1995. Tripp has a B.S. from Appalachian State University and works for HomeTrust Bank. He was raised in the church and came to faith in early adulthood. He feels called to return to the Diaconate to use his spiritual gifts and the blessings of knowledge and wisdom that God has given him in the administration of the church.



### **Douglas Graham** | [graham\\_of\\_montrose@yahoo.com](mailto:graham_of_montrose@yahoo.com)

Douglas is originally from Greenville, SC. He has a B.S. from College of Charleston and works for Knight Hardwood. Douglas and his wife, Tracy, have been married for 28 years. Their son is finishing graduate school at Wingate University. The Grahams have been members of Christ Covenant since 1999, and he has served as a worship coordinator for 17 years. Douglas was ordained as a deacon in 2006 and feels his servant's heart can be best used to help in Christ's church.



### **Greg Litowski** | [glitowski66@gmail.com](mailto:glitowski66@gmail.com)

Greg was born in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. He has lived in Matthews and been a member of Christ Covenant Church for 23 years, along with his family. Greg has been married to Jen for 32 years, and they have five grown children and two grandchildren. He has worked 40+ years in the accounting field, primarily with not-for-profit organizations. Greg became a believer at 13 when he heard a sermon on "owning your faith" and not relying on the faith of your parents. As a deacon, he has served on both the mercy and diaconate administrative committees and currently is serving on the Afghan Refugee Team. Greg looks forward to continuing to use his gifts of administration and mercy.



**Mark Lomas** | [marklomas600@gmail.com](mailto:marklomas600@gmail.com)

Mark grew up in South Carolina and has been in Charlotte since 1998. He finished his bachelor's degree at the University of South Carolina, worked at several universities during his career, and retired in 2024. He and Sherri were married at Christ Covenant, where he has been a member since 2002. Mark was ordained as a deacon in 2009, has served in the mercy and disaster response ministries, and looks forward to returning to active service.



**Nathan Reel** | [nate.reel@gmail.com](mailto:nate.reel@gmail.com)

Nathan was born in Augusta, GA and has lived in Charlotte since 2002. Nathan received a B.S. in environmental science from the University of Phoenix. He is an Environmental Scientist with Atlas Technical Consultants. Married to Deana since 2008, they have two children, Dalena (22), a recent college graduate, and Zachary (14). They have been members of Christ Covenant for 16 years. Nathan was ordained as a deacon in 2019 and served as a worship coordinator team lead for 10 years. Nathan looks forward to helping others in their faith.



**Tom Van Beek** | [tomvanbeek7@gmail.com](mailto:tomvanbeek7@gmail.com)

Tom was born in southern California and grew up in northern Washington. He and Anita have been married 42 years and have three grown children. They have lived in Charlotte and been members of Christ Covenant since 1984. Tom has a B.S. in computer science from Calvin University and works in cyber-security at Bank of America. He was ordained as a deacon in 1988 and is ready to take an active role again, serving others.



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**Please join us in prayer for these candidates for elder and deacon.**

**Our congregational meeting to vote on these candidates is  
Sunday, June 8, immediately following morning worship.**

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