

OFFICER NOMINATION TESTIMONIES

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 2025



Dear Grace Family,

At our congregational meeting on October 26, 2025, our Nominations Committee will present a slate of nominees for elders and deacons. We are much indebted to the superb work of Chairman Derek Tanis and his committee to present these nominees to us. These men have been approved by the Session for election by the Congregation.

This booklet contains the slate of nominees for your consideration. The Lord has richly blessed us with Christ-like leaders, and we pray he will continue to do so for years to come.

As in the past, at our meeting we will present next year's church budget for your information. I will also share some thoughts about the future of our church.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours in Him,



Zach Rogers
Senior Pastor



A WORD FROM THE 2025 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Dear Fellow Members of Grace Presbyterian Church,

The nominations committee had the honor and privilege to serve the church this year in the nomination of officers. The committee is made up of a cross-section of our church that reflects our uniqueness as the local body of Christ. Through much prayer, deliberation, and many hours together, we sought the Lord's wisdom to identify officers who will continue to lead our church under the Lordship of Christ and continue the growth of His kingdom.

The Nominations Committee sought four already-ordained elders to be nominated to fill four Session three-year terms (2026-2028) and four already-ordained deacons to be nominated to fill four Diaconate three-year terms (2026-2028). A special circumstance arose to identify an already-ordained elder to complete a partial Session term (2026-2027). Finally, two men are being presented to be newly ordained church officers. The Session has approved these men to come before you now for election in our congregational meeting on October 26.

As much as we might desire it, the Scriptures do not provide a step-by-step process for developing effective leaders. Instead, 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9 describe the qualities and characteristics in individuals that can be refined to effectively serve God and his church. It has been a long and rigorous process by which the Committee has identified the men listed in this booklet who we believe have those qualities and characteristics and are willing to make the personal and family sacrifices necessary to serve in their respective roles. Please pray for these men and their families that they might be the appointed instruments through which God will achieve his purposes for our Church.

Thank you for allowing each of us to serve you and the Lord on the Nominations Committee this year. Our sole desire has been to serve the church and the Lord as he would lead us.

2025 Grace Presbyterian Church Nominations Committee

Derek Tanis – *Chairman*
Mike Flinn
Amit Christian
Amy Gerrietts

Liv Steffen
Randy Stuckey
Chandler Tuckerman
David Tuttle

ELDER SESSION NOMINEES

(Class of 2028 - Three-Year Term)



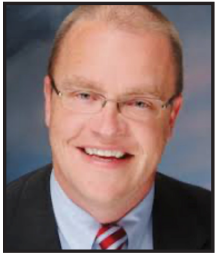
Thomas Allen — Member since 1978; Grace Connections

Current Ministries: Elder, Session Steering Committee Member, Session Adult Ministries Committee Chairman, Church Trustee, Grace Connections President, Worship Orchestra, Monday Men's Work Fellowship

Past Ministries: Session, Clerk of Session, Church Trustee, Small Group Leader, Choir, Christmas Choir, Symphonic Winds, Christmas TV Production Crew, Boy's Brigade Helper, VBS Teacher

Testimony: I became a Christian late in high school and was discipled through small group Bible studies. I grew up in a church setting knowing many Bible stories, but not understanding what Christ did for me. During high school I attended a Christian youth rally and learned of Jesus' saving grace. My faith grew through involvement in various Bible studies with Campus Crusade for Christ at college and after college with other newly married couples. Grace's ministry continues to bless and grow my faith.

Getting to Know You: I am retired from working at Caterpillar as an engineer and enjoy my time with family and various activities in addition to church work. My wife Sue and I have three children and six grandchildren living in various locations in Illinois. We enjoy some traveling and completing various home projects. I play clarinet and saxophone in two community bands.



Dan Hunt — Member since 1991; Foundations

Current Ministries: Elder, Co-leader/co-teacher of the Foundations Sunday School class. Member of the Personnel Committee, 1-1 discipleship relationships.

Past Ministries: Elder, Session 2012-2017 and 2019-2024. Session Clerk, Nominations Committee Chairman, Personnel Committee Chairman, Pastoral Search Committee Member (Dr. Bryan Chapell), COVID Committee member, High School Ministry leader, Life on Life Group leader.

Testimony: I did not grow up going to church. Throughout high school I had friends who went to church and I was curious to what I believed. During that time I felt a void in my life that I tried to fill with athletics, academics, belongings, and relationships. Each of those led to success in those pursuits, however, the void only grew. During my freshman year in college, I was invited to Grace's college ministry, Oasis, where I found a place to ask questions, attend Bible studies, and build relationships with peers who loved the Lord. Six months later I came to a saving faith, recognizing my sin separated me from God and there was nothing I could do to earn it. Instead, I learned and embraced that Jesus died for my sins, and accepted him as my Savior and Lord. The void was gone! Since that time, I continue to grow in the Lord, learning more of His goodness and my unworthiness.

Getting to Know You: 27 years ago, Ashley and I were married at Grace. We have three children: Wes (21), Lane (19), and Ella (14). Wes married in June and we are excited to welcome his wife Kaitlyn to our family. We are blessed that each of the kids are believers. Our family enjoys being active (athletics, exercise, and the outdoors). Watching my kids activities, fishing, woodworking, and reading are my favorite activities.

ELDER SESSION NOMINEES (cont'd)



Kevin Siscoe — Member since 2015; Teacher in Preteen Sunday School class

Current Ministries: Elder on the Session, Family Ministries Chair

Past Ministries: Choir ministry, Community group

Testimony: I grew up on a small farm in central Illinois with Christian parents. When I was eight years old I accepted Christ as my Savior during a summer Christian camp ministry and was baptized in my home church. From an early age, I felt a consistent call to serve the Lord in ministry. After initial training, I was ordained to the work of the gospel 35 years ago.

Getting to Know You: My wife, Regina, and I have four adult children and five grandchildren. All of our children live away from us: one married son, two married daughters, and one unmarried son. We are blessed that all of our children know and love the Lord. After serving as a pastor at three different churches for 23 years, my wife and I moved to the Peoria area about 10 years ago for my work as a counselor at The Antioch Group.



Scott Stevens — Member since 2001; 1st & 2nd Grade Sunday School Coordinator

Current Ministries: 1st & 2nd Grade Sunday School Co-Coordinator.
Hospitality and Special Events Volunteer.

Past Ministries: Junior High and 1st & 2nd Grade Sunday School teacher for 30+ years,
Session Member, Membership Committee, Trustee, other ad-hoc committees.

Testimony: I was born into a Christian home and accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior at an early age. Throughout my educational and professional career, God has and continues to bring strong Christians into my life, when I need them most, who challenge and strengthen my commitment to His kingdom.

Getting to Know You: I have been married to my wife, Missy, for 31 years and have two daughters, Sarah and Laura Gingrich (Garett). We live on a farm in western Peoria County where we raise row crops, honey bees, and meat goats. I have worked in the field of Information Technology for the past 40 years and am employed by Integrity Technology Solutions as their Chief Information Security Officer, where I serve banks and other regulated businesses with their cybersecurity needs.

ELDER SESSION NOMINEES - REMAINING 2 YEARS (CLASS OF 2027)



Thom Simpson — Member since 1983; Transitioning from the SS Office to a SS class

Current Ministries: Elder on Session, Personnel Committee, Adult Ministries Committee.

Past Ministries: Session elder, Trustee, 3rd/4th grade Sunday School Coordinator, Sunday School Superintendent, Interim Executive Administrator, Pastor Search Committee Chairman for Pastor Bryan Chapell & Pastor Zach Rogers

Testimony: I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior at the age of 27. My wife, Linda, and I have been married for 53 years, and we have 2 adult children and 10 grandchildren. I have been a member of GPC for 43 years.

Getting to Know You: I have a lot of history with GPC and love serving the Lord here. I enjoy spending time with our family here where our daughter's family lives and the Seattle area where our son's family live. We spend a lot of time on bleachers cheering at our grandchildren's sporting events. Before retirement, I worked as a school administrator with Peoria Public Schools and continue to volunteer and consult with school administrators.

DIACONATE NOMINEES

(Class of 2028 - Three-Year Term)



Stephen Cordes — Member since 1983; Cornerstone

Current Ministries: Video Director for the Media Ministry, SNORTS, secretary and occasional substitute teacher in Cornerstone

Past Ministries: Grace Family Christmas Choir, Orchestra, Boys Brigade

Testimony: Under the influence of teachers at Grace and my godly parents and friend, I accepted Christ at an early age. Throughout the years, those influences have continued to help me grow in His grace.

Getting to Know You: Julie and I attended Covenant College. I currently work as a computer systems analyst, while she enjoys volunteering in the Childrens Ministry and spending time with the grandkids. I also volunteer with the local high school's band program.



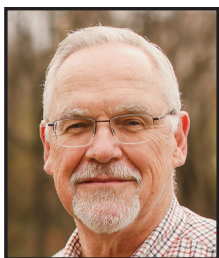
Craig Parr — Reestablished membership in 2002; High School Sunday School

Current Ministries: Deacon, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, High-school youth group volunteer. Also involved with parachurch ministries/YFC.

Past Ministries: Various church and parachurch ministries with an emphasis in high-school youth ministry, Evangelism programs/EE, inner city initiatives, and church related committees at a previous church (Faith Missionary Church-Indianapolis).

Testimony: I grew up in a Christian home where Christ was the focal point of our family which led to accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior at age 7. Our family attended Grace Presbyterian Church during my formative years, and I was blessed to be able to learn and grow in my faith through strong biblical teaching, youth ministries, and the many people that invested into my life. I am a broken sinner saved by grace and thankful for his faithfulness throughout my life. It is my continuing desire to seek and serve Christ and be an extension of his love to engage others and share his truths/gospel to those that cross my path.

Getting to Know You: My wife, Christine, and I have been married for 37 years and have adult twins, Alan and Anna. My entire professional career has been in the financial services industry. I am an avid reader, sports enthusiast, fitness fan, and love taking long walks with Christine and our Golden Retriever, Reagan. Passionate about life and getting to know people- to listen, learn and encourage them along their journey.



Greg Tiemeier — Member since 1994; Growing in Grace

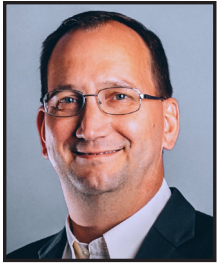
Current Ministries: Church Small Group, Monday Morning Volunteers, Men's Accountability and Prayer Group, Growing in Grace Sunday School Class, Core Group Facilitator for Evening Community Bible Study program in Peoria.

Past Ministries: Boy's Brigade Leader, Kindergarten Sunday School Table Teacher, Church Business Administrator and Director of Staff, Grace Softball Ministry, Diaconate Member, Building and Grounds Committee, Personnel Committee, Finance Committee and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Testimony: I grew up in a church where knowing Jesus as your Savior was not emphasized. Martha, my wife, was invited to Grace by a friend and began attending in 1993, then invited me. I was attracted to the genuine kindness, love and concern of the people I met at Grace. It was different than what I had experienced in my life up to that point. During that time a sermon was preached on the Law of the Harvest emphasizing "you reap what you sow". It caused to reflect me on what was being planted in my life and my belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. Shortly thereafter, I was invited to attend a Boy's Brigade Father/Son Weekend at Camp Kaskitowa. This is where at an evening campfire on July 2, 1994 the Holy Spirit called me to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior.

Getting to Know You: I moved from Iowa to Peoria to accept a job with RLI in 1979 and married my high school sweetheart (Martha) shortly thereafter. We have two adult children (Andrew & Jenna) who grew up at Grace and with their spouses have blessed us with eight grandchildren. I was called to join the church staff in 2001 and then returned to RLI in 2006, retiring this year. I enjoy serving God's people and being with them. I like being active and enjoy baseball above other sports.

DIACONATE NOMINEES (cont'd)



Doug Winkler — Member since 1994; 2 year old nursery

Current Ministries: Deacon, Children's nursery

Past Ministries: Nursery, Children's Sunday School, College Sunday School, YAMs. Trustee, Deacon, Chairman of Diaconate, Finance committee member, Finance committee chair, SNORT, Leadership mentor, and several task forces/committees.

Testimony: In 7th grade I asked Jesus to be my Savior as a guest evangelist came to my small Methodist church. Unfortunately, I did not root myself in His word at that point and strayed from His teachings throughout my teen years. While I certainly did not deserve it, I realize His hand of grace and protection was on me to bring me safely through that period. As a young husband and father, the Lord brought me to the point where I had no choice but to turn over control of my life to Him. He continues to mold me day by day. Praise God for His patience and grace.

Getting to Know You: My wife, Elaine, and I have attended Grace since the mid-1980's. We have benefited from the service of many at Grace who poured into us and our children. By the grace of God, we are blessed to see all three of our children walking with the Lord and raising their families to pursue Christ also. Lord willing, this time next year we will have 12 grandchildren to love on. 45 years ago when I asked Elaine to marry me as a 19 year old, I do not believe either of us would have thought our lives would be as they are...GOD IS GOOD, because we deserve none of it.

NEW ELDER ORDINAND



Grant Schricker— Member since 2019; Living Stones

Current Ministries: Evangelism Small Group Coach, Sunday Morning Nursery Volunteer.

Past Ministries: Youth Group, Summer Camp, Young Adult Ministry, Short term ministry trips.

Testimony: I came to faith and was baptized at a young age through the influence of my parents. In high school I grew a lot in my faith and was involved in the youth ministry here at Grace. While in college, God deepened my understanding of the gospel, and I grew in my dependence on God and came to love the doctrines of grace. I am so grateful for God's mercy in my life. I am also grateful for the body of Christ - my faith family.

Getting to Know You: I reside with my wife Jessica and our children in Washington, IL. I work as a lawyer in Peoria. My personal vision statement is to live life in faith, with a sense of adventure, an attitude of gratitude, and the hope that the best things are yet to come.

NEW DEACON ORDINAND



Saehan Park — Member since 2019; Foundations

Current Ministries: Children's Sermon Class, Global Mission Subcommittee

Past Ministries: Small Group leader, Officer, Book Table ministry, Chair ministry

Testimony: I grew up as a Missionary Kid in West Africa, where my parents were church planters in various countries over the course of their career. Growing up, I personally witnessed God moving in the hearts of people and transforming their lives; so, the question of the existence of God never really was a struggle for me. However, my own personal relationship with Him was far more turbulent. I became really good at focusing on the external changes that made it appear like I was a good missionary kid, all the while struggling inwardly with my own desires. It was in high school, when the gospel message that I heard again and again growing up, suddenly became evidently clear to me. Jesus was not only someone that I knew could change the hearts of others but someone I desperately needed for my salvation and life. In Christ, all my weaknesses and failures are forgiven and He is my foundation to grow in my love and admiration of Him.

Getting to Know You: I am a husband of 11 years to my wife, Summer. We are the parents of 5 children. I am a special education teacher by trade. Currently, I am supporting teachers across the state of Illinois by providing training, coaching and mentoring for teachers who work and support students with disabilities. One of my passions is to grow and develop the next generation, whether through teaching, coaching or building relationships through communities. For fun, I love good movies, spending quality time with family and friends, or spending time outdoors; sleeping in on a lazy Saturday afternoon is also something I look forward to.



Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA)

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