

# **Deacon and Elder Nominees Statements of Faith 2025**

In Preparation for the  
Spring Congregational Meeting  
June 1, 2025 at 10am



# Spring Congregational Meeting

June 1, 2025, 10am

## Worship Hall

Covenant Partners have the privilege and responsibility to elect new deacons and elders at our Spring Congregational Meeting. Both deacons and elders ordinarily serve three-year terms, and they may serve two consecutive terms. Typically, 1/3 of our deacons and elders are elected each year.

Our Nominating Committee, after a season of prayerful discernment since February, has presented four elder-nominees and three deacon nominees. Included here are their faith statements. You will be encouraged to read how the Lord has been at work in these women and men!

The Constitution of ECO (Evangelical Covenant Order of Presbyterians) outlines the ministry of elder and deacon as follows:

**2.02 The Ministry of Elders.** Elders are given authority and responsibility, along with pastors, to oversee the spiritual health of the congregation as well as the congregation's faithfulness to God's mission. Elders may also be asked to preach and teach. Elders shall be elected by the congregation.

**2.03 The Ministry of Deacons.** Ordinarily, the biblical office of deacon shall be utilized by the congregation. Deacons lead ministries that nurture fellowship and caregiving within and beyond the congregation. Deacons may also be asked to preach and teach. The congregation shall determine the manner in which they are selected for service. The session shall oversee and direct the ministry of the deacons.

During the 10:00am worship gathering, we will ordain and install these new elders and deacons, praying for and commissioning them to serve the Lord Jesus, who alone is head of the Church (Colossians 1:18). What a joy to have front row seats to the Holy Spirit's work in these disciples' lives!

With Great Joy,



Peter Little  
Lead Pastor

# Deacon Nominees

## **Monica Samples (1<sup>st</sup> Term)**

I was blessed to come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ right here at Christ Pacific Church in 2001. I am eternally grateful to everyone here and elsewhere that led me to Christ and helped me to grow in faith. I believe that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ and Him alone. He is the Truth, the Life, and the Way and that no one comes to the Father except through Him. I believe in the Holy Trinity, One God in three distinct persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I believe that the inerrancy of Scripture is the Living Word of God. "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness." 2 Tim 3:16. I live this belief out by being in the Word nearly every day. I will be honored to serve as one of the Deacons at Christ Pacific Church. I am grateful to give back to others in our congregation what has been so lovingly given to me.

## **Becky Duda (1<sup>st</sup> Term)**

I believe in one Sovereign God, the everlasting Father, his only begotten son, Jesus Christ our Lord and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life. I believe Jesus Christ died for our sins and is my Lord and Savior. It is the sole basis for forgiveness of sins and salvation, which is the gift of God's grace. I believe the Bible is the word of God and am grateful for his love and mercy. I believe in the Holy Trinity Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. I long to follow his word and his will for my life, and to serve God by serving others in my community and our Church.

## **Nancy Koch (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)**

Raised without faith, I embraced a belief in Jesus in my thirties. I am so thankful to all the people in my life, who made a Christ-like impression on me through their love of Jesus. This led to my committed faith in Jesus. I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins and arose again to reign in heaven with God. I believe our salvation is through the saving grace of Jesus Christ. I believe in the trinity of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. I believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible Word of God. I believe in the power of prayer in all of life's circumstances. I believe Jesus is the only source of true hope. I treasure the leading of the Holy Spirit in my life. I can't wait for Jesus to return again. As I wait, I joyfully look forward to serving as deacon at Christ Pacific Church.

# Elder Nominees

## **Pete DeSalvo (1<sup>st</sup> Term)**

I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – three distinct persons, all one God. I believe Jesus Christ suffered, died, and rose after three days in bodily form to atone for sin. I believe that eternal salvation is God's gracious gift, given to those who have faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Jesus is my Lord and is my Savior! I seek to love Him with all that is in me – heart, soul and mind. I'm very thankful for His Word expressed in the Old and New Testaments. I'm likewise very thankful for His Church. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the office of Elder at Christ Pacific Church. Praise be to God!

## **Paul Keesey (1<sup>st</sup> Term)**

This world is filled with chaos and dysfunction. For most of my life I chose to navigate and even participate in the dysfunction, such as running from the law, the Lord and His people. I would tell myself that I could not lie to the Lord and come to Him halfway even when I knew He was real, and He was my Savior. He would have to wait while I kept running and running toward certain destruction. But God, in His infinite mercy and grace, never gave up chasing me. When I finally got tired of running and the consequences of my decisions caught up to me with my loss of freedom, I decided to stop running from Him. I was tired of living that life and was finally ready to live a new one. I surrendered my life to Jesus and everything changed forever. That was Dec. 8th, 2011, which is also my sobriety date. I am living proof that Jesus really is a miracle worker. Since I started coming to Christ Pacific Church for the first time God has blessed me with the opportunity to plug into so many ministries at the church, Celebrate Recovery, Awana and of course the amazing worship team. I know I am part of a family.

I share the beliefs of the church in the Trinity, God is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I believe that I have been saved by faith in Jesus and His death on a cross that paid my debt and His resurrection three days later that paved the way to eternal life. I am extremely honored that this congregation would consider me worthy to be an elder and I will do everything I can to live up to that honor.

### **Bob Griffin (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)**

The Bible is the inspired and authoritative word of God. I believe that the Scriptures command me on how to live my life according to God's laws and that the words of the Gospel reveal to me who my Lord and Savior is – Jesus Christ.

Without reservation I know today that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I believe he was bodily raised from the dead in accordance with God's plan to redeem me and all of mankind from our sins, and it is only through faith in Jesus that I have the promise of eternal life with God our Father. I believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and is God's Counselor. As promised by Jesus, he was sent to us by the Father, and that the Holy Spirit dwells within us for the purpose of teaching and strengthening us in our service to Christ.

I was one of His lost sheep until September of 1989 when I called on Him to rescue me from the sinful and unhealthy life I was living. He saved me from the pit of alcoholism and drug addiction and through His grace and mercy I remain a sober man to this day.

However, it was not until 2000 that I fully committed my life to Christ and became a member of CPC. Since then, I have learned that it is only by trusting in Jesus daily that I can truly find my way in this fallen world. I have sought His face and the counsel of the Holy Spirit to strengthen me in wisdom, patience, perseverance, and hope in my marriage with Tanya, and in my role as a father to my sons, Easton and Casey. I fully recognize and embrace my role as a Christian man in my home, in my church, and in my community.

### **Brion McHale (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)**

We each have our journey of faith and I am grateful for this opportunity to serve as an elder and grow as a follower of Christ. I believe our Lord, the one true God, sent his son Jesus to teach and guide us, and was crucified to pay the penalty for our sins. I believe Jesus was raised on the third day to claim victory over sin and death and is seated at the right hand of our Father awaiting the appointed time of his second coming. I believe God sent the Holy Spirit to indwell in each of us who receive Jesus as their savior.

I believe Christ Pacific Church maintains and follows these tenets. I believe our session of elders serving the body of Christ must uphold and protect this doctrine and the direction of our church.

Thanks to the 2025 Nominating Committee for their prayerful discernment in presenting these deacon and elder-nominees!

Vicki DeVore, Chair

Tim Keeseey, Vice Chair

Nancy Koch, Deacon Rep

At Large Members:

Peter DeSalvo

Erin Morris

David Salazar

Krista Little

Dicky Yee





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