



Official members of Grace Covenant Church are asked to confirm the members of the Elder Board each year. Ballots will be available for members after each service on Sunday, May 22.

MARK MCCLAIN :: ELDER :: MODERATOR

Who is in your family?

I have been extremely happily married to Marjorie (Marj) for over 30 years. We have three children:

- Andy (28) is married to Erika. He is a coach/teacher at Glenn HS. They have a 3-year-old daughter named Melanie Grace. She's really fun. 😊
- Rachel (25) is married to John Dow, and works for Mission Capital in Austin, TX.
- Grace (21) attends Auburn University.

My family brings me the greatest possible joy I can imagine on this earth.

How long have you attended Grace?

I have attended Grace Covenant since 1995, when we moved here from California.

How long have you been an elder?

I have been serving for about 14 years, with a one-year break.

What is your educational background and current job?

I received a BA in Economics from Point Loma Nazarene University (San Diego) and an MBA from UCLA. For the past 30 years, I have worked in the high tech industry for large companies, like IBM and HP, as well as start-ups, like Tivoli and Waveset. I'm currently the founder and CEO of a software company called SailPoint Technologies.

What is your vision or passion for the people of Grace?

It's very simple, really. My hope and prayer is that we will all become committed followers (disciples) of Christ. It's far too easy in our country to give lip service to the notion of Christianity. It can be more like belonging to the local community organization than experiencing a life-long passion to learn what it means to live like Christ. Living by faith, loving God passionately, truly loving others and sacrificing our desires to serve them - these are the things that will force people to ask us "why?" My prayer is that our lives will reflect Christ's character, so people who are looking for the Truth will find themselves attracted to Him, because they see Him in us.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

I pray that others will know we are followers of Christ by our love - real, authentic, grace-filled, tough-when-necessary, peacemaking, servant-hearted ... love.

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

I have been on a sabbatical this year from any particular group ministry, but over the years I have served in adult classes as a teacher and advisor, mentored a number of men in small groups and one-on-one settings, led home groups and generally tried to help out with whatever was needed. I'm looking forward to a new season of involvement this fall.

BILL SCHREYER :: ELDER

Who is in your family?

Shelley my dear sweetheart and I were married in 1976. Shelley is the Restoration Art Center Director in Pflugerville with Mission: Possible! Austin leading a neighborhood outreach. The Lord has blessed us with three children: Cheryl married Ben Lowe and are in Washington with our grandchildren (Hannah, Hayley, Isaiah & Isabella); Jacob and Channing Schreyer, currently in Austin with our grandsons Caleb, James and David; Bob (20) is in Austin busy with work and college.

How long have you attended Grace?

We have attended Grace for 34 years shortly after our arrival from Long Island, New York.

How long have you been an elder?

I have served for about 12 years.

What is your educational background and current job?

In 1976, I graduated from S.U.N.Y. at Farmingdale, New York, and I am currently a pastor serving at Mission: Possible! Austin as the Operations and Community Outreach Director.

What is your vision and passion for Grace Covenant Church?

My passion for all Christians and Grace Covenant Church is to know the reality of a joy-filled and abundant life realized only through the on-going redeeming grace of God. This of course includes the transformation of our minds and character as we apply the truth of the Holy Scriptures. As we live Spirit-directed lives, our Lord is glorified and His presence and work within us is a drawing testimony to those that do not know Christ as Savior and King.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My fervent and continuing prayer for GCC is for the uncompromised truth of the Holy Scripture to be preached, taught, and lived through our lives until The Lord returns. I pray the result of this living truth will be an irrepressible love for one another, for those that need God's salvation and a constant flow of souls coming to know His salvation.

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

I have had the privilege to serve as one our Adult Community teachers since 1992. Other activities include restorative discipling, Quest men's group, mentoring, and Bible study leader.

DAN WALTERS :: ELDER

Who is in your family?

Lynda and I dated in high school and have been married 46 years this year. We have been blessed with three children and six grandchildren. Our daughter, Erin, lives with her family in the Woodlands; Jon lives with his family in Houston; and Tyler lives here in Austin.

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace in 2008. Previously we went to First Evangelical Free Church.

How long have you been an elder?

I am finishing my fifth year as elder at Grace. I was an elder for over 10 years at our expatriate church in the Middle East.

What is your educational background and current job?

I graduated from Texas A&M University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA. For the last 11 years I have been a change management consultant in healthcare and public health. Prior to that I worked for Saudi Aramco for over 20 years in the Saudi Arabia where our children were born and grew up. Such an extended stay in a Muslim country was formative for all of us- it helped to shape our identity as followers of Jesus Christ. It gave all of us a love of travel, of meeting people of different cultures, and an appreciation for how awesome the Body of Christ really is. Currently I work for C12, the largest peer advisory group in the country for Christian CEOs and business owners.

What is your vision and passion for Grace Covenant Church?

When Lynda and I first attended Grace I told her that something is working at this church, I would just like to get under the hood and see what it is. My vision is that Grace continues on its current trajectory. And along the way add vocational discipleship to our list of currently successful ministries. To me, vocational discipleship is simply the intensely personal activity of two or more persons helping each other experience a growing relationship with Christ in every day work life. May it be so!

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer for Grace Covenant Church is that Jesus will increase and that we will decrease (John 3:30), as individuals and collectively as a church.

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

I serve as an elder, in the Career Solutions Ministry, and teaching discipleship classes. Outside of Grace, I serve on the board of Equipping the Saints which is a worldwide ministry of disciple making, and on the Board of the American Mission Hospital in Bahrain.

FRED FRIEDRICH :: ELDER

Who is in your family?

My wife and best friend of over 29 years, Gail, and sons Jacob (23 – works at National Instruments and serves as an adult leader with Grace Youth) and Paul (21 – attends UT Austin and also serves as an adult leader with Grace Youth).

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace in 1989, and have been deeply involved in several ministries ever since.

How long have you been an elder?

I re-joined the Elder Board in May 2011, and have also been honored to serve from 2003-2006, and from 1998-2001.

What is your educational background and current job?

I have a BBA and an MBA from Southwest Texas (now just Texas) State University, am a licensed CPA in Texas, and Project Management Professional (PMP). I have spent over 30 years in higher education and am currently serving universities throughout the country as a consultant via Higher-Ed Solutions, LLC.

What is your vision and passion for Grace Covenant Church?

My vision and passion for all believers, and especially for my brothers and sisters of Grace are that we become individuals and a collective body so deeply impacted by His Love & Truth that we are transformed, and can't help but die to ourselves and live to share the reality of His amazing grace with others.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer is that Grace is a church body that God “looks to” and uses for His glory, because we are filled with sons and daughters of His “who are humble, contrite of spirit, and who tremble at His Word.” (Is. 66:1-2)

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

I am currently serving in the Youth ministry, mentoring High School Seniors, and helping lead and teach the mid-week home group for the same class group.

GERALD YOUNGBLOOD :: ELDER

Who is in your family?

Virginia and I have been married for 41 years. Virginia is my best friend, confidant, cheerleader, and the love of my life. We have three grown and married children. Our oldest, Marion, is married to Eric Wachsmann, who together are members of Grace with their four children, Luke, Haley, Caleb, and Samuel (Sam). Eric and I have worked together in business for the past thirteen years. Eric and Marion serve in the children's ministry at Grace. Our daughter, Julia, is married to Chase Carlisle (an East Texan), whom she met while attending Gordon Conwell Seminary. Julia and Chase serve together in college ministry with Christian Union at Dartmouth College. Our son, Matt, is married to Kelli, and they have a daughter named Emerie. Matt has also worked

with me in business for the last six years. Matt and Kelli serve in the youth ministry at Grace.

How long have you attended Grace?

We have been attending Grace since 1989 when we moved here from Jackson, Mississippi.

How long have you been an elder?

This will be my fourth term as an elder.

What is your educational background and current job?

I graduated from Mississippi State University with a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1974. For the past 13 years I have owned a small private high tech company, FlexRadio Systems. I am a recovering serial entrepreneur having started a number of businesses during my career.

What is your vision or passion for the people of Grace?

My vision is that we the people of Grace love Jesus in such a way that His Kingdom is established here and now. Jesus told us that the Kingdom is now. That means that He is King in our homes, marriages, parenting, friendships, ministry, work, and leisure.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer for Grace is for unity in the church, in the home, and with other believers. I pray that we grow together in abandonment to Christ alone.

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

Virginia and I have been in marriage discipleship ministry at Grace since 2004. We began in pre-marriage and pre-engagement mentoring and then moved into repair mentoring in 2008. We have also been involved in leading a number of small group and adult community marriage enrichment classes using *Love and Respect* and *Couple Check-up* materials. We are currently serving in the Re|Engage marriage discipleship ministry as Open Group leaders. We are also committed to serve as mentors in the Newly Married Class.

Wayne Lott :: Elder Candidate

Who is in your family?

I fell in love with Carla on a blind date and we have been happily married for 42 years. We have two married children. Justin and Sara live in Austin and have blessed the family with three very special sons, Webb, Cole, and Duke who will be 6, 4, and 6 mos. this summer. Sara is a pharmacist at Tarrytown Pharmacy and Justin is a Vice-President for Lott Brothers Construction Company. Our daughter Lindsey is married to Andrew Schoenfeld are also in Austin. Lindsey is a dietician consults for school districts in multiple states, and Andrew is a financial analyst for Ryan & Associates. They have 2 precious little girls Mabel is 3 and Hattie is almost 2.

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace Covenant in 1990.

How long have you been an elder?

I previously served on this board May 2010-2014, and look forward to serving again.

What is your educational background and current job?

I received BS and MS Degrees in Civil Engineering from University of Texas, but Lindsey and Andrew are Aggies so we are a balanced family. I am a partner with my brother in Lott Brothers Construction Company.

What is your vision and passion for Grace Covenant Church?

Our impact on the community and the world must start one believer at a time. I am passionate about the people of Grace continuing to advance in their spiritual growth, through God's transforming spirit, mentoring relationships, and committed service. I hope we are always intentional about encouraging one another to love and good deeds and never get stuck in our "comfort zone".

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer is that as our church grows in numbers and as we each grow spiritually we never forget that "we have these treasures in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." (2 Corinthians 4:7)

What ministries are you currently involved with at Grace and in what ways are you discipling and or mentoring other individuals or small groups?

Carla and I lead the JumpStart ministry for 4 years encouraging participants to become involved in a ministry that fits their individual temperament and gifting. Carla is involved in the Square One ministry and I currently participate in a men's accountability group and one to one mentoring.