



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 20, 2018.

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 neighborhood outreach. The Lord has blessed us with three children. Cheryl married Ben Lowe, and they are in Washington with our grandchildren, Hannah, Hayley, Isaiah and Isabella. Jacob and Channing Schreyer are currently in Austin with our grandsons, Caleb, James and David. Bob is in Austin busy with work and college.

How long have you attended Grace?

We have attended Grace for 36 years starting shortly after our arrival from Long Island, New York.

How long have you been an elder?

I have served for approximately 16 years.

What is your educational background and current job?

In 1976, I graduated from S.U.N.Y. in Farmingdale, New York, and I am currently a pastor serving at Mission: Possible! Austin as the director of operations.

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 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 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 Grace is for the uncompromised Truth of the Holy Scriptures 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 a teacher in Communities since 1992. Other activities include discipling, mentoring, participating in the Men's ministry leadership team, and serving as a Bible study leader.

DAN WALTERS // ELDER

Who is in your family?

Lynda and I have been married nearly five decades. We have been blessed with three children and six grandchildren. Erin lives with her family in the Woodlands, Jon lives with his family in Houston, and Tyler lives in Austin.

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace in 2008.

How long have you been an elder?

I am finishing my seventh 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 am an executive coach for C12, the largest peer advisory group in the country for Christian CEOs and business owners. Previously, I was an improvement consultant in healthcare and public health. And prior to that, I worked for Saudi Aramco for over 20 years in Saudi Arabia where our children were born and raised. Such an extended stay in a Muslim country was formative for all of us. It shaped 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 is. I graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering and an Master of Business Administration.

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 and that I would just like to get under the hood to see what it is — still trying to put my finger on that! God has richly poured out His favor on our church. I share Matt Cassidy's vision and passion that he is just the pastor and that we are the ministers. The church's role is to equip the saints for the work of ministry.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

The elders meet every Sunday morning to pray before the activities begin. I routinely pray that we realize this is God's church, not our church, that He gives us a hunger to worship Him individually and collectively and that we would see and hear His love poured out through all those He brings to us.

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 and occasionally pinch hit when a teacher is needed. Outside of Grace, I serve on the board of Equipping the Saints, a worldwide ministry of disciple making, and on the board of the American Mission Hospital in Bahrain.

GERALD YOUNGBLOOD // ELDER

Who is in your family?

Virginia and I have been married for over four decades. 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. They are members of Grace and have four children, Luke, Haley, Caleb, and Samuel (Sam). Eric and I have worked together in business for years. Eric and Marion serve in the children's ministry at Grace. Our daughter, Julia, is married to Chase Carlisle, who she met while attending Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Julia and Chase serve together in college ministry with Christian Union at Dartmouth College and they have a son named Emmett. Our son, Matt, is married to Kelli, and they have a daughter named Emerie and a son named Lane. Matt has also worked with me in business for 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 sixth term as an elder.

What is your educational background and current job?

I graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1974. For the past 14 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 involved 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 community marriage enrichment classes, and we served in Re|Engage. Currently, we serve as mentors in the Newly Married Community.

WAYNE LOTT // ELDER

Who is in your family?

I fell in love with Carla on a blind date, and we have been happily married for over four decades. We have two married children. Our son, Justin, and his wife, Sara, live in Austin and have blessed the family with three sons named Webb, Cole and Duke. Sara is a pharmacist at Tarrytown Pharmacy, and Justin is a vice president of Lott Brothers Construction Company. Our daughter, Lindsey, is married to Andrew Schoenfeld, and they also live in Austin. Lindsey is a dietician consultant for school districts in multiple states, and Andrew is a financial analyst for Ryan & Associates. They have two daughters named Mabel and Hattie.

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace Covenant Church in 1990.

How long have you been an elder?

I served from 2010-2014 and 2016-2018.

What is your educational background and current job?

I received BS and MS degrees in civil engineering from University of Texas. (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 by impacting 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 that we are always intentional about encouraging one another to love and do good deeds and never get stuck in our "comfort zones."

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer is that as our church grows in numbers and, as we each grow spiritually, that 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 several years encouraging participants to become involved in a ministry that fits their individual temperament and gifting. Carla is now involved in the Square One ministry, and I currently participate in a men's accountability group and one-to-one mentoring.

JASON JUPE // ELDER

Who is in your family?

I have been happily married for over 12 years to my best friend, Erin. We have been blessed with two sons named Seth and Cavin.

How long have you attended Grace?

I have attended Grace since the summer of 2002 when I moved here from Michigan.

How long have you been an elder?

This will be my second year to serve on the elder board.

What is your educational background and current job?

I graduated from Kettering University with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering and from Texas Tech with a Master of Science degree in industrial engineering. I work for Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc., where I provide consulting services for clients in the areas of accident reconstruction, human factors and transportation safety.

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

To encourage every Grace attender to “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

My prayer is that Grace will be a church transformed by God’s grace through close fellowship, a rich understanding of the Bible and service with one another.

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 the privilege to serve as a leader and teacher in the Communities and central teaching Courses. Erin and I have been blessed to be part of a Grace Life Group since 2004.

MATT PENNIES // ELDER CANDIDATE

Who is in your family?

Amy and I have been married for almost 15 years, and after my salvation, she is the greatest gift the Lord has ever given me. He has also blessed us with three daughters—Brooklyn, Annabella and Alyssa—and our son, Joseph.

How long have you attended Grace?

We began attending Grace in 2008.

How long have you been an elder?

This will be my first year as an elder.

What is your educational background and current job?

I earned a degree in political science at Southwest Texas State University in 1999 and became a high school government teacher and basketball coach soon after that. I transitioned into the business world by becoming a trainer and then an organizational development consultant. I have led a large sales organization for the last 10 years.

What is your vision and passion for Grace Covenant Church?

We have been so blessed to be here—ministries like MOPS and the incredible women that welcomed and encouraged Amy while we had young children and a busy travel schedule, to the blessing that is our Life Group, to the gifted teachers who serve here—we have been poured into at Grace. I share our collective passion for relational discipleship and hope we continue to reach out and love the people around us like Jesus does and that we encourage and grow each other in a way that honors Him.

What is your prayer for Grace Covenant Church?

That we would seek Him and find Him. That His hand would be on us and He would bless us indeed. I pray that we would trust Him and honor Him in all we do.

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

Amy and I began serving at Grace in the children's ministry and then on the leadership team supporting Life Groups. I have been part of the teaching team supporting the Adult Discipleship Communities and Central Teachings since 2014.