

## Redeemer Officer Candidates

### Elder Candidates

#### Dan Allen



I was raised in the Catholic Church and have never known a time without the Lord Jesus in my life. I was married to Michelle in 1976, and we raised 3 children, who have brought us 13 grandchildren. Through Bible study and prayer, we determined to leave the Catholic Church, and have traveled through the Methodist, Assembly of God, and independent churches to come to rest in the PCA here at Redeemer. In each of these, I have served as an officer of the Church. We have lived in Austin since 1999, and have attended Redeemer since then. In 2002, I was ordained and elected to the Session and served as a ruling Elder and clerk up to January 2020, when, in anticipation of a relocation to be closer to family, I stepped down from active service on the Session. We recently determined that we could serve our family best from Austin, and therefore I have sought to return to active service.

#### Gerson Brisola



I came to Austin from Brazil, where I was born. Having been raised in a Christian home, I became a member of the Presbyterian church and served as deacon and elder at the Jardim Guanabara church, in the city of Campinas. It was in this church that I met Elizabeth, where we both sang in the choir. I work for IBM, with a career in management of software development. I currently serve as Program Director for the development of new cloud computing technologies.

Because of my IBM job, Elizabeth and I relocated to Austin in 2017 and became members of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in 2018. Elizabeth holds a PhD in Psychology, and one of her activities is counseling at the Redeemer church. We have two children: Deborah, who studies medicine at Baylor College of Medicine; and Joel, who is an undergraduate student of Chemical Engineering at UT Austin.

I enjoy listening to music at home, while driving, and at concerts. Both Elizabeth and I enjoy watching movies together in our home. We have made many family road trips and this year are planning a drive to Colorado and one to Corpus

Christi. We also like visiting family and friends in Brazil when we can. Our family has two Siberian Huskies that are great companions. They are our big motivators for us to stay fit, as they require long daily walks!

I am currently serving the church on a regular basis as a choir member and a small group study moderator, and as a board member and treasurer for Arts on Alexander. While Arts on Alexander is established as a separate entity from the church, it represents a premier opportunity for outreach for our church, by constantly bringing visitors to our premises. My aspiration as an elder is to better understand the needs of the congregation and expand my service to the church through the ministries above, the teaching of the Bible, and the support of new plans outlined by the session. So that we, as the Church of Christ and through our friendship with God, may “ponder anew what the Almighty can do.”

#### Ken Kieley



I was raised by Christian parents who were church members and regular attenders. I have always known Jesus as the Son of God who created the universe, governs our lives, and provides for our redemption. But for many years of my adult life, I often felt I was just going through the motions. After several years of success in business, I realized I was missing something. And that something was a living relationship with God and his Son. That ultimately led to my wife, Chris, and me searching for a new church and a growing desire to study God’s word and to live it more faithfully.

We came to Redeemer in 2007 after visiting every PCA church in the Austin area over the course of a year. We knew immediately that we had found our permanent church home after having been members of various PCUSA churches throughout our married life. Being a member at Redeemer has made a difference in my life through an ever-stronger relationship with God and his Son.

I was installed as a deacon in 2011, and have served as a deacon and as the treasurer of Redeemer since 2019. I am also currently serving a second term as the treasurer of the South Texas Presbytery. My nomination for the office of elder came as a surprise; I was not seeking that office. I am humbled by the opportunity to potentially serve in that capacity. I view the office of elder not as an honor, but as an opportunity to serve this body which has meant so much to me and has served me so well. Serving as an elder gives me an opportunity to give back in a new way and to give thanks for the

growth I have had while here. If I am elected, I will faithfully and energetically serve using the gifts God has given me.

Chris and I met at the University of North Texas on our first day of college. We celebrated our fifty-second anniversary earlier this month. We are the parents of two adult children, Erin Roberts of San Antonio and Tom Kieley of Austin. We have four grandchildren: Kendall, Hannah, Connor, and Reese. My hobby is woodworking, including building furniture and all of the cabinetry for our home in Canyon Lake.

I was born in 1950 in Grafton, North Dakota. We moved often, but from the age of ten I lived in Dallas. I attended the University of North Texas as a music major for two years before a change in majors, and received a business degree in 1975. After graduation, I worked as a CPA for ten years with Ernst & Young in Dallas. I have subsequently been the chief financial officer for six different public and private tech companies over the course of thirty years, mostly in Austin. I am currently serving as chief financial officer of my son’s company on a part-time basis.

### Deacon Candidates

#### Victor Longstreth



I was born in 1973 in sunny Southern California. I lived 25 years before bending the knee, confessing my sins, and receiving forgiveness. Soon after, my wife and I began attending services at Calvary Church of Santa Ana. After a year or so, we then took a slight theological turn and joined the Bible Church of Buena Park. At that time, a coworker of mine was

a seminary student at John MacArthur’s Master’s Seminary, and his friend was the new pastor of this church. We attended there for several years. Yet, as I continued to read and study the Bible and gain a fuller understanding of church history, I developed a new passion for old books. Some of my favorites were from the Banner of Truth’s Puritan Paperback series, along with A.W. Pink and of course RC Sproul. It was at this point I became a full-fledged flaming Calvinist. I also felt a great desire to fellowship among more like-minded brothers and sisters. So, we decided to leave the Bible Church. Diving headfirst into the beauty of Presbyterianism and Covenant Theology, we became members of a PCA church in Yorba Linda California (Grace Presbyterian).

My beautiful wife (Rocio) and I have been married 29 years (30 this November). We moved to Texas in 2006 and joined

Redeemer shortly thereafter. After many years, tears and prayers, By God's grace, we now have two children Isaac (5) and Rachel (3).

I've served as a Deacon for Redeemer previously, but took time off to care for my ailing father (who went to be with Lord on April 2, 2022). It will be my honor to serve as a Deacon once more if you are willing to have me serve you in this capacity.

### Mike Matlock



I was born in Midland, Texas, and spent the first 12 years of my life there. I graduated from Mineral Wells High School and headed off to college in 1969, graduating from North Texas State University in 1974 with a BA in Geography. With a teaching certificate in hand, I headed to Corpus Christi for my first teaching assignment, where I taught 7th and 8th grade Science for 16 years. In the summer of 1977, I met my future wife, Debbie, in Pennsylvania and we married six months later. We moved from Corpus Christi to Round Rock in 1989. I transferred from middle school to Round Rock High School and taught World Geography until my retirement in 2010. It was at that time that Redeemer sent us into the mission field in Turkey, where we served until 2021.

Debbie and I raised our two children, Jennifer and Christopher, at Redeemer. Jennifer (Koch) is married to our son-in-law, Micah Koch. They have two of our five grandchildren, Calvin and Kaley. Our son Christopher and his wife Jessica (formerly from Redeemer) live in Colorado where they are raising our other three grandchildren, Lucy, Sage, and Ella.

Although I was brought up in the church and baptized at age 13, I really didn't fully comprehend the concept of Grace in the Gospel message and what Jesus really did for me on the cross. It was through some late night conversations with my roommate and best friend during my college years that I felt I gained a clear understanding of the Gospel. My eyes and heart were opened and with full assurance, I claimed Jesus as my Savior in 1970.

When we moved to Round Rock, we attended Presbyterian Church of the Hills, which later became CrossPointe Presbyterian Church. It was at PCH that we learned from the Ligon's of the plans for a church plant. We began attending the Sunday afternoon gatherings with Paul Hahn, the church planting pastor for Redeemer. In October of 1994, we were in attendance at the first service held in the Women's Federa-

tion Building. Debbie played the piano until Leonard Payton arrived, and we ran the sound mixing board. Shortly after the church was particularized, I joined a group of men studying for officer positions, and was nominated and elected to the office of Deacon. I served as a deacon for Redeemer until Debbie and I left for Turkey to serve in the mission field in 2010.

Serving the church has been an essential part of my adult life. Debbie and I hope to be able to continue our service for the church and Via Christus Ministries in Turkey for three months each year. I look forward to the opportunity to serve Redeemer once again as a deacon when we're not in Turkey.

### Lee Maverick



I was born in San Antonio in March 1959. After Junior High, my family moved to Austin, and I attended McCallum High School. I graduated Texas A&M, class of '81, with a BS in Education. Following college, I taught kindergarten and third grade for four years and served as Youth Minister for five years. In 1993, I began a career in the financial industry and am currently the Chief Compliance Officer for SAMCO Capital Markets, Inc.

My wife Terri and I were married in 1984. Together we have five adult children and nine grandchildren.

I was baptized and raised in the church and came to faith early in life. In high school, through the ministry of Young Life, I came into a deeper and more mature faith and knowledge of my salvation. I have also been aided by numerous saints: mentors, pastors, men of faith and integrity, and the halcyon bride of my youth. Some of the mentors God has put in my path have been like comets—briefly traversing the shadows of my life. And some, like Terri, have guided me over the course of my life—through the peaks and valleys. I have also been influenced by many authors, e.g. F.W. Boreham, Frederick Buechner, C.S. Lewis, Brennan Manning, and Flannery O'Connor.

Salvation came easy and early, but spiritual maturity has been difficult and deferred. The constant in my testimony is the Word of God through Holy Scripture, the work of the Holy Spirit, and Jesus—the author and finisher of my faith. The essence of my testimony is found in my response to a question posed by Brennan Manning: "When we get to heaven, He will ask us: 'Did you believe that I loved you?'" Because and despite of my shame and unworthiness, I can answer "YES—the

Creator of all that is known and unknown loves me—and even more: likes me."

I acted as superintendent for a Church Children's ministry as well as AWANA; involved my entire family with Mission Possible in east Austin, and traveled to Haiti an undisclosed number of times to bring the Word of our Lord Jesus and help establish Jacob's Well—a youth camp and Church retreat center. We spent the years before coming to Redeemer in both denominational and non-denominational Churches. We were seeking a deeper level of worship: not just preaching the Word and singing praise, but confession, psalms, prayer, and weekly Eucharist. We also sought a degree of hierarchical accountability found in a larger Presbyterian community. We have found both worship and community at Redeemer.

My call to serve at Redeemer is twofold. First, like Eli to Samuel, several saints in the Body told me to "listen to the Lord" and serve. And second, if I were to claim a spiritual gift it would be servant. I believe as Christians we are all called to serve. I know I am called to serve.

### Chris Price



I was born in East Texas, though I primarily grew up in Garland, just outside of Dallas. I was raised in a Christian home, and, thanks be to God, cannot greatly remember a day when I did not know the Lord. My wife, Marybeth, and I met in Dallas, and we have two young boys, Jesse (5) and Story (1). We moved to Austin in 2017 from Columbia, SC,

where we were working with Mb's family's business. We initially joined a small church plant in north Austin, since we thrived at one in South Carolina, but the Lord had different plans for us. Our young family, in combination with a new job and new city, needed more stability, and Redeemer was able to provide that for us. After being at Redeemer for several years, I feel led to serve as a deacon so that I can help the church provide that stability to other people as well. Proverbs 3:27 says, "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it." I also believe that by serving, we will continue to be strengthened. 1 Timothy 3:13 says that, "For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus." I believe that the Lord will bless us by serving him and his church just as much as he might bless others through our service. I have been fortunate enough to be loved and guided greatly by those in official positions in the church, and hope that I can offer that same love to others.