

Church Officer Nominees

At the annual meeting of the congregation on January 28, the following members were elected to serve as ruling elders, deacons, and members of the nominating committee beginning June 1, 2012.

Ruling Elders, Class of 2015:



NITA ARANT: Nita (Juanita Flowers) Arant was born in Alabama. At the age of fifteen she was awarded a four year fully paid college scholarship in piano. In her junior year she changed her major to voice and choral conducting. Prior to her marriage Nita worked for the Mutual Radio Network as a vocalist and commercial writer. She and Gene were married in 1953 and came west. Gene was a licensed California attorney and opened his practice in patent law. Nita worked in his office and became interested in Lawyers' Wives associations, first becoming president of the San Gabriel Valley association, then president of the Law Wives of California and later as the president of the Auxiliary of the American Bar Association. During these years she also worked as a vocal coach and director of music for churches from Los Angeles to the Oregon coast. Recently she celebrated 65 years of church music during which she was ordained as Minister of Music. Ordained as deacon and elder in the Presbyterian Church USA, she served as elder and Clerk of Session and as President of the Women's Association for the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church. Later, she was an elder and Director of Music for the Santa Paula, California Presbyterian Church. For many years she was Minister of Music, and in 2000, served as elder for the Chapel-by-the-Sea Presbyterian church in Lincoln City, Oregon. She and Gene became members of CPC in January of 2011. They reside in Gold River, have three sons and three grandchildren. Nita will serve on the Fellowship and Nurture Division.



LISA BENADOM: Lisa has been married to her devoted husband, Dave, for 27 years. They have one daughter, Kristen (age 25), who was raised in our Church Community and is now an attorney in Colorado. Lisa works for Weight Watchers, loves to cook (she points out that the two things are not mutually exclusive!), loves playing Scrabble, reading, entertaining, spending time with friends and family. Her absolute favorite thing to do is to spend time at the ocean with her husband. Over the course of 30 years of membership, she has twice served as Moderator of Deacons, taught Sunday School, and worked at VBS. Her greatest joy has been to serve on our Church's drama team. She's been asked to serve in the Worship Division. She says the worship experience has been a dynamic and powerful instrument in her faith journey and is excited to take on this new and very different role.



DEBBIE BERKE: Debbie's mom, Lois Griffin, brought her to CPC when she was in third grade and she has been a member for almost 37 years. Debbie has one daughter, Jaimee Kullander (age 32), a son-in-law, Dan Kullander and three grandsons, Ryan, Caeden, and Cole Kullander. Her hobbies include reading, knitting, making cards and hiking. She has been a Deacon, has served on the Nominating Committee, started the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and was on the Board of Directors for the CPC Counseling Center. She has also served as a Jr. High Youth Leader, sung in both the Carillon and Sanctuary choirs, went on several mission trips with the youth, and taught Vacation Bible School. Currently, she sings with the Contemporary Music Team, is in the Beginning Handbell Choir, and volunteers in the church office on Wednesday mornings. Debbie is looking forward to serving God in a new way and learning more about how session works. We are very excited that Debbie accepted God's call. Debbie will be serving on the Fellowship and Nurture Division.



WADE CHANDLER: Wade has been a member at CPC for almost 8 years. During that time, he has been a Deacon, Deacon secretary, a first service usher, a member of the church orchestra, and a member of the Friendship Marinersip. Wade began attending CPC while dating Cheryl, who had been attending CPC since she was a little girl. Now married for 11 years, Wade and Cheryl have two children: Braden, age 7 and Audrey, age 5. Wade is an enthusiastic follower of history and politics, and an avid reader of both those subjects. He writes about education and politics in a blog he has maintained since 2005, and is featured in the *Sacramento Bee* online edition. He is a serious 1980s music fan, and loves the woods and outdoors, especially if it involves hiking, biking, or golfing. As an Elder, Wade is looking forward to learning about the inner workings of the Church, becoming closer to God by serving Him, and having the opportunity to put his life and career experiences to use toward helping to ensure the continuing success of CPC. Wade will serve on the Education Division.



NONYE KAMALU: Nonye, born in Nigeria, has been a member of CPC for four years. Her brother, Osita, joined our church last year. Their father passed away two years ago, and their mother, Regina, is living with them now and attends CPC. Nonye is an avid reader and cook, and enjoys volunteering, knitting, working with children, writing, singing, and listening to music. Her special desire is to be a foster mom. At the end of her schooling, Nonye's ultimate goal is to become a forensic psychologist. She says that she was looking for a church home and "found the most exciting one, CPC." The HMS Pinafore Marinersip was delighted that she chose their ship to become acquainted with church members. Wasting no time, Nonye became a Front Step Greeter on Sundays, volunteered to become a Deacon (and has been the Deacon Moderator for the past two years), and then received training to become a Stephen Minister. The Nominating Committee feels she will be an excellent addition to the Mission Division.



CRAIG MORRIS: Craig credits his wife, Billie Seekins, with bringing him to CPC. Craig and Billie have two sons Tyler (age 19) and Trevor (age 15). During his seven years as a member, Craig has served as a Deacon, usher, and Vacation Bible School volunteer. He is active with our Food Closet, Kids Can and Family Promise ministries. You may also recognize him as the Inn Keeper during our recent Night in Bethlehem event. In addition to this, Craig also serves as a veteran outreach resource. When asked what he was the most excited about serving as a Ruling Elder, Craig replied "Being an elder presents me the opportunity to influence our church's religious, moral, fiscal, and mission paths well into the 21st century. This is also a chance for me to encourage my generation's further involvement in our church's activities and operations, as well as mentor the younger generation and encourage them to stay in the church and raise their families within it." Craig will be serving on the Administration Division.



JOHN WALLACE: John, his wife Connie, and son Matthew, moved to Carmichael from Zionsville, IN in 1990. They have been married 40 years and are very proud of their son (age 34). John enjoys long-distance bicycling, backpacking, kayaking and has served the community both as a Boy Scout Leader (40 yrs.) and as a 12-year member (and current president) of the Carmichael Water Board. Hobbies include model trains, photography, and playing several types of dulcimers and bowed psaltery. Attracted to the staff and mission opportunities at CPC, he became a member approximately 21 years ago. He has chaired many committees, both as a Deacon and Ruling Elder. He has been a Stephen Ministry Leader for 15 years, a Youth Leader for 21 years, a driver and participant in Youth Mission Trips to Mexico, and has attended 32 Youth Conferences in Montreat, North Carolina. John has been active in mission projects at the Presbytery level, often as the leader. He has traveled to Russia, Cuba, Turkey, and India representing our Presbytery. He will be a valuable addition to the Mission Division on our session, and even though busy with other projects, says that he will be glad to be "back in the saddle" again.

Ruling Elder, Class of 2013 (filling an unexpired term):



KATHY PHILLIPS: Kathy is currently serving as a Ruling Elder and chair of the Worship Division. She has agreed to serve one more year on the Worship Division to fill an unexpired term.

Deacons, Class of 2015:



CHRISTIAN BOLEN: Christian first started attending CPC on Palm Sunday in 2007. He listened to God, the Father, telling him to enter CPC and to learn more about Him. Christian came to faith and was baptized in 2008. He enjoys the Taize worship on Wednesday evenings and also the Wednesday night Bible Study. He has been a Deacon for the last three years and participated in the Christmas Basket project. He is currently employed by CPC as a custodian. Christian's other interests involve being a big Oakland Raiders football fan, a Sacramento Kings basketball fan, and collecting sports memorabilia. He enjoys spending time with close friends and riding his bike. Christian is happy being a Deacon again for the next three years; This is his way of serving God and having God in his daily life. He wants to learn and understand what it is to be a Christian and admire the teachers he has found at CPC, like our pastors and Bob Stone, along with many others.



BOBBY BROW: Bobby is married to Maria, and they have two children, Julia (14) and Liam (11). Bobby enjoys his free time to the fullest. He coaches soccer, plays soccer, runs, bikes and lifts weights. Music is also a special interest. He enjoys singing and playing his guitar and even finds time to read. Bobby met Garrett and Lisa Torgerson through family soccer, and they invited Bobby and Maria to CPC in June of 2010. Bobby and Maria had been looking for a friendly, involved community church and found that here at CPC. They became members in February 2011. Bobby grew up in Orangevale and attended Orangevale Free Methodist church. Since then he has sporadically attended various churches. At CPC he has found a welcoming community and feels he can serve this church in any way he is needed. He has helped Jeremy with the youth group planning and has obtained his class 'B' drivers license which is required to drive the church van. He looks forward to becoming more active with the youth. Bobby is excited about being a Deacon at CPC because he sees this as an opportunity to help service God in the community. He is one of those people who will jump in and do what he can when he is asked. He is ready to be more involved at CPC !



MARIA BROW: Maria has been married to her husband, Bobby, for 19 years and they have two children, Julia (14) and Liam (11). Her interests include reading, gardening, and sewing. Maria and Bobby had been looking for a friendly church that was involved in the community. They met Garrett and Lisa Torgerson through family soccer and were invited to come to CPC. They came to their first service in June of 2010 and have kept attending ever since. Maria and Bobby became members in February 2011. During her time here at CPC, Maria has helped with Sunday School and has made several head scarves for "A Night in Bethlehem." As a family they have participated in the Deacons' Christmas Baskets and did their best effort growing melons in the CPC garden for the Food Closet. . . but the squirrels ate them all! Maria is looking forward to serving as a Deacon at CPC through its various programs. She recently saw a sign which read, "Don't just go to church, be the church". She is ready to BE the church.



JENNY DEVRIES: Jenny has been married to our head Pastor, Keith, for 31 years. They have two lovely daughters, Kaylan (26), and Kristel (29), who is married to Bryan and they live in Petaluma. She is currently the Vice Principal's Secretary at Mira Loma High School. She is the Worship Team Leader at our Contemporary service, plays guitar and has a lovely singing voice. In addition to music, Jenny loves to cook and on occasion make beautiful stained glass creations (some of which have been displayed in the CPC Gathering Place Art Gallery). In an amazing coincidence, she joined CPC in 2001, about the same time Keith became our Pastor. She credits God's calling for this. Jenny says that she is "jazzed" because this will be the first time that she has been a Deacon. She is really looking forward to serving the Church as a Deacon, because she has wanted to be one for quite some time. Jenny previously did not feel that she could spare the time from her busy schedule to be a "really good Deacon."



TRACEY DRON: Tracey is a twelve year member of CPC and lives with husband Jeff and children, Tyler, age 7, and Lily, age 3. She previously attended church in Menlo Park and was brought to CPC to reconnect with a church. Her CPC activities circle around education such as Sunday school, Vacation Bible School and Family Promise. What excites Tracey about serving as a deacon is being able to learn more about the church and to help where needs arise.



MARY KROGER: Mary and her husband Dan are blessed with four children aged 45 to 36 and six grandchildren. She enjoys painting and books and anything that has to do with the out of doors. She has been a member of CPC for four years. What attracted her to CPC was our mission focus. She appreciates the pastoral staff and the progressive and proactive attitude toward Christianity. Her many church activities include Sunday School, VBS, mariners, Bible study, home fellowship host, Stephen Minister among others. She looks to using her personal gifts to give to our CPC community.



ERIN PACE: Erin and her husband, Bill, have been members at CPC for two months, but have been attending CPC for much longer than that. They have four adult children, Arianne, Daniel, David and Timothy. Erin is an art docent in the San Juan School District and enjoys art history. She has trained and coached walkers preparing for marathon races. Erin has led and mentored singles groups, help organize Women's Ministries activities, led and participated in Moms in Touch events and assisted with Sunday School and was a Vacation Bible School volunteer. Erin is very excited about the opportunity to serve our faith community and getting to know the members at CPC.



ELIZABETH PHILLIPS: ElizaBeth attended Carmichael Presbyterian a few times as a guest in the mid-to-late eighties and when her family moved to Sacramento and were looking for a church, she remembered CPC. She has always appreciated the bond between her friends and their church friends, and hoped to find a place like that for her children. Elizabeth is married to Chris, and they have two children: Rory, age 7 and Lex, age 5. During her first year as a member at CPC, ElizaBeth has taught Sunday School and been a youth group leader. Outside of work and church, ElizaBeth enjoys swimming, martial arts, reading, and classic movies. As a Deacon, ElizaBeth is interested in supporting the church's mission and deepening her relationship with other members. She wants to give her time and commit herself to Christ through her actions.



GINNY RODGERS: Ginny has been a member of CPC for approximately seven years, coming from Foothill Farms First Baptist Church where she served as a Deacon and Deacon Moderator. Heartbroken that her church closed, Ginny searched for a new church family. She says when they visited Carmichael Presbyterian, "we knew we were home!" She has been actively involved at CPC having served as a Deacon, Loaves and Fishes Coordinator, PW Treasurer, Welcome Center Hostess, Usher, Personnel Committee member, as well as helping at Supper on Saturday and in the Food Closet. Ginny, widowed, is blessed with a loving family. Son, Dion, daughter-in-law, Kirsten, granddaughters, Alyssa and Breanna; daughter Erin, son-in-law, Jeffrey, grandchildren, Sierra and Matteo; son, Branden; granddaughter Devin, great grandchildren Julia and Miles. Ginny says that her heart is with the poor and homeless and that serving as a Deacon she will be able to continue to fulfill her life mission. We are blessed to have this devoted servant in our Church community.



LOIS SILVERNAIL: Lois has attended CPC for four years and has been a member for two years. During her short time here, she has demonstrated her commitment by assisting with health care classes, cleaning up on Wednesday Works, and attending Wednesday night Bible Study, and working in the food closet. She also has volunteered at Trinity Christian School. What excites her about being a CPC deacon is that she has enjoyed past church functions and looks forward to the opportunity to be more involved and serve. Lois has a family consisting of a daughter, a step-son, a daughter-in-law, and four grandchildren. She involves herself by fishing, gardening, hiking, photography, reading, off-roading, and volunteering.

Deacon, Class of 2014 (filling an unexpired term):



BOB STONE: Bob is currently serving as a Deacon and has agreed to extend his term for two more years to fill an unexpired term.

Deacon, Class of 2013:



ASHLEY SAWYER: Ashley has been a member of CPC for five years. Her proud parents are Brian and Stacey. She has two siblings, Patrick (in college) and Katherine (in high school). She has played the piano for 19 years and loves to read. Ashley has been active in Girl Scouts for 14 years, and is presently attending American River College as a full-time student. Friends introduced her to CPC when she was in 7th grade. Ashley has progressed through the Jr. High, High School and College youth groups. For the past four years, she has helped with the Deacons' Christmas baskets. She is glad that she finally has the chance to give back to the church, which she feels has given her so much for the past six years. Ashley says that she "loves helping people and I want to do all that I can to help members of the church and the community."

Nominating Committee Members:



BARBARA BOYD: Barbara is currently serving on the Nominating Committee and has agreed to serve an additional year to fill an unexpired term.



BILL DUNN: Bill has been asked to serve a full two-year term on the Nominating Committee.



GLEND PERROU: Glenda and her husband, Tony, began visiting CPC in 2005. They were looking for a church home and found it, resulting in them joining the church in Spring of 2006. They have three children, Anthony Scott (age 41), Angela Michelle (age 39), and Timothy Micol (age 35). Scott is married to Anissa and they have two surviving children Aisa Elizabeth (age 6) and Alia Michelle (age 3). They are expecting another child in June. Micol has three children - Jacob Micol (age 10), Maya Zoe (age 8), and Cole Alexander (age 3). Since joining CPC Glenda has been involved with the Food Closet, Presbyterian Women, Christian Education (teaching and co-directing Vacation Bible School, creating art projects for the Sunday School, teaching Bible Studies at our monthly PW meetings), and Woman's Retreat. She was a Deacon for three years and assisted with the Deacon's Christmas Basket, Communion, and flower delivery. She and Tony are active in the Skip-jacks Marinersip. She has assisted Tony with ushering and serving communion. Glenda stays busy babysitting grandchildren, gardening, periodically sewing, and reading, and they both like to travel. Glenda will serve a two-year term.