

# ELDER NOMINATIONS



## TOM BELLIG

By God's grace I had faith as a young child and gave my life to Christ as a 5-year old. My relationship with Christ is the number one priority in my life and I believe that through prioritization of that relationship, growth in knowledge of Him and obedience to his Word, everything else in my life will be fine (though not necessarily easy). I read the Bible every day first thing in the morning with few exceptions primarily out of fear of my sinful nature contaminating my thoughts and motives and knocking me off track from following His will for my life. I am extremely blessed that the Holy Spirit has been a loud voice inside me throughout my life and enabled me to avoid major, life altering mistakes.

I have been involved in CPC in a number of ways. When our kids were little (15-20 years ago), my wife, Karen, and I volunteered in the children's ministry regularly. I have been involved in the men's ministry for many years as a regular attendee, often inviting large groups of men to the men's dinners as well as leading a small group for many years which I mentioned above.

For some time, I have felt that I should be serving CPC in this capacity and prayed that God would call me to serve when the time was right. I was recently asked formally, and I immediately accepted. There is no question in my mind that God is calling me to contribute. I don't have an agenda or goal other than to participate and speak up and contribute where I feel compelled.



## WENDY BJELDANES

Jesus Christ is my Savior, my Lord, in whom I put my faith and trust. He is my rock, my comforter, and my guide, and every name that Jesus is in the Bible to which I believe and cling to. I believe I am a sinner and although I have the desire to follow Christ and remain steadfast in my trust, I continue to fall short. I believe that Christ has died on the Cross for my sins and through faith; I have been saved from the penalties of my sins, and have received eternal life. I believe I have been given the Holy Spirit within me to guide me and my role is to continue to remain in Christ through His Word, prayers, obedience, and fellowship with God and other believers.

Throughout the years at CPC, I have been involved, including given my time and talent, in a variety of ministries, from Children's, Students and Women's ministries to Missions, Hospitality, Care, Small Groups, and Deacons. Currently, my involvement at CPC consists of attending Sunday services, Precepts bible study, marriage mentoring with my husband, and small group study/fellowship and supporting various missions.

Humbly and rather undeservedly, after thoughtful prayers and conversations, I accepted the invitation to be considered as a prospective nominee for the office of Elder, primarily because I believe God is calling me to this role at this time. I sense this with peace, joy, and full assurance that whatever God calls me, He will equip me to do the work. I am motivated that He is calling me not only to partake in His kingdom work, but I would also have the opportunity to be surrounded by mature, faithful Christians through whom I know will continue to grow my faith and me as a person. If accepted as an elder, I would be so honored to serve in this role and would absolutely give it the priority and the importance that it deserves.

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CPC



## KOLISA LARUE

After a renewed season of pursuing God, I finally decided to go “all in” back around 2012. After asking around, a friend pointed me to Focused Living women’s Bible Study, and the Lord graciously met me where I was. The ten years since then have been an enormous blessing as I have worked to grow in understanding and also Biblical literacy. The quiet time that I have spent studying God’s Word, the years in small groups with other believers, and various service opportunities have been altogether life-changing. I have only grown in love for the Lord with each passing year, and it is my joy and desire to use my gifts to serve and to see others be transformed by the love of Christ as well.

My CPC involvement includes being a Serve Day Project Lead for 2 years: coordinating improvements at the Paradise Girls’ Home, and Monument Crisis Center the following year. I have been an adult leader on the Mexico Mission trip for five years with my kids, and have spent 9 of the last ten years at Focused Living in various leadership roles that include Missions Coordinator, Small Group Facilitator, and Program Co-Coordinator. I also helped with Missions for the Kelly Minter “Cultivate” event, and the Women’s Christmas brunch. I took the “Jesus on Leadership” summer class taught several years ago at CPC as well as a Spiritual Gifts class, and identified my spiritual gifts as Administration, Service/Helps, and Faith.



## DAN LUCHT

I put my faith in Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior sometime before the age of 5. While I don’t recall the specific day or event it was significant enough to my young heart that when my mom asked if I wanted to receive Jesus, I was able to tell her that I had already done that and didn’t see a need to do it again. In confirmation of my faith in Jesus and desire to follow His instruction to share my faith publicly, I was baptized at the age of 8 at a Covenant Church in Southern CA. I have had several other significant milestone events in my life that have each brought me closer to Jesus and I expect and hope that pattern will continue.

I have been serving as a leader in ROCK since 2016, teaching classes at SRVCA from time to time, leading Table 13 for Men’s Fraternity for 4 years and participating in church events such as Serve Day and the Mexico Missions trips. I have served as a CPC Deacon from 2019 to 2022 involved in service with Student Deacons, Chancel, Memorials, and the Deacons’ Fund. Most recently I agreed to lead the FOR the Valley scholarship program that provides tangible support to our local High School Seniors. I am proud to say I am a member of the CPC community and FOR our Valley. This is my church home!

I am both humbled and excited by this opportunity to serve as an Elder. I know that I can’t do this under my own power or giftedness but I do trust that God will provide the strength and that He will reveal where He is already at work so that we can partner with Him. Psalm 27:13-14 has been God’s consistent message to me in this nomination process. “I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”