

*Report of the 2018
Nominating Committee*

October 2018



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REPORT FROM THE 2018 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ;

The Nominating Committee for 2018 is pleased to present the members named in this packet for election to the offices of leadership at Fremont Presbyterian Church. The Committee committed to many hours of prayer seeking among the many gifted members of this congregation those with hearts dedicated to the Gospel of Christ and of service to you.

These candidates were asked to prayerfully consider whether God was calling them to assume the responsibility of leadership. They each responded that God, indeed, indicated that they should step into these positions. Each has been interviewed; Elder and Deacon candidates have been examined and approved by the Session for your approval.

In addition to these nominees, the bylaws of the church state that the Session and the Board of Deacons may select a member of their respective bodies to serve on the Nominating Committee.

The Committee thanks you for your continued prayers for the work of this committee and the leadership of the church in fulfilling the mission of God through the ministries of Fremont Presbyterian Church.

The 2018 Nominating Committee:

Adele Ohs, chair

Bobby Cobbs

Heather Hansen

Brian Wyatt

Marianne Gonzales-Sims

Lorrie Drotts

Christopher Maggitti

Reye Diaz

Darren Lewis

Cheryl Stern



NOMINATIONS:

For the Office of Elder Class of 2021

Heather Hansen
Dan Lee
Kim Vagadori

For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

Sara Dunn
Steve Dunn
Arlene Lockett
Marie McConnell
Derek McHenry
Shawn Moore
David Trask
Nancy Yee
Dana Yue
Eric Yue

For the 2019 Nominating Committee

Dale Aust
Audrey DeSoto
David Guillen
Patrick Marion
Glen Thomas
Chuck Uribe
Carol Wyatt

HEATHER HANSEN

Statement of Faith

I came to know Christ and follow Him when I was in high school. At that stage in life, I was experiencing a family crisis, but also finding the strength and peace that can only come through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Since that time, I have grown in my faith, including by being actively involved in college ministry at UC Santa Barbara, and then through my involvement at Fremont leading and participating in MOPS, as well as serving as a Deacon and in other ministries. My husband, John, and I are committed to raise our two girls in the Church, continue to grow together in our knowledge and love of Christ, and our faith strengthened through parenthood.

I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. He is the only way to God the Father and to salvation from my sinful ways. I am saved by God's gift of grace alone, and there is nothing I can do short of accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior that will absolve me from my sins. I believe that Jesus Christ was both fully man and fully God, and that he died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead three days later, in accordance with His promise. Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation and to heaven. He has declared through the scriptures that He is the only truth and the light.

Christ has commissioned me through his command to spread the gospel and to make believers of Him. I have been called without exception to further His kingdom here on earth. That call does not make exception to my earthly life, my schedule, my personality, my relational preferences, or my comfort.

I affirm, accept and believe in the Essentials of Faith, as described by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. I am committed to those Essentials of Faith and will uphold them.



For the Office of Elder Class of 2021

DAN LEE

Personal Journey:

I became a Christian as a little boy when my older sister shared with me the Good News that Jesus died for my sins and that all I needed to do in order to go to heaven was to accept Him into my heart as Lord and Savior.

Despite being saved at a young age, my childhood was not a particularly happy one. My father was a cruel man and beat my mother often and even me on occasion. We all lived in fear of him.

When I grew into a high schooler, my sister talked me into driving her and mom to church. I didn't want to do it because I knew it was a ruse to get me to attend church, but being the obedient Chinese son, I did my duty. Praise to God that I went, because that church was a Christ-centered, Bible believing body. I consumed the Holy Scriptures voraciously and learned powerful uplifting hymns declaring the glory of God.

Criminal psychologists have said that victims of child abuse often grow up to be abusers themselves. I give all credit to the Holy Spirit for protecting my young self from permanent emotional and spiritual scars and making me the joyful man of faith that I have become.

Statement of Faith:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only son of our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born to the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."



For the Office of Elder Class of 2021

KIM VAGADORI

Personal Journey

I was raised knowing of God but not knowing Him. I started attending church with my family as a teenager. At that time, I began to explore God's word and was introduced to what it meant to have a relationship with God. When I was 22 years old, I was baptized in the American River and I publicly proclaimed my faith in Jesus Christ.

In 2004, my dependency on God changed dramatically. In March of that year, I lost my dad suddenly to a massive heart attack. It was at that time I learned I couldn't breathe without God's help. I couldn't move without God lifting me, and I couldn't imagine the future without God showing me His way. It was only through God's amazing grace that I was able to find healing and peace in my dad's passing.

My husband, Kyle, and I started attending Fremont over 11 years ago. Fremont has given us a place to learn, connect, serve, and a community to grow with. Through this community, I joined a small group, which has given me a space to study and discuss scripture. During one season of the group, we focused on giving our fears to God. I acknowledged that fear can be a barrier between God and I. Philippians 4:7 tells us, "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." This is the scripture I regularly return to as a gentle reminder that our God is the God of the Bible and He is in control.

I am eternally grateful that the Lord has accepted me as His own and I strive to live out all of my days shining God's light in this world. More so, I feel called to teach my daughters to do the same. "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on early things."
– Colossians 3:1-2

Statement of Faith

I profess the Apostle's Creed:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son of our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

I believe the Bible is the Word of God, is fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, and is the final authority on all matters.



For the Office of Elder Class of 2021

SARA DUNN

Personal Journey

I was raised in a Christian home. Both my mother and grandmother were very involved in the Church as Sunday School Teachers as well as bible study and choir so my siblings and I attended every Sunday usually without fail. Around the age of five, I was baptized and was confirmed at the age of 12. During my teenage years, I had a “falling out” with the Church and decided to not attend – my faith in God never waned.

The birth of our first child was a near-death experience that drew me much closer to Jesus. I believe that was the beginning of this journey that I am now on in searching and strengthening my relationship with the Lord. Steven (my husband) and I began serving as Sunday School Teachers and we did that for many, many years – such a blessing. We have also been Deacons in the past and I believe my true talent lies in trying every day to be a servant of the Lord.

As my journey continues, I strive always to be a dedicated servant of the Lord.

Statement of Faith

I profess the Apostle’s Creed:

“I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only son of our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born to the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.”



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

STEVE DUNN

Personal Journey

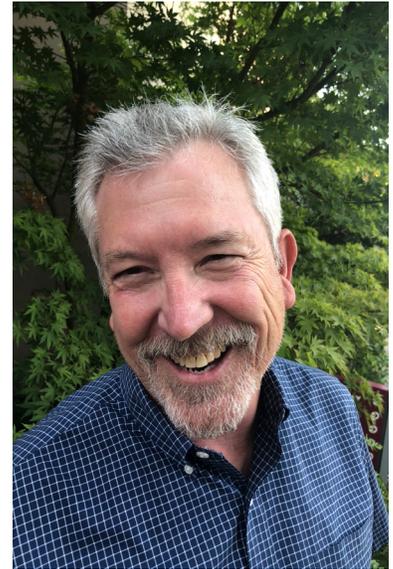
As a child and teenager I believed that I grew up in a Christian home. If anyone asked if I were a Christian, I would have answered with a firm "YES." Through my early childhood my family attended Church regularly. After that we attended only sporadically. I have never doubted in GOD the creator. As a child I spent a lot of time sleeping under the stars, appreciating GOD's creation and contemplating the infinite qualities of space and time. At that time I believed I was basically a good person and would go to heaven. I certainly was not an atheist, but was I a Christian?

In my young adulthood, GOD knocked on my door numerous times (Rev. 3:20), without my answer. Eventually, following the interests & questions of my young son and the invitations from my mother-in-law, my young family began, on occasion, attending church with my mother-in-law. One day the pastor asked me: "Steve, are you born again?" It was kind of a Nicodemus moment for me. He explained to me the bible verses in John 3:1-21. Shortly thereafter I was baptized with my son and baby daughter. Now that I had been baptized certainly I was a saved and born again Christian, right? I don't think so. It wasn't until sometime later on my journey that I truly realized the sinner that I am, that I fall short of the glory of God and am in need of a savior (Romans 3:23). Prior to that point, I believed my works would save me. I didn't understand that it is only by the gift of God's grace through my faith in our Savior that I am saved (Eph 2:8-9). It was not until I made the realization that I needed a savior that I was truly born again and understood the sacrifice made by my savior Jesus Christ.

Approximately 15 years ago, in an attempt to maintain the interest of my teenage children we came to Fremont Church, drawn by the youth program. While at Fremont I have been active in the teaching ministry, a small group, served as a deacon once, serve communion, usher, attend TREK and have responded to numerous callings for the Church. I believe it is through our willingness to serve one another that God conforms us in the image of His Son (2Co 3:18).

Statement of Faith

I profess the Apostle's Creed: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only son of our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born to the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

ARLENE LOCKETT

Personal Journey

I was not raised in the church. My mother was raised Catholic and my father was raised Presbyterian. They married early and decided not to go to church. My grandmother (paternal) would invite or take my sister and me on occasion to the Presbyterian Church down the street, from her house, in Marysville, CA. I loved going and felt I loved God. (I didn't know He loved me, I missed that part). At 16, when I could drive, I took myself the 10 miles to church from our farm. I met my husband, Bill at church in the College Group and 1 ½ years later we were married in that church. Fast forward 5 years, we moved to Sacramento, and Fremont Presbyterian Church, (Bill's home town and church). As a mother of my first baby, I was feeling desperate to "learn how to pray!" I started asking around if there was a class to teach/show me how to pray? Someone told me about BSF (Bible Study Fellowship). Away I went that Fall, across town with an eighth month old to a Bible Study. I learned so much about the Bible and about God's love for me and soon accepted Jesus into my heart and life. I considered myself His "yes girl"!

Statement of Faith

Essentials of my faith partially from the Westminster Confession of Faith:

I believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!

I believe in Jesus Christ, the living Word, who came to earth as a baby and submitted to His Father to die on the cross for my sins! On the third day He rose from the dead and sits at the right hand of His Father on High.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who comes to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior.

I believe Jesus Christ will come again to the earth – personally, visibly, and bodily – to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Rev. 22:20)



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

MARIE MCCONNELL

Personal Journey

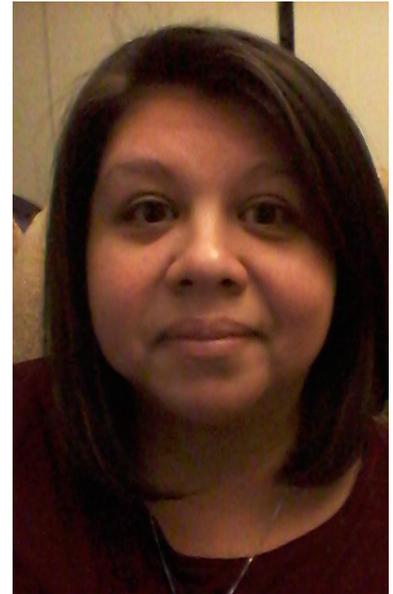
Born here in Sacramento, into a family of pastors and ministers, church was part of my daily living. As a child I napped under the pews of our church, sang in the children's choir and later in the youth choir, we had bible studies in our home, sang, and prayed. It was all I knew. In my teenage years my family left the church my siblings and I grew up in, and even though we didn't attend a church, my dad always made sure God was in our home, through study, singing and prayer. As an adult, and then as a mother, my husband Jerrad and I always talked about attending a church again. We wanted our daughter Mia to have the same memories I had growing up, Sunday school, VBS, and fellowship with likeminded families. Jerrad wanted to be part of Fremont once again, the place he worked as custodian, the place we later catered events together. When he became ill he listened to God's call and brought us to Fremont once again. Here we created bonds with old and new friends, we created a second family, people who would walk with us through Jerrad's illness and then through his death.

Though the last three years have been the hardest of my life, growing up in a Christian home instilled in me my faith in God, my belief in the power of prayer, and my trust in Him and all He has for me here on earth and in heaven. All of which, without, I would not have survived this new journey I am on as a single mother. My family has always been a great example to me for living a Christ led life full of prayer and trust. My church family guide me, mentor me, and hold me accountable as they walk alongside me on this journey God has prepared for us; his church, the body of Christ.

Statement of Faith

I believe in the one Triune God. God who is our father, creator and sustainer of all things. Jesus Christ, sent to us in flesh, sacrificed for our sins and rose to life again. The holy spirit, that lives in our hearts and empowers us to service.

In Him I will always believe and live my life as he teaches us in his word, the Bible.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

DEREK MCHENRY

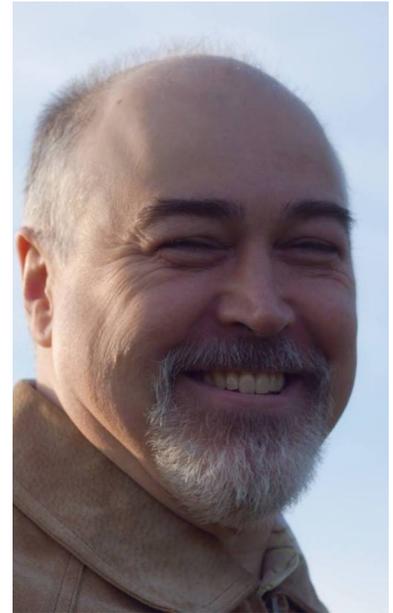
Statement of Faith

I was raised as a “cultural catholic,” going to church occasionally, usually only around the holidays, and getting no real knowledge about God at all. It wasn’t until September of 1983, on the racetrack at Cal Expo during a Billy Graham crusade that I made a public confession of Christ. I remember sitting there thinking, when the invitation was given, that if I said no to Christ then, that it would be easier to say no to Him the next time and the next, until I would never accept Him. So I stood up, with tears blinding my eyes, and knocking down the row of metal folding chairs in front of me, walked down to the front, and said the “sinners’ prayer” with an old German man.

Now I have a purpose...actually many; and I am never alone. God is always here with me, acting in many different ways in my daily life to show me that He loves me and cares about my life. I am constantly challenged to live for a higher and better reason than for self-gratification. I don’t have to be constantly looking for safety, security, and significance because Christ gives me that and so much more.

I live by six words: Love God. Love people. Do good.

I agree with the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the E.P.C. document “Essentials of the Faith.”



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

SHAWN MOORE

Personal Journey

I was born to Christian parents. When I was a child, most every night before going to bed my mother led me and my five sisters in devotional time that included a Bible story, singing, scripture memorization, and prayer. We attended church whenever the church doors were open. I was taught there were five steps to salvation – hear, believe, repent, confess, and be baptized. I made the decision to be buried with Christ in baptism at the age of 12.

I have never doubted the existence of God. I have never doubted that God created the world, man in His image, the essential truths of the Bible, Christ being the Son of God, dying for our sins, being raised from the dead – this part, frankly, has come easy to me. However, my Christian walk has included struggle and doubt, but my struggle, my doubt has been about how do I live out these truths? How do I represent Christ to the world? How do I “love with the love of the Lord” as I used to sing? How do I live in the world without being of the world? How do I use my gifts to honor God? How do I yield my will to the will of God? I desire to live in a different space, I want to know Christ, and the power of his resurrection, share in His suffering, conform to His death. At times I have wanted the journey to be easy, for God to give me a new heart as scripture says he gave King Saul – I have stamped my foot, shaken my fist, asked God to simply flip the switch so I can get “it.” I pray for spiritual maturity and wisdom...sometimes I get it about as well as a 5 year old.

Statement of Faith

I believe the Bible is the inspired word of God. A pet peeve of mine is use of the phrase “the Bible says.” I believe instead we should substitute in the phrase “God says,” as this is a more accurate statement reflecting the fact that God speaks to us through scripture.

I adopt without reservation the Apostle’s Creed as a summation of my statement of belief.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

DAVID TRASK

Statement of Faith

When I was young I attended a small Presbyterian Church where I learned about Jesus, and later confessed him as my Savior at Hume Lake Church Camp when I was a teen, but did not see Him as the Lord of my life. I never considered letting the Holy Spirit guide my decisions (except the really, really important ones) because God didn't need to be bothered by the little stuff. So my lifelong struggle has always been to trust in God, seek his wisdom, and let his Spirit guide my thoughts and actions. It is still a struggle but I continue to strive to put my trust in Jesus and the Holy Spirit and I have grown over the years because He is patiently letting me work this all out.

I absolutely believe in God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit as each is so real to me. God the creator of the universe and all that is in it. Jesus, his Son sent to us as a perfect sacrifice to once and for all, end the separation between God and all mankind. The Holy Spirit to provide wisdom, comfort, and insight into what God would have us understand, do and say. I believe all scripture was divinely communicated and its story is the story of God and his constant desire to be in communion with his creation. I believe that the indwelling Holy Spirit gives us the capability to see God in the Scriptures, in our work, in our lives, in our relationships, and to really understand how much God loves us. I believe that everything we have, and who we are, comes from God, and he only asks for a little back in recognition of the outrageous generosity of the giver. I believe the people of God are His best hope for reaching those who do not know him and that we can each do our part by living out our faith in a way that demonstrates who our God is.

I believe in God's amazing grace as we all struggle to align our thoughts and actions to those of God but find ourselves tempted, temperamental, and tempestuous – in other words, at times, utter failures in our eyes and probably God's if he chose to see it, which he does not because Jesus is there to advocate for us, and to remind us that our failures cannot separate us from the love of God, because Jesus took all our failures, our sins, and blotted them out.

I believe that God created us, knows us, loves us, and that we will have eternal life with him because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. He died for our sins, and by doing so, reconciled us to God. He secured our eternal lives with his death. This security is something we could not achieve on our own. No amount of achievement, good thoughts, selfless actions, sacrifice for others, money, position, power or love could make us righteous before God. Only Jesus could do this because only the death of someone holy and blameless could pay for the death I deserved.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

NANCY YEE

Personal Journey

I grew up in Southern California, the youngest of four children. My Aunt Mary was the role model of a strong Christian woman in my youth. Frequent weekend overnight stays with my cousins always included church service on Sunday morning. In high school, I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior at a youth group meeting surrounded by friends and our youth group leader.

Our family joined Fremont Presbyterian Church over twenty years ago. Our adult children, Juliana and Kevin, attended junior high and high school youth group. Over the years, I have served in various capacities - Couples Cafe (married couples educational classes), Nominating Committee, decorations/hospitality for the Christmas Concert. Last February was my third year serving the people of Jamaica on Fremont's Medical Mission Trip. I am a pharmacist and enjoyed organizing medication and setting up a mobile pharmacy in churches, clinics and care homes in rural Jamaica.

I have been attending Bible Study Fellowship International for three years. We studied the book of Romans this year. Romans 12:4-8 "We have different gifts, according to the grace given. If it is serving, let him serve. If it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously. "

God gives everyone a Work as a gift. I feel God calling me to serve the church, knowing that it is for His glory, not ours. I am relying on God, for when God calls you, He will equip you. I pray I will experience further growth in Him by dedicating the next three years to the position of Deacon.

Statement of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

I believe by faith that Scripture, the Bible, is the living word of God.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

DANA YUE

Statement of Faith

As a child I was fortunate to have parents that believed in God, and I started my faith journey sharing this idea. However, as I grew into my teens, I began to suspect that my abstract, limited notion of and belief in God would easily disappear if I (or anyone for that matter) were to ask questions and ponder the truth and basis of Christianity. At age 14, I left home to train with the US Olympic coach for swimming and was placed in a lane with a swimmer named Mitzi, the eldest daughter of a Baptist preacher. Over the next four years of intense pressure and grueling training, I observed a constant tranquility, security, and deep joy in Mitzi that was absolutely puzzling. Through many conversations, I learned that Mitzi had a personal relationship with Jesus, placed God at the center of her world and felt the Holy Spirit at work in her life. This was mind boggling. I wanted to know more. When I arrived at college, I became friends with a group of steadfast Christian girls who I attended Bible studies and church with and who used the Bible to answer my many questions about who God is and what it means to be a follower of Christ. During this time, I came to know the following to be true: there is one God who is all powerful, all knowing, and good; I am saved through the grace of Jesus Christ, God's only Son; and that God speaks to us through the Bible, which is His living word and is without error. It is my intent to live my life from these beliefs and my greatest hope that my life would encourage others to know and love God.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

ERIC YUE

Personal Journey

Although I grew up in the Catholic tradition, as a teenager I turned away from the outdated irrelevance and hypocrisy I perceived, and went my own way. During that time I was drawn to worldly pursuits, at first just having fun, then to career building, getting married and starting a family. Gradually I noticed something important was missing. Some key Christians I had met along the way influenced me to start going back to church and explore religion once more. Around this time life got really hard, with two kids in diapers and a very demanding job. I had high expectations of myself, but I could see that as hard as I tried, I wasn't going to make it. One day our pastor held an altar call and I felt the Holy Spirit lead me to the front. I hadn't woken up that morning thinking that was going to happen, but I knew in that moment that to be the husband and father I wanted to be — to be the Godly man He was asking me to be — I was going to need His help, that day, and every day of my life.

Since then He has remained faithful to His promises, He has always been with me, comforting me, forgiving me, teaching me, guiding me, inspiring me. I feel so incredibly blessed by Him in so many ways, and I look forward to the rest of my life continuing to learn and grow in Him.

Statement of Faith

I profess the Apostle's Creed:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only son of our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born to the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heave and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

I believe the Bible is a divinely inspired, humanly penned collection of ancient writings that functions as a unified whole to lead us to Jesus, and teach us who God is, what He is like and how we should live.



For the Office of Deacon Class of 2021

DALE AUST

Personal Journey

My journey started when I was 8 years old. I loved hearing the church bells ring each Sunday morning at the Lutheran Church around the corner. My parents did not go to church. So, I started walking around the corner and going to Sunday school on my own. They would have the kids march in to their classes to “Onward Christian Soldiers.” I just loved it! My sister, at the same time, was being picked up by a Sunday school bus from a Nazarene Church. Eventually, I was getting on the bus also. As I got older and more established in the church, my Sunday school teachers would pick me up. I was so blessed by the commitment this church had to my faith journey. I was at a “camp meeting” at Pasadena College at the age of 13 when I gave my heart over to Jesus at the altar call that night. By 16 years old, I was a youth leader, Sunday school teacher and the bus stewardess. In my adult years, I moved from Los Angeles to Santa Rosa, where I attended the Presbyterian Church of the Roses. I became the Children and Youth Director and Elder, which I served for many years. During those years my brothers and sisters at the Roses embraced my family and our continued faith walk.

Statement of Faith

I believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Triune God has created humanity in His own image and has called us to manifest and reflect personal holiness through trust and obedience to His Word and commandments. I believe that all have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory.

Because of the profound “agape” LOVE for us, God has initiated a plan of redemption that He has accomplished on our behalf through the gift of His only son. I believe Jesus to be the Christ of Old Testament prophecy, being fully God and fully man. I believe in His virgin birth, His sinless life, and His miracles. Jesus, through His death and bodily resurrection has provided us with life eternal, by grace, that we receive by faith alone.

I love Jesus with all my heart, and am committed to following Him always, and sharing His love with others.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

AUDREY DESOTO

Personal Journey

Growing up, I attended any church of different faiths that I was invited to by my friends from school or the neighborhood. In fourth grade, I was confirmed into the Catholic church because of my family's tradition. In fifth grade, I started to attend AWANAS with my neighbors. This was one of the first times I learned about Jesus and his desire to have a relationship with me. My family began to attend a Christian church and I accepted Christ as my savior at Hume Lake Christian Camp in junior high. I publicly proclaimed my faith through baptism in high school.

In college, I learned that being a Christian meant more than just avoiding a short list of "bad" things. I got involved in a campus ministry, Cru, and began being disciplined. These years were formative for me in my faith as I learned about the Holy Spirit and how to live a Spirit filled life. It was then that I learned how to share my faith and did so around campus as well on various mission trips in the United States as well as around the world.

I started to attend Fremont in 2012 and became a member in 2013. Recently, God has been teaching me more about what it looks like to trust him with every single area of my life. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

Statement of Faith

I believe that scripture is the inerrant word of God, written by men inspired by the Holy Spirit - written for us to know God and to teach us how to have a personal relationship with him. I believe in the Holy Trinity. I believe that God is an eternal being with no beginning and no end. I believe that God created man to have a relationship with him, but that relationship was broken through our sin characterized by our active rebellion or passive indifference. I believe that Jesus Christ is fully man and fully God. He came to earth and lived a sinless life to make the payment for our sins. I believe that he died, rose again, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God. I believe in the Holy Spirit who is given to us as a seal of our inheritance that is to come. The Holy Spirit convicts, teaches, and reminds us of the Word of God. I believe God created the church to gather together to worship him and to encourage one another in our walks with Christ. I believe that eternal life begins at the moment of salvation through faith. "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

DAVID GUILLEN

Statement of Faith

Christian Experience:

I was raised in evangelical churches by a committed Christian mother. At the age of 15 I professed faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Throughout my youth, I lacked knowledge of the basics of Christianity and received almost no discipleship. After many years of actively participating in a variety of evangelical churches, I still had not grown significantly in my relationship to Christ. Then 18 years ago, I heard the Good News afresh – almost as if I had not heard it before – and this marked the beginning of a new chapter in my walk with Christ. Since that time, by God’s grace, I have continued to grow in my knowledge and appreciation of who Jesus is and what he has done for me: He died in my place for my sins; He rose from the dead so that the life He has given me will never end; and He has given me His Spirit. All this flows from God the Father’s love, grace and mercy so that as His child, I too now seek to show the same love, grace and mercy toward my family, neighbors, coworkers, and our larger community.

Christian Beliefs:

These “Five Solas” inform my faith:

- the Bible alone is the final authority for all matters of faith and doctrine (Sola Scriptura);
- right standing before God is received as a gift from God on the basis of trust in Christ alone and not any human effort (Sola Fide);
- this rests entirely on God’s grace alone and not on anything in us (Sola Gratia);
- this is based entirely on the person and work of Jesus Christ, the only mediator between God and humankind (Solo Christo); and
- all glory and worship is due to God alone (Soli Deo Gloria).

I gratefully affirm the historic creeds and confessions of Reformed Christianity. Among these, I especially treasure the first question and answer of the Heidelberg Catechism:

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

By His grace I will endeavor to live and grow in light of these truths until he calls me home.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

PATRICK MARION

Statement of Faith

I grew up the grandson of a Methodist minister and was baptized around the age of 5. I always believed in God, but never really understood how that actually affected my life until I was a senior in high school. I was invited to a Fremont High School group retreat at Lake Tahoe in the spring of 1974. At that retreat, I met a group of people who accepted me and cared about what was going on in my life. I realized that these were the type of friends I had been looking for all my life.

After returning from Tahoe I started attending the weekly youth group meetings. A few weeks later a couple of the male staff members took me and a couple of other new guys to a Billy Graham film being shown locally called "Time To Run." Afterward, someone came out on stage and explained the gospel and asked if anyone wanted to receive Christ. I went forward and gave my life to Christ. After a few years, my journey took me away from Fremont only to return home some 35 years later.

During my time away I was diagnosed with liver cancer in June of 2012. The Lord kept me alive for over 2 years waiting for a new organ. I never questioned why I got cancer, I just knew that if this was the road we were going to travel, then the Lord must have a very good reason. He brought me through that process and I feel closer to him now than I ever have. I'm now back home at Fremont and I can't wait to find out what the Lord has in store for the rest of my life!

I believe that the Bible is God's story and is the perfect instruction book, which shows us how He expects us to live. I believe God created everything, including us (and our choice to do evil), and exists eternally as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe that humans were created in God's image but rebelled against Him. Our broken relationship with God can only be restored by our faith in the shed blood and death of Jesus Christ, and in His resurrection. I believe by this faith, a person is born anew by the Holy Spirit and becomes a Child of God.

I believe the Lord Jesus Christ is God in human form. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. I believe He died to provide forgiveness for our sins, returned to life physically, and went back to heaven, where He serves as advocate for all who believe in Him. I believe God's Spirit draws people to glorify Jesus Christ, and lives in believers, enabling each to live a God-pleasing life. All Christians are spiritually united in our Lord Jesus Christ. I believe Christ's church exists to spread the word about God's salvation through Jesus and to nurture and support those who believe in Him.

I believe humans are immortal. Those believing in Jesus will be resurrected into eternal life with God; those rejecting His authority will be doomed to live apart from him and his goodness forever. I believe Jesus Christ will return to earth, where He will establish his promised kingdom.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

GLEN THOMAS

Statement of Faith:

I put my faith in Christ as my Saviour when I was a junior in high school. I felt a need for forgiveness of sin, and for a reconciliation with God. In addition, I could not ignore the statements that Christ made that to know Him is to know the Father, and the only way to the Father is through Christ. John 14:6 "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Finally, I wanted to connect with a larger purpose in life and to know the maker of the universe. I prayed to receive Christ with my pastor, and I claimed I John 1:7 "the blood of Christ cleanses us of all sin," I believed the statement of scripture-- 'call on the name of the Lord and you shall be saved.' It was apparent to me the moment I became a Christian, and I set out to follow Christ and to seek His will for my life from that point on.

I became active in my youth group, and was baptized publicly when I was a senior in high school. (No small thing considering a number of my friends came to the baptism!) My goal in life became to honor Him and to fulfill His purposes for my life.

My pastor challenged me to consider Biola University (I was headed to the University of Colorado) and I went to Biola and received my undergraduate degree. My Christian life was strengthened immensely by attending a Christian university. My spiritual journey was broadened through service work in the Watts area of Los Angeles (right after the riots), and missions trips to Mexico and Guatemala. I traveled with a Christian drama team to Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, performing daily for the troops and for schools.

I met my wife Connie at church, and we have devoted ourselves to Christ and to service ever since. My view is that everything I do, whether 'secular' or Christian, is to be viewed as ministry to others, and that I need to be sensitive to the Lord's leading and what he would have me do. I have devoted myself to public education, a 'calling from the Lord' that I have taken seriously and followed throughout my career. My wife Connie served at one point as Children's minister for Arcade Baptist Church. We raised our two daughters to "know the One that gives life, and life indeed."

We are so grateful to Fremont for the tremendous ministries and community outreach efforts. Fremont has met a great deal to Connie and I personally. As an Elder at Fremont I seek to know God's will for the church, to work as team member to support the members and ministries of the church, and to see Fremont continue to grow as a "light" and a means of service to the community of Sacramento.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

CHUCK URIBE

Statement of Faith:

My faith is that which provides me with a basic foundational structure upon which I can fulfill my day-to-day responsibilities as a parent, son, teacher, and martial artist. I believe that God provides everyone with the opportunity to live a rich and meaningful life; all that we have to do is to accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, and to pray for Him to open our eyes to the virtual cornucopia of opportunities which He lays before us. While such opportunities most certainly exist without His guidance, one's journey and struggles to realize the existence of these opportunities, and the ability to take advantage of these opportunities in a timely way is, I believe, left up to blind chance, without His help.

My faith in God has given me the strength to persevere through what most would have concluded to have been insurmountable odds; insurmountable because of their danger, size, complexity, or numbers. I always find time to thank God for all of my blessings, past and present, and for the patience and fortitude to do His work wherever I am and in whatever I am doing. The most pervasive theme of my prayers is based upon my thankfulness, and for Him to open my eyes as to what He wants of me. Whenever I am tempted to act outside of what He has outlined for us throughout the Bible, I stop and ask myself what He would have done if He were in my shoes, at that moment. I have found that behaving in a Christ-like manner isn't always easy, certainly whenever I find myself weakened from frustration, anger, loneliness, or fatigue. I know, however, that it is especially important to be Christ-like in my actions at exactly these times, and that the good which comes from making the right choice reverberates far beyond what I could have imagined at the moment when I was at these crossroads.

So many people ask me why I'm always so upbeat, despite what many of them think would be challenging situations (i.e., single parent, overloaded classes, decline of income, decline of martial arts skills, etc.). I've even been accused of being on drugs, at times, because of my seemingly persistent upbeat demeanor. My faith heals me, and gives me strength. It is my compass, and because of it, I am at peace with myself, and the world, and ever-thankful for God's Grace in my life.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

CAROL WYATT

Statement of Faith:

I grew up in a Christian home with believing family members, all of us supported by many believing relatives and extended family. It was on an annual camping trip with many of them that I came to know the Lord personally. First let me mention that my mother and her prayers always played a big role. The summer after my fourth grade she and another mother volunteered to lead a girls' Bible study. I can't remember specifically what we studied, just that I really enjoyed what I was learning about God, the workbooks, and the time together.

A short time before that scheduled camping trip the newspapers carried the story and pictures of a major rock slide at the bend of a well-known river. It happened to be a short way up on the other side of the river from the campground we had reserved. All of us had walked down to view it, seeing the sheer, smooth face remaining and the tons and tons of rock below it spilling downward into the white water rapids at the bend of the river. A giant Douglas Fir was downed, spanning the river and providing a bridge to the other side. Some days later a younger cousin and I decided on a hike and crossed it continuing without any plan. Our steps led us to the site of the rockslide about half way up. Foolishly we decided to continue on and began crossing. My cousin stayed low and crossed easily. I on the other had chosen a bit higher path. I soon realized that with each step the sheets of flat stone were sliding downward and I was going with them. My decision was to climb with each step, hoping to stay level and move across. It didn't go well, and with some way still to cross I had reached the smooth face of the slide. I searched for handholds and there were none. More than frightened and without thought, I called out to God for help. I then experienced the most amazing sense of well-being. Where there had been no handholds there were handholds! Stunned and in awe, I moved safely across.

As I walked away to rejoin my cousin I remember clearly my thoughts: the God I had been learning about in that Bible study was real! I knew it because I had met Him! He was there! He heard me! I also then knew for certain that I could trust the Bible, what was written in it was true. I knew I could believe what it said about Jesus, too. There and then I became a believer in Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

I didn't speak of this to anyone that day. I expected I would have been in big trouble as the older cousin. I rarely have ever mentioned it to anyone. This is "Holy Ground" for me. I sometimes take off my shoes when I think of it. But it's my inability to adequately convey what went on in the moments of that encounter that silences me. My words are inadequate to express the greatness of God and His glory. My Lord, our God deserves more.

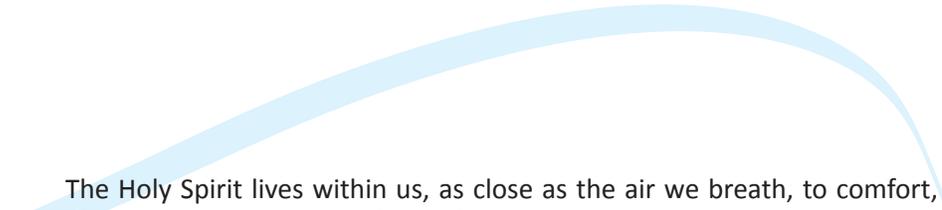
I believe in the Bible as God's gift to humankind, informing and instructing us of right relationship with Him, with each other and with all creation. I believe He inspired and enabled those who wrote it to always and to only convey His truth.

I believe in the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father loves us without limits even to the extreme of sending His Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. Jesus loves us as deeply as the Father loves us and willingly became flesh, dying on a cross as the price for the forgiveness of our sin. He was raised from the dead and returned to heaven to sit at the Father's right hand.



For the 2019 Nominating Committee

(Continued)



The Holy Spirit lives within us, as close as the air we breath, to comfort, direct and empower us. It is by this empowerment we are able to continue the work of Christ until He comes again. All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior will one day join them all.

I also adhere to the tenets of the Reformed Faith, the Apostle's Creed and the seven Essentials of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.