



## 2026 DEACON & ELDER NOMINATIONS

Our Elder Council is pleased to recommend the following individuals for the offices of elder and deacon. Please pray over the following list and come ready to cast your vote at our next members meeting on **July 26**. If the character or doctrine of any of these candidates concerns you, or you have any questions, please reach out to Justin or any of the current elders. You can view our current elders and deacons at [christfellowshipga.org/leadership](http://christfellowshipga.org/leadership).

Deacons serve a two-year term with the possibility of serving three in a row. After that, a one-year sabbatical is required before they may serve again. Lay Elders serve a three-year term with the possibility of serving two in a row. After that, a one-year sabbatical is required before they may serve again. Staff Elders do not have terms. Both deacons and elders require a 2/3 majority of votes cast to be affirmed to their office. At least 51% of the church membership must vote for the vote to be valid. New deacons and lay elders begin their term on October 1.

We also want to give you clarity on how we arrive at nominees for these offices. In the following pages, you'll see a summary of the process and the interview questions we ask prospective first term elders and first term deacons.

<b><u>2026 Deacon Nominees:</u></b>	<b><u>2026 Elder Nominees:</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maddie Dudman (Women's*) [1<sup>st</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Jonathan Schaeffeer (Data) [1<sup>st</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Nathan Baker (Building) [2<sup>nd</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Katie Brewer (Scheduling) [2<sup>nd</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Seth McGinnis (Tech) [2<sup>nd</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Alex Nay (Students) [2<sup>nd</sup> Term]</li> <li>• Joel Pittman (Audit) [2<sup>nd</sup> Term]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Hanger (1<sup>st</sup> Term)</li> <li>• Jonathan Gunter (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)</li> <li>• Danal Slay (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)</li> </ul>

*\* The Women's Deacon will plan Women's Events under the supervision of the Women's and Kids Ministry Director (Meredith Chen)*



## Elder Nomination Process

1. We receive recommendations from the membership in the January Member's Meeting.
2. The elders decide how many new elders we need to add and bring their recommendations to our February Elders Meeting. We then we compare that list to the recommendations from the membership.
3. Usually, the lists are very similar, and we begin discussing those recommended. We mainly consider the qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. We also consider other qualifications like length of time the person has been a member, involvement in the church, demeanor, personality, age, giftset, etc.
4. We pick the men we would like to ask to go through the process.
5. Justin emails these men, giving them the basics of the role and ask them to pray about it for a month.
6. If the candidate is interested in going through the process, Justin then sends him the interview questions (see next page) and gives him a month to send it back in written form.
7. After this, we arrange an interview with Justin, the candidate and one or two lay elders to go over his interview questions and ask any follow up questions.
8. Justin and the two lay elders then share an overview of the interview with the rest of the elder council. They may ask follow-up questions.
9. Justin then calls the wife (if married) of each first term candidate to ask about their home life and if she has any concerns about his character or him serving in this role.
10. The elders then vote to move the candidate forward to be nominated to the congregation.
11. At any point in the process above, we may discover that this candidate is not the right fit of the office of elder, or currently unqualified for the office of elder. If that happens, we inform the candidate with as much grace as possible and then pursue another man who was recommended.

## Elder Interview Questions

<sup>5</sup>This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— <sup>6</sup>if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. <sup>7</sup>For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, <sup>8</sup>but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. <sup>9</sup>He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.  
**Titus 1:5-9**

### Character:

1. Please briefly share your testimony.
2. Are there any current sin patterns in your life, that if made public, would cause the 'above reproach' qualification to be called into question? (v. 6)
3. [If married/have kids] How do you lead your wife and family in the Word? (v. 6)
4. How is the health of your marriage? Do you look at pornography? (v. 6)
5. [If you have kids] How is your relationship with your kids? Where are they at spiritually (v. 6)
6. What are your alcoholic drinking habits? (v. 7)
7. In terms of percentages, how do you prioritize the local church in your financial giving? (v. 7)
8. How are you seeking to personally grow in your walk with the Lord? (v. 8)
9. Can you affirm our Elder Covenant? Do you have any reservations in affirming it?

### Competence:

1. What is the gospel? Theologically speaking, what is *the good news*?
2. How are you currently investing in others spiritually?
3. Which Christian teachers do you like to read or listen do?
4. A visitor to CFC asks if you believe the Bible contains any errors. What do you say? Please include biblical support for your answer.
5. A church member is struggling to reconcile passages that seem to emphasize God's sovereignty (like Ephesians 1:3-14) with texts that emphasize man's responsibility (like John 3:16). How would you shepherd and advise her?
6. A church member comes up and asks if she can lose her salvation. How would you shepherd and advise her?
7. A visitor to the church asks why there aren't any women elders or pastors at CFC. How do you answer him and how would you explain your own biblical convictions on the issue?
8. A practicing homosexual that has been visiting CFC asks if he can become a member. What do you say? How would you biblically support your answer?

### Culture:

1. How are you currently involved in CFC?
2. What are some of your favorite parts of CFC?
3. How would you like to see CFC grow/change in the next 1-3 years?
4. Is there any specific change you would push if you were affirmed by the congregation as an elder?

## Deacon Nomination Process

1. Deacons who are going to roll off inform Justin and the other deacons by the February meeting.
2. In the February Deacons meeting, we consider who could be a good candidate to fill the role. We also consider if new roles should be added.
3. Justin and the staff consider the top candidate for each role and present them to the elders for consideration.
4. The elders weigh in and discuss any potential concerns. If they are comfortable with the candidates, they then vote to allow Justin and staff to move forward with the interview process.
5. Justin emails the candidate that has been recommended and shares the basic of the role and asks them to pray about it for a month or so. He also includes the deacon interview questions (see next page) for them to look over.
6. If they decide to move forward, Justin and another staff member schedule an interview where they ask them the deacon interview questions.
7. If Justin and the staff are comfortable with the interview, they recommend the candidate to the elders.
8. The elders then vote to approve the candidate as their nominee to the congregation.
9. At any point in the process above, we may discover that this candidate is not the right fit for this specific deacon role, or currently unqualified for the office of deacon. If that happens, we inform the candidate with as much grace as possible and then pursue another candidate who was recommended.

## Deacon Interview Questions

<sup>8</sup> Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup> They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup> And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. <sup>11</sup> Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup> Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup> 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. **1 Timothy 3:8-13**

1. Are there any current sin patterns in your life that would call into question the 'dignified' and 'blameless' qualifications above? (v. 8, 10)
2. How is the strength of your walk with the Lord? Do you feel like you have been 'tested' in your Christian walk and are at a place of maturity? (v. 10)
3. Do you have any reservations about CFC's beliefs or direction as a church? (v. 9)
4. Do you feel it is a good time for your household for you to step into this serving role? (v. 12)