

# 2024 OFFICER CANDIDATES

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LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*



## CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**T**he Session of Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church has called a congregational meeting in each worship service on Sunday, April 28, to elect new elders and deacons. These men have successfully completed the officer training class, passed the written exam, and completed the interview process.

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**THE ELDERS** (collectively known as the Session) are nominated and elected by the congregation and serve the church by providing spiritual oversight and leadership, committing themselves to shepherding, prayer, and encouragement in God's Word.

**THE DEACONS** (collectively known as the Diaconate) are also nominated and elected by the congregation and serve the church by caring for the physical needs of the congregation and by overseeing the maintenance of the church property, committing themselves to generosity and deeds of mercy.

## TREY CARR

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Physician

**Wife:** Anne

**Children:** Caroline, Catherine, Margaret

**Joined LMPC:** 2012

Christ brought me to himself as a teenager through the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, but I did not truly begin to understand what it meant to be saved by grace alone until I met my wife, Anne. She introduced me to the beauty of the saving grace of Christ through faith alone and not by works, and she helped me grow immensely in my faith during the earliest days of our relationship and marriage. I realize now that it was Christ working through her to bring me to a true, saving faith. In the same way that Christ has worked in my life through my marriage, he has been at work in my relationships here in this church to deepen my understanding of what it means to be a true servant of Christ and his church. It is through these relationships, as well as through my personal walk with Christ, that I have come to feel the call to serve the church, with a heart inclined always towards Paul's words in 2 Timothy 4:7.



## ERIC CHANDLER

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Director of Analytics, Blue Cross Blue Shield of TN  
**Wife:** Stephanie  
**Children:** Macy, Annie, Tressie  
**Joined LMPC:** 2011

Christ and the Church have been a part of my life as long as I can remember. From childhood through school and eventually into college, which brought me to Lookout Mountain, he has been an ever present reminder of the grace and mercy I have in him and my need for him. He has blessed me through my wife and my children, who are a constant reminder of his goodness, and he has blessed me through this church. I feel called to this office as an opportunity to serve his church and his people. Stephy and I have served at many levels in his ministry and the ministry of LMPC. I see this service as the outpouring of a thankful heart and an acknowledgement of how much we have been blessed.



## LEA COURTNEY

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Painting Contractor  
**Wife:** Susie  
**Children:** Russell, Drew, Leanne  
**Joined LMPC:** 1981

While attending Covenant College, I met my wife Susie. After graduating, we soon became members of LMPC in 1981. All three of our grown children benefited greatly by growing up at LMPC, from baptism, Sunday school, youth group, and two being married there. I find it to be an honor to be able to walk with people through the good and the hard times of life, as we have experienced ourselves, where our focus is always on our Savior.



## WILLIAM DARBY

## DEACON

**Occupation: Information Technology Specialist**  
**Joined LMPC: 2019**

I was raised in a Christian environment, but it wasn't until age 19 that I began to feel the need for a personal Savior. This church has blessed me by growing in me a deeper knowledge of Christ and allowing me to help serve in a myriad of ways. This step into service as a deacon is how I feel called to serve in this next season of my life.



## CROSS DOSTER

## DEACON

**Occupation: Dentist**  
**Wife: Caroline**  
**Children: Stella, Duke, Cabell**  
**Joined LMPC: 2002**

Caroline and I truly enjoyed the privilege of serving on the Diaconate during my first term, and we are grateful for another opportunity to serve. In God's grace, I received Christ as my Lord and Savior at a young age. My parents raised me in the church at LMPC and they prioritized biblical teaching, prayer, and worship. While I was in Memphis studying dentistry, God surrounded me with more mature Christian men who disciplined me. He gave me a heart for men's ministry and multiplying disciples for Christ through life-on-life relationships. During that time, I prayed for a wife who loves Jesus, and after I graduated dental school I met Caroline. God has blessed us with 3 children. Caroline and I are excited to serve our King by serving his bride, the church.



## MARK ELLIS

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Physician  
**Wife:** Sarah  
**Children:** Andrew, Elizabeth, Nathan  
**Joined LMPC:** 2022

From an early age, I was taught the truth of the Gospel. At home, my parents loved me unconditionally and showed me their faith in their daily living. I was raised at LMPC and was blessed by its wonderful teaching, worship, and community of believers. I was taught about Jesus from a multitude of people (Len Teague, Will Whitmire, and Aaron Tolson, to name a few). In college, my faith grew to become my own through the ministry of RUF at UGA. My faith has continued to grow through my vocation as a physician and being a husband to my beautiful wife, Sarah. More recently, the Lord has been softening my heart through the gift of being a father to three children as I reflect on our heavenly Father's great love for us. Our family moved back to Chattanooga in 2021 and have loved getting to worship and be a part of the LMPC community. It is humbling and an honor to be nominated as a deacon, and I look forward to serving our church.



## JOHN HOLLAND

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Management  
**Wife:** Argyro  
**Children:** Leonidas, Alexander  
**Joined LMPC:** 2016

While I don't remember a day when I did not know Christ, I have been blessed by his saving and changing work throughout my life. God has saved me, is saving me, and will one day fully save me from belief in the sufficiency of my own strength. As a sinner in desperate need of Jesus, it is my prayer that as God has called my wife and me to the service of his church, we would be made more like him in dependent meekness. Please pray that it would be so!



## KELLY KAPIC

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Professor of Theological Studies, Covenant College  
**Wife:** Tabitha  
**Children:** Jonathan, Margot  
**Joined LMPC:** 2015



While growing up Roman Catholic, I stopped attending church in elementary school. Thankfully, God used a high school youth ministry in a Baptist church to help me better understand the good news; I became a Jesus-follower during my freshman year. That began a long journey where older folks in the church invested in me, helping me start to develop a Christian imagination. Evangelism and starting to study the Bible animated my life in those early years. Since then, God has used both internal desires and external encouragement to point me toward various forms of ministry; mostly, my calling has concentrated on encouraging God's people through teaching. After degrees from Wheaton and Reformed Theological Seminary, Tabitha and I went to King's College University of London where I earned a PhD in theology. After that I started teaching at Covenant College in 2001, where I still work. I served as an elder before coming to LMPC, and it has been a joy to be able to serve here. We are so thankful for this community of God's people who faithfully worship, sacrificially serve, and who try to love one another well in small and big ways.

## STEVE KAUFMANN

## ELDER

**Occupation:** College Professor, Retired  
**Wife:** Mary  
**Children:** Benjamin, Joseph, David, Andrew, Anna, Heidi, Laura  
**Joined LMPC:** 2010



In God's providence, I was raised in a Christian home, where the majesty of God the Father, the love of Jesus his Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit were regularly presented to me in home devotions and in the ministry of our church. As a young boy, the Spirit led me to see my sinfulness and therefore my need for Jesus to be my Savior. I couldn't rely on the faith of my parents; I needed a faith of my own. Through the years in my walk as a believer, God has continually shown me the folly of my self-sufficient ways and my daily need to look to him for my strength. And it's been in his strength that the Spirit has enabled me to serve the church, however feebly at times, in my calling as an elder. The older I get, the more amazed I am that God uses weak folks like me to further his purposes. I do take great comfort that God's grace is always sufficient, and that he does use "jars of clay" to show his all-surpassing power. (2 Corinthians 4:7) Thanks be to God.

## RYAN LUSK

## DEACON

**Occupation:** CEO, Branch Technology  
**Wife:** Melissa  
**Children:** Savannah, Zoe, Ryan Jr.  
**Joined LMPC:** 2014



I am fortunate to not remember a time I did not know Christ, growing up in a Christian family. Like many folks with that background, it was not until leaving the nest as a young adult that my faith really became “mine” though, and with that freedom came times I strayed from the short and narrow path. So my testimony is very much a story of community and the guardrails our Lord puts around his children, with my church community, friends, family, and in particular my wife, Melissa, loving me back to the fold, and doing the same with others.

I have felt the call to serve Christ’s church in the ways he has gifted and molded me for some number of years now, as part of the “hands and feet” that deacons are in the life of our church. In particular, applying my vocational skills and experience in business and financial management where I can prayerfully help steward the Lord’s resources wisely.

## CAL MARSHALL

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Business & Healthcare Attorney  
**Wife:** Rochelle  
**Children:** Caroline, Bruton, Margaret, Jane, Charlotte, Georgia, Desmond  
**Joined LMPC:** 2012



As Rochelle and I have walked with the Lord together and have sought to shepherd our children and point them to Christ, we have been blessed by the worship, fellowship, and ministries at LMPC. We both believe we are called to serve God by serving his church, and it is a privilege to support LMPC and its people by serving as deacon.

God brought me to himself during childhood, through the work of the Holy Spirit in my heart and the ministry of faithful parents who regularly led our family in times of Bible reading, worship, and prayer. He has drawn me closer to himself and helped me to know more of his character during the years since, through various means including meditation upon his Word, prayer, fellowship with and sharpening from fellow believers, and life experiences.

## KEITH MICHAELS

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Insurance, Retired

**Wife:** Jan

**Children:** Steven, Nathan, Rebecca

**Joined LMPC:** 2002

I came to saving faith in Christ at age nine. I am so grateful to God that he gave me godly parents to model Jesus to me in my early years. As I look back, it is amazing how God fully provided the right people and places in my life to encourage me in my walk toward him. He is truly an amazing Father indeed! I have certainly had my times of both joy and suffering, but he has always been faithful to me through it all. I look forward to serving my brothers and sisters in Christ at LMPC in the coming years. It is such a privilege to do so to the glory of God! One of my favorite verses to live my life by is James 1:2-4: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."



## AVERY MIXON

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Pediatric Oncologist

**Wife:** Jennifer

**Children:** Avery, Parker, Maryellen, Emma

**Joined LMPC:** 2011

Christ drew me to himself through the persistent mentoring of several young men at Camp Alpine. Since then, he has used RUF and several PCA churches and the relationships therein to continue to point me to the cross, teach me repentance, and grow me in faith. Being a husband, father, member of a church plant, Bible Study leader, Sunday School teacher, and physician has given me innumerable and frequent examples of my need for Christ and inadequacy to perform any of these tasks on my own. Thankfully, I have a wonderful wife who gently points me to the cross repeatedly. I feel that God has grown within me a love for the church and her people and I am humbled and excited to serve again as elder.





## JEFF NIX

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Civil Servant  
**Wife:** Charla  
**Children:** Nora, Anna Kate, Tessa  
**Joined LMPC:** 2011

My faith began to grow as I realized I needed to be in a relationship with Christ and not just know about him. Serving and helping others is a gift that I hope to continue as a deacon at LMPC.



## MARSHALL ROWE

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Regional Director of Development, Covenant College  
**Wife:** Sue  
**Children:** Anne Marie, Gretchen, Jessica  
**Joined LMPC:** 1990

I came to the Lord in 1982 in Massachusetts through an organization called FOCUS which discipled students in Northeastern private schools. I attended Covenant College and met my wife of 35 years (Sue) there. After a brief banking career, we returned to the mountain to work at Covenant and became members at LMPC in 1990. I have taught the mighty 4th and 5th graders for a number of years and thoroughly enjoy introducing them to a deeper understanding of the Gospel and feel humbled to be asked to serve on the Session.



## MATTHEW SMISSON

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Sales Management  
**Wife:** Bethany  
**Children:** Clay, Ella  
**Joined LMPC:** 2002

Growing up at LMPC, I have been the recipient of God's grace in my life by many aspects of this church and church family. Watching how my children thrive in learning about Jesus' Kingdom at this church is one of the most rewarding things to watch. With humility, I want to serve this church in the way that Christ calls us to serve in love, putting his Kingdom first and giving back to our church family. I continue to be amazed with the power of Christ's presence in my life and the lives of those worshiping and serving at LMPC.



## MAYES STARKE

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Environmental Engineer, Retired  
**Wife:** Kim  
**Children:** John, Brian  
**Joined LMPC:** 2009

I was blessed to be brought up in a Christian home, raised as a Lutheran in Smyrna, GA. In 7th grade, I felt Jesus' call to me in an Old Testament class in middle school, taught by a retired Presbyterian missionary, Jon Crow. God has continued to lead me throughout my life and bless me in so many ways that I do not deserve - with a 44+ year marriage to my wonderful wife, Kim, and granting us two sons and six grandchildren. Now, having retired from a 41-year career as an environmental engineer, the Lord continues to lead me and point me in the ways that I can be of service to him—including serving again as deacon to my brothers and sisters at LMPC. I joyfully thank the Lord to be of service however he leads!



## NATHAN THOMPSON

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Management Consultant  
**Wife:** Jennifer  
**Children:** Gabe, Emmie, Garrett, Ellie  
**Joined LMPC:** 2013



Having been raised in a Christian home, I was taught God's word, prayed for, and faithfully taken to church by my parents. At the age of thirteen, I made a public profession of faith and confessed Christ as my Savior. Since then, the Holy Spirit has been at work in my life convicting me of my sins and renovating my heart. During the past few years, God has exposed my need for utter reliance upon him and his enabling power in my life through various trials.

I believe as church members we are commanded to follow Christ's example for servant-leadership. This upside-down model emphasizes the use of our gifts to serve one another in the body of Christ and within our community. Over the years, I've sensed God's calling me to serve as an officer. My initial call was in 2004, at an independent, Reformed fellowship in Chicago. Having moved to Lookout Mountain from Chicago in 2012, my family and I joined LMPC in 2013. At LMPC, I was called to be an officer, serving first as a deacon and later as an elder in 2020. I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve our congregation again.

## NEWTON WIGGINS

## DEACON

**Occupation:** Cardiologist  
**Wife:** Bronwen  
**Children:** Newton, Duncan, Henry  
**Joined LMPC:** 2019



I was blessed to grow up in a Christian home, and God called me to himself at a young age. He surrounded me with fellow believers and provided formative experiences like Alpine Camp, which brought me closer to him. I then met my wife, Bronwen, whom God has used to soften my heart and help me realize my ever-deepening need for Christ. As transplants to Lookout Mountain, we feel blessed to be part of such a special community, and we look forward to serving the church in this role.

## JOSEPH WINGFIELD

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Engineer, President - Wingfield Scales  
**Wife:** Beth  
**Children:** Teddy, Wilder, Hank, Kent, Salt  
**Joined LMPC:** 2000



I am thankful that I was raised in a Christian home with Christian parents and grandparents, but it wasn't until February of 1992 when God captured my heart and a personal, daily relationship began. Up to this point, I leaned on the cornerstones of social, academic, and athletic 'success' for my significance and meaning; but God showed me how empty that was as he took them away. I remember Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11:28-29 as a turning point. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." I was exhausted from defining my own meaning and significance. This invitation from the Creator of the universe resonated with me, and a daily rewarding relationship began. That relationship continues and I am honored and humbled to serve as an elder. God has given me a growing desire to share the good news with others, and I enjoy contributing that perspective on the Session.

## ROB WITCHER

## ELDER

**Occupation:** Civil Engineer  
**Wife:** Rena Carolyn  
**Children:** Bonnie Ann, Charlie, Elsie, Augusta  
**Joined LMPC:** 2013



I grew up as the second of four children in a Christian home in Bristol, Tennessee. God blessed me with godly parents who disciplined me in the truths of the Bible from my earliest years, and I came to faith in Christ around 5 years old. Although the story of my conversion may not seem dramatic, God changing a sinner's heart like mine to be a follower of Jesus is nothing short of miraculous. I have had the privilege of growing up watching my father and grandfather, among other men, faithfully serve in the church and challenge me to embody Christ's example of servant leadership. I am excited to see the work God is doing in the life of this congregation, and I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to serve.