

# ELDER NOMINEES

Sample Ballot Bios · Elder Affirmation Vote · May 30, 2021

The following men are recommended to you, the members of Calvary Church, by the Nominating Committee and the Board of Elders, for Elder affirmation. Please vote yes or no for each nominee to join the Elder Board in July 2021 for a three-year term. The vote will take place during the Annual Meeting as part of the Family Service on Sunday, May 30 at 9:00am (both in-person and online). Discover more at [CalvaryLife.org/Meeting](https://CalvaryLife.org/Meeting)

## NEW ELDER NOMINEES



### Greg Clarke

Greg first attended Calvary Church in 1990 after being invited by an employee. Searching for answers as to why he lost his mother to breast cancer as a child and father and brother to accidents by the age of 21, he began reading the Bible and taking an interest in the sermons at Calvary. After praying for the life of his unborn daughter during a pregnancy that was in jeopardy, Greg gave his life to Christ on July 22, 1992 after his daughter survived a very uncertain birth and was brought into this world through God's saving grace.

Greg has been a volunteer counselor at Calvary for 13 years and has also served in children's ministries. Greg has a love for Mexico and its people. He has been a part of numerous house builds, as well as leading

short term missions teams to build a retaining wall for a church, perform outreach to families living at the Tijuana landfill, and serve the homeless and addicted in Zona Norte. Currently, Greg is the Executive Director of a faith-based organization called Up And Running Again. This nonprofit partners with rescue missions across the country, using running as a vehicle to give the formerly lost, homeless, addicted, abused, and incarcerated a gospel infused holistic health program of mind body and spirit by training for a half marathon. Greg loves having the opportunity to teach others how setting difficult goals can lead to a Christ fulfilled life.

Greg has three adult children and one grandson. He and his wife Liz were married here at Calvary Church 13 years ago and have a passion for endurance sports. There is a good chance you will see them running, biking, or swimming around Orange County as they train for their next marathon, half marathon, Ironman or some other endurance event.



### Steve Esser

Steve has had the privilege of attending Calvary Church since 1951. It was at the age of 6 that he accepted Christ in a Sunday School class taught by Woody Eumarian at the old Santa Ana campus on French Street. At the age of 12 Steve clearly remembers committing his life to Christ. While in college Steve's faith and commitment to live for Christ was greatly impacted by the Jesus movement started at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa, led by Chuck Smith. In the 70 years that He has been attending Calvary, 49 of those have been with his wife, Clara and their two daughters, Jenn and Becka. Their families and husbands, and 5 grandchildren, are a part of the Calvary family as well, making a total of 4 generations.

Over the years Steve has been active in many ministries at the church from youth to adults. He has served on a number of boards - Elder Board, School Board, Trustees, Adult Ministries, and numerous committees. He has taught classes for New Believers, Money Management, and others over the years, and has always been active in discipling and mentoring men. Steve and Clara have gone on numerous short-term mission trips with both the church and other non-profit organizations.

For 25 years Steve was in the air conditioning business having his own company for 15 of those years. For the past 20 years he has served as the COO/Executive Director of The Master's Program, a ministry to Christian marketplace and ministry leaders designed to help them get clarity and focus about their Kingdom Calling. Steve has also been a volunteer chaplain at Kaiser Permanente for the past 5 years. He also serves on the board of directors for Priority Living Inc, Angels for Higher, and CROP Ministries.

Steve and Clara enjoy being involved in the lives of their kids and grandkids, taking annual family boating vacations to Lake Almanor, walking and hiking, traveling, cycling, and also motorcycle riding on a BMW GS.

# RETURNING ELDER NOMINEES

The following men are recommended by the Board of Elders, for renewal of their second term as Elders.

**Dave Baker** Dave accepted Jesus as his personal Savior at the age of nine. During a Vacation Bible School experience in Ft. Worth, Texas he realized the need to confess his sins and ask Jesus to save him for eternity. Dave and his wife Dottie will be married 53 years in August. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Dave retired from a 40-year career as both a public and a Christian school educator. He has a passion for missions and has served on a number of trips. He is a volunteer with OMF and serves on the Calvary Missions Ministry Team. He has previously served on the Elder Board and on the Calvary Christian School Ministry Team. He has also been a part of the Encouragers LifeGroup for several years.



**Jesús Victor** Jesus is number 10 of 12 brothers and sisters. For years his mother and siblings faithfully shared the Word of God with him and prayed for his salvation, never giving up. One day he was invited by some of his family to a Sunday service at El Buen Pastor Church in Santa Ana. There, at age 25, he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior. He clearly saw what God had done in his father's life which also encouraged him to trust Christ. Jesus started attending Manantiales de Vida, the original Hispanic congregation that met on Calvary's campus in 1996. He was baptized here in 1997 and married his wife, Ines, at Calvary in 1998. They have a son and a daughter, Israel (22) and Ashley (20) and are grateful for the opportunity to have raised their kids here, their home church. Jesus was part of Saturday's Men's breakfast ministry from 2000 - 2017. He and Ines have been serving with their kids in Children's Ministries with the 3-year-olds for 10 years, and they serve together as support leaders at Ignite High School Hispanic Ministry. Jesus has worked in the hospitality and the food service industry for 32 years, 20 of them as an Executive Chef for several hotel brands. Some of his hobbies include cooking, traveling, and spending time with close friends and family.



**John Reed** John joined the US Marine Corps at the age of 19. Shortly after Basic Training in San Diego he was befriended by a Christian family who shared their faith with him, and led him to the Lord. John was assigned to his duty station in El Toro. Being a new Christian, John wanted a Bible, so at his first opportunity, he boarded a shuttle bus to downtown Santa Ana. From the drop-off on 4th and Main and he found the Santa Ana Bookstore and a Bible. While waiting for the shuttle, he noticed the CSO (Christian Service Men's Organization) sign and went in. It was there that he met Loren Griset, his father, "Popo" Griset, and John Kulisich, all men from Calvary Church of Santa Ana. These men mentored John, taught him from the Word and how to live for Jesus until he was discharged in 1966. John and his wife, Margie, were married in 1966, and made their home in Los Angeles, returning to Orange County and Calvary in 1974. John is a retired 28-year veteran of the Santa Ana Police Department, who joined the force in 1968. He was instrumental in organizing SAPD's community relations division, introducing thousands of kids to DARE and youth-oriented programs through puppetry, enabling him to bring the gospel to community events and other churches. During his years at Calvary, John has been a LifeGroup leader, served in Men's Ministries, the Faithful Hands puppet ministry, the Preschool Ministry, and the Elder Board.



**Tim McAveney** Tim was born and raised outside of Baltimore in a Catholic home, where he first learned about Jesus and His call to love others through service. After meeting his future wife at UCLA in his late 20s, and after examining his faith more earnestly, Tim grew to understand the value of Scripture in knowing God more intimately. He accepted God's gift of salvation during this period and was baptized in 2003. In 2001, Tim married Jennifer Esser, who grew up at Calvary, and their three children represent 4th generation Calvary members – all three children attended Calvary Christian school from preschool through 8th grade. Tim and Jenn have attended Calvary together since moving back to California in 2005. They have served together in the Orphan Care ministry and Homes of Hope with YWAM. Tim is a physician, working as a cardiologist in Anaheim with Kaiser Permanente. He enjoys spending time with his family, playing and coaching basketball, skiing, and playing the guitar.



## MORE ABOUT LEADERSHIP AT CALVARY

There are hundreds of people serving here at 1010 N Tustin Ave and around the world. The men who serve on the Elder Board represent a piece of that larger picture of the body of Christ at work as they guide the ministries of Calvary Church. Whether on pastoral staff or a voluntary member of the Elder Board, all those who provide leadership for Calvary need your encouragement and prayers. Discover more about the leadership of Calvary at [CALVARYLIFE.ORG/LEADERS](https://CALVARYLIFE.ORG/LEADERS)