
2024 OFFICER CANDIDATES



Congregational Meeting for Church Officer Elections: Our church Session has examined and approved the following eligible candidates for church office:

- **(Ruling Elder)** Steve Jennings, Mike Neese, Bill Resh, Greg Senter
- **(Deacon)** Kenneth Dupee

A congregational meeting for officer elections will be held immediately following the worship service on Sunday, June 30. The elected officers will be ordained (if needed) and installed during worship on July 7.

The Offices of Elder and Deacon

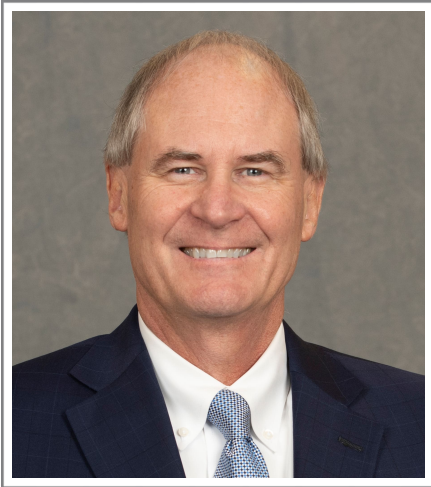
Elder: The office of elder is one of spiritual oversight and government of the church (Titus 1:5 ff.; 1 Timothy 3:1-7). In the NT, elders are sometimes referred to as shepherds (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4) because they are charged with the care and nurture of the church just as a shepherd cares for his flock. Elders are also responsible for the teaching ministry of the church (1 Timothy 5:17-18). Thus, elders must both understand the truths of God's work and be able to effectively minister in the body of Christ as one who encourages, edifies and when needed, confronts and rebukes.

Deacon: The office of deacon is one of service, extending mercy and sympathy to those in need, especially to those within the church. Deacons are first mentioned in Acts 6:1-6, as those chosen to minister to the physical needs within the church. The spiritual nature of the deacon's service of mercy is no less vital than the elder's shepherding and ruling; the health of the church is inseparably tied to both offices. The duty of the office is threefold: 1) to minister to those in need and distress, 2) to administrate financial issues within the church (receiving and distribution of gifts), and 3) to care for the church's property.

Any man assuming the office of elder or deacon must meet the biblical qualifications listed in **1 Timothy 3:1-7**, **Titus 1:6-9 (elder)** and **1 Timothy 3:8-13 (deacon)**. Both offices are perpetual – that is, for life, unless extraordinary circumstances allow or call for the dissolution of one's office.

At Arden, men in both offices serve **3-year terms**.

ELDER CANDIDATES



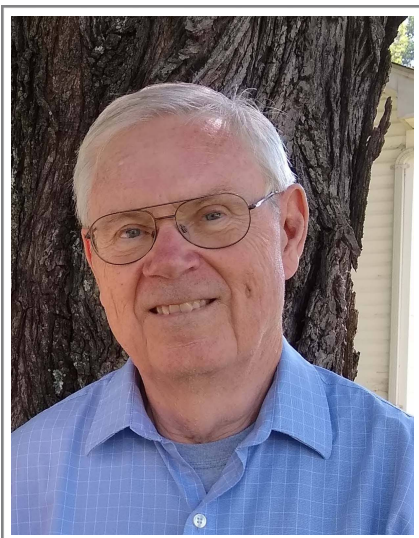
Steve Jennings

TESTIMONY: It wasn't until I was 23 that I came to know Jesus personally, several months after a young woman witnessed to me in my apartment in Atlanta. I started reading the New Testament, got convicted in John and then understood Christ as my Savior in Romans. Then, I married the young woman that witnessed to me!

PRIOR SERVICE: During my 21 years at APC, I've served as a Deacon and 2 terms as a seated Elder. Currently, I serve as a Sunday School teacher, Clerk of Session and member of the Finance and Christian Education Committees.

SENSE OF CALLING: In my 40 years as a banker, I've participated in many events, committees, boards, which are all good things...but not eternally minded. As I've grown older, I have become more focused on spiritual/eternal needs and matters. That is my calling to serve at APC.

PERSONAL: I grew up in Asheville and returned here with Jackie to start our family. We moved away from WNC in 1993, but Jackie and I returned in 2003. Serving as a banker, in various places and positions, for 40 years will soon come to an end since I've given my intention to retire at the end of this year. I look forward to adding "full time grandfather" to my resume!



Mike Neese

Testimony: I have been blessed to have grown up in a Christian home. I was baptized as an infant and my grandmother, who cared for me while my parents worked, was a strong influence in my life teaching me about Jesus and the Bible. I do not recall a time in my life that I didn't know of Jesus, but as I grew up I became aware of my sinful nature and my need for Jesus as my Savior.

Prior Service: Martha and I have been members of APC for 17 years. In our years at APC, I have served as a Deacon, assisted with the mercy ministry, served on the finance committee and a pastoral search committee.

Sense of calling: With the encouragement of members of APC, I prayed whether I could serve APC well as an elder. After prayer, asking for the Lord's guidance, I believe, by the Grace of God, I have been called to serve APC at this time.

Personal: I am retired from work in health care administration in the Air Force. Martha and I have recently celebrated our 58th anniversary. We have one adult son, Alan, who lives in Iowa, and two grandchildren. I enjoy walking for exercise and trying to keep up, and master, all the new electronic gadgets in the house.

Testimony: I was raised attending church and certainly heard the Gospel message in my youth. I would say I had a few distinct moments of being touched by the Lord in my youth but as I went to college I lived for myself and had almost no thoughts about the Lord. When I was 30 years old He drew me to himself by the vehicle of Christian radio programs and I also started reading my Bible and eventually going to church. I came to trust in Jesus for my salvation and no longer had the fear of death I always had in my “pagan” days.

Prior Service: At APC, I have served as an Elder, a children’s and adult Sunday School teacher, and as a member of the Missions Committee and Administration Committee.

Sense of Calling: I sensed that the Lord desires that I serve again as an Elder at this time in the life of APC. Several friends at APC have confirmed that sense. I look forward to prayerfully helping lead APC forward in ministries.

Personal: I am a retired businessman and teacher. Bobbie and I will celebrate our 50th anniversary this year. I enjoy reading, spending time with my children and grandchildren, and traveling.



Bill Resh

Testimony: When I was 22 I went through an intense time of searching for happiness and fulfillment, and God providentially put key people in my path to share the most fulfilling message with me - the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His desire to forgive my selfish sins and make me His own through faith in His atoning work on the cross. He drew me to Himself and I gave my life to him, and my goals radically changed from seeking personal pleasure and success to seeking to live for His kingdom and glory.

Previous Service: Marilyn and I have been members of APC since 1995. In that time, we have been involved with children’s and youth ministries, men’s and women’s ministries, Sunday School, small groups, served on the Missions Committee, participated in short term mission trips, served with MTW, and participated in friendship partner ministry with UNCA international students. I have also served as both a Deacon and Elder.

Sense of Calling: I love serving the body of Christ. I am willing to serve another term as an Elder as the Lord allows. Spiritually and physically I believe I am in a good position to serve at this time. I look forward to being able to serve, support, and shepherd our church body so that we are all growing in Christ’s likeness and advancing His kingdom together.

Personal: I am an electrical engineer with Eaton and help manage technical aspects of large electrical projects for our customers. Marilyn works part-time as a Spanish medical interpreter. I enjoy family activities, doing things together with Marilyn, and staying in touch with friends in Chile and family in Germany.



Greg Senter

DEACON CANDIDATE



Kenneth Dupee

Testimony: I was born into a Christian home and my dad is a PCA preacher. I turned to Christ when I was five years old. I struggled in my teenage years, but the Lord kept His hands on me.

Previous Service: I have served as a deacon here at APC the past 14 years. Carolyn and I have served the Lord in ministry at a Christian boarding school as well as the mission field in France and Belgium.

Sense of Calling: Through watching my parents and the saints around me, the Lord gave me a desire to serve Him and I have been a deacon in the PCA since the age of 19. The Lord has continued to stoke that desire here at APC.

Personal: Carolyn and I have been married for 31 years. We have three children Tristan, Eowyn, and Tessa. I am currently working as the office/IT manager for Mountain Home Care here in Arden. Carolyn teaches ESL online.

Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers

Sunday, June 30, after worship

Ordination and Installation of Elected Officers

Sunday, July 7, during worship