

2025
ELDER, DEACON, &
STANDING TEAMS
NOMINEES

Vote at the Quarterly Member Meeting

Sunday | Nov. 17 | 5 p.m.

Building E, Gym

You must be present to vote; voting by proxy
is not allowed according to our bylaws.

ELDER NOMINEES 2025



Phil Brinkman

Hebron member since: 1997

Hebron Involvement: Elder, Connect Group Member, Men's Ministry, Preschool Connect Group Leader, Super Serve Saturdays, VBS, Fellas

Testimony: I gave my life to the Lord at the age of 12 at a youth camp. I have been walking with the Lord on this road of life with His help through the valleys and on the mountain tops. I can only give Him the praise for molding me into who I am, a sinner saved by grace.



CJ Finch

Hebron member since: 2020

Hebron Involvement: Deacon, Connect Group Leader, Connect Group Member, Fellas, Kids Ministry Volunteer, VBS Volunteer

Testimony: I grew up in a Christian home and heard the truth of the gospel my whole life, but when I was 7 or 8 years old, we had a special children's service at our church where I vividly remember realizing the depravity of my sinful heart and my need to put my trust in Christ for my salvation. I was baptized the following week by my dad at our church in Longmont, Colorado.



Chet Harvey

Hebron member since: 2020

Hebron Involvement: Hebron Church Discipleship Pastor

Testimony: I grew up in a Christian family that taught me the love of God, and we regularly read Scripture together. When I was 8 years old, our pastor was describing the love of Jesus for us when He was on the cross, and it was the first time that I truly recognized that Jesus' death on the cross was out of His love for me. I went home and told my parents that I wanted to become a Christian and after talking about the gospel with my dad, we knelt beside their bed, and I prayed to make Jesus my Lord. From a spiritual perspective, I believe that was the day that the Holy Spirit made my heart come alive to the things of God. I was baptized soon after and have been kept by Jesus ever since.

ELDERS (continued)



Jonathan McClendon

Hebron member since: 2020

Hebron Involvement: Elder, Student Connect Group Leader, Kids Connect Group Leader, Kids Camp, Unite

Testimony: By God's grace, I was raised in a faithful Christian home, we were at church every time the doors were open. I can't remember a time where I did not know about God and His son Jesus. There was a specific time in hearing the gospel at nine years old that God opened my eyes to the seriousness of my sin and my desperate need for Christ. It was then that He saved me, and I was regenerated. I began to grow in my faith as a child and into my teenage years. It wasn't until I was in college that I began to understand the explicit implications of the gospel that went further into daily living and not just at the time of regeneration when I was a child.



Mitchell Shoumaker

Hebron member since: 2019

Hebron Involvement: Hebron Church Worship Pastor

Testimony: At 6 years old, I encountered the saving grace of Jesus. One Sunday at church, I felt the Holy Spirit stirring in my heart, and I realized my need for a Savior. When I shared this with my parents, they explained that this awakening was the Spirit's work, revealing my need for forgiveness. I desired to be cleansed from sin and to experience true spiritual life. That day, I surrendered my life to Jesus. The following week, I was baptized, and my journey with Him began. Since then, Jesus has been both my Lord and Savior. Because He willingly sacrificed His life to pay the price for my sins, I now have new life in Him. I can no longer live for myself but for Christ and His glory. My life belongs entirely to Him.

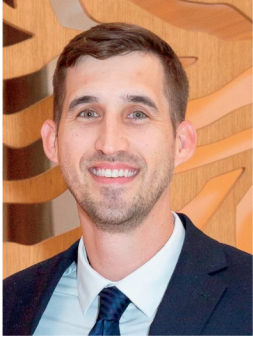
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DEACON NOMINEES 2025



Chris Butts

Hebron member since: 1999

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Preschool Connect Group Leader, Men's Ministry, Unite

Testimony: I gave my life to Christ when I was in the fourth grade. I remember hearing in Children's church that knowing about God was not the same as trusting Him as Lord and Savior. With child-like faith, I asked Jesus into my heart to save me.



Sam Harrison

Hebron member since: 1989

Hebron Involvement: ESL Connect Group Leader, International Learning Center Ministry Team, Men's Ministry

Testimony: I was riding my motor scooter on Sunday afternoon in February 1957 and thinking about what I had heard in church that morning. I pulled the scooter over and prayed. I was searching for understanding and God made it clear to me that He sent Jesus into the world to die for our sins. I asked Jesus to forgive me, and I accepted him as my Savior. God has continued to show me where I can serve Him, such as through teaching, sharing my faith, following His calling, supporting others, and currently serving as a part of the International Learning Center. Serving as a Deacon would be an honor and a blessing.



Budd Keith

Hebron member since: 2023

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group, Preschool Connect Group Leader

Testimony: Although "unchurched" for much of my youth, I grew up in a home where I was exposed to the gospel message from a very young age. At the age of 12 years old, I made my first declaration of faith as I understood for the first time that my sin separated me from right relationship with God along with the related eternal consequences of that separation. Additionally, I finally understood there was nothing I could do in my own power to fix that relationship or earn God's favor; Jesus' work on the cross was the only thing that could cleanse me of my sin and make me right before the Father. Since then, I have been imperfectly attempting to walk in relationship with Jesus. Most recently, as I journey deeper into marriage and fatherhood, God is teaching me many unique lessons of love, sacrifice, patience, joy, contentment, etc.

DEACONS (continued)



Eric Nelken

Hebron member since: 2022

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Men's Ministry, Tech Team, Kids Ministry, VBS

Testimony: I was raised in a non-Christian home. When I was 17, I was invited to youth night during a local church's revival week. I gave my life to Christ that night. I attended that church until I went to college the next year. I was discipled in the collegiate ministry in college, and it was there I grew in my faith and started serving, attending, and leading Bible studies. Since that time, I have continued to serve in a variety of ways in our local church family. We have attended Hebron since 2019. Currently, I strive to lead my family well while growing in the Word.



Alex Reid

Hebron member since: 2022

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Leader, Men's Ministry, Super Serve Saturdays

Testimony: From age 13 to 15, the Lord began to work in my life through His Word. I began reading Scripture daily and understanding the goodness of who God is. While I did not fully understand the depths of my sinful nature, I did know I was broken and needed a Savior. The summer before my sophomore year, I was baptized, and I believe that was a public profession of the Lord's work in my life. From that point on, my sanctification has been a steady process of growth and development in my understanding of how to truly commune with the Lord. My relationship with the Lord is the greatest treasure I have, and all that I have comes from the Lord.



Kip Stokes

Hebron member since: 1996

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Building Team, Student Connect Group Leader, Kids Connect Group Leader, Sports Ministry, Missions, Campus Workday

Testimony: I accepted Jesus Christ into my heart at the age of 7 years old at our family church in Warner Robins. This relationship with Christ continued to grow through the rest of my childhood and kept me away from many temptations. God blessed me with a loving and supportive family, positively-influencing friends, and with many opportunities to serve my church and community. My wife, Amanda, and I have been married for almost 30 years and have two adult sons and one daughter still in college. Professionally, I am a registered professional engineer and serve as the Chief Operations Officer at a full-service architecture and engineering company called Croft & Associates.

DEACONS (continued)



Ryan Vigue

Hebron member since: 2018

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Student Connect Group Leader, Awana Leader, Super Serve Saturdays

Testimony: Though I did not grow up in church, I always believed in God and recall hearing the gospel message on the rare occasions my family would go. Throughout high school and early college, I spent a lot of time seeking to fill a void in my heart with temporary pleasures. These poor decisions and my pride resulted in me dropping out of college and losing the identity I'd known for so long. Through this experience, I reconnected with and started dating my now wife and would reluctantly go with her to church on the weekends to make her happy. Not long after this, the Lord truly began pulling on my heart. One night in 2017 at a low point in my life, I went outside to look at the stars. I began talking to the Lord as if He was sitting right beside me, something I had never done before, and after this long conversation I surrendered my life to Christ.



Jason Wright

Hebron member since: 2022

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Equipping Class, Super Serve Saturdays, Unite

Testimony: One summer, I attended a camp where the gospel was shared in a way that made sense to an 8-year-old boy. I understood that my sin separated me from a holy God and that I could be reunited with Him by accepting the gift of forgiveness that comes through Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. I accepted Christ, grew in my faith, and, in my mid-20s, was discipled. Since then, I've sought to allow the Lord to shape and change me as He desires, trusting that as He molds me, He'll instill in me the ability to honor Him. I'm thankful for His attention and His unending desire to mature me in my Savior and Lord.

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STANDING TEAMS 2025

BUILDING USE TEAM



Jonathan "David" Bailey

Hebron member since: 2024

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Sports Ministry

Testimony: I grew up in a small town where going to church whenever the doors were open is what you did. My mom and dad were involved with the church so I was introduced to the gospel at a young age. Our family went with my dad on mission trips to South America, and this is where I started to see faith in action. Growing up in the church and seeing God work in other countries led me to put my faith in Him around the age of 6. Over the years, my faith has been tested with various life events. Through all of them, God has remained faithful. I am excited to utilize the passion and gifts God has given me to serve on the Building Team.



John Cochran

Hebron member since: 2009

Hebron involvement: Student Connect Group Leader, Sports Ministry

Testimony: I grew up in a Christian home, attending church regularly and knowing about God. It wasn't until a summer camp in elementary school, where I was confronted with my sin and need for a Savior, that the knowledge I had turned into a relationship. I confessed that Jesus Christ was my Lord and Savior and put my trust in Him for salvation. Due to my salvation and desire for the next generation of students to know Christ and to grow in Him, I have been involved as a connect group leader for middle school boys for the last 12+ years. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the Hebron Faith Family on the Building Team.



Dick Sayre

Hebron member since: 2015

Hebron involvement: Connect Group Member, Preschool Ministry Volunteer, Encore Ministry Volunteer, Events Volunteer

Testimony: I received Jesus as my Savior in 1985 and reaffirmed it in May of 2022. Everything I do I want to be to the Glory of God. I know that Jesus has changed my life since I started following Him.

FINANCE TEAM



Rick Byrd

Hebron member since: 1999

Hebron Involvement: Deacon, Connect Group Member, Greeter

Testimony: I grew up in church and knew all about Jesus, but never truly accepted Him. I knew who He was but I pushed Him away. While Alicia was pregnant with Ethan, I could feel the pressing of the Holy Spirit that I needed to take my place as the head of our household, but I could only do that with Christ at the center. I yielded my life to Him in March 2001 before Ethan was born in May. I was baptized at Hebron Church in 2001.



Andrea Mansell

Hebron member since: 2011

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Leader, Hospitality Team, Super Serve Saturdays, Kids Ministry Events

Testimony: I was born and raised in a Christian home and attended Ingleside Presbyterian Church (PCA) from birth. I have been blessed to have always known of Christ. In late elementary school, I attended a young Christian's class where we learned catechism and looked deeper into our faith. Following this class, I made my profession of faith and was baptized by sprinkling. I was heavily involved in youth group throughout middle and high school and returned after college to be a volunteer leader with the youth program. After my husband and I married, we served as young adult Sunday school leaders and then assisted with a church plant in the Canton area. When our family began visiting Hebron in 2011, I spent time learning about baptism by immersion. After conversations with my husband and members of the pastoral staff, I made the decision to reaffirm my faith and be baptized by immersion.

LAND USE TEAM



Kevin Ogbu

Hebron member since: 2024

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Leader, Connect Group Member, Preschool Ministry Volunteer, Events Volunteer

Testimony: I was born in Nigeria, and I came to the US when I was about 2 years old. Growing up, my family attended church very sporadically, and I would not consider myself as someone who grew up in the church. But, fast forward to about 2019, I started to feel convicted of my sin and my lack of knowledge about who God is. My wife and I have been coming to Hebron since around 2015, and I started to grow in my faith around 2019. Although I was baptized as a baby, I wanted to make my faith more public and be baptized again as a professing follower of Christ. I was baptized in March 2024 at Hebron. I continue to grow in my faith, and I thank Hebron for helping me along that journey.

TRUSTEES



John Bailey

Hebron member since: 1994

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Outdoorsmen's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Events Volunteer

Testimony: I was saved at age 9, but 1 Corinthians 3:15 describes my life as a Christian after that. It states, "If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only through fire." In 1988 while living in Houston, Texas, I personally experienced true revival, as did many others in our church. Afterwards, I had a burning desire to read the Bible and grow in Christ.



Rosie Witherspoon

Hebron member since: 2019

Hebron Involvement: Connect Group Member, Preschool Ministry Volunteer, PACE Ministry Volunteer, Events Volunteer

Testimony: I am a follower of Jesus Christ, have been saved by grace. I started attending Hebron in the early 1990s. During my time at Hebron, I have been a children's Sunday school teacher. I have led ladies' Bible studies, and I have been involved in mentoring younger women. I am an active member of the Fitz's Connect Group. I have been married to my husband, Spoon, for 42 years and have three grown children and one grandson.

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