



## **Elder and Deacon Class of 2023 Nominees**

*The Church Officer Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees for deacon and elder officers to be submitted to the congregation for their approval on Sunday, November 15, in the Sanctuary following the service at 10:30 a.m.*

*All Eastminster members are encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting.*

### **ELDER NOMINEES (THREE-YEAR TERM)**



#### **Ben Davis**

I'm 36-years-old and a native of Wichita, Kan. My wife Lauren and I have been married for almost eight years and we have one son, Henry (5). Henry will start kindergarten at Trinity Academy this fall. Lauren, Henry, and I have been faithful attenders of Eastminster for two years. Lauren and I have enjoyed attending Chad Edwards and Billy Boyle's class. Additionally, I've participated in the Ash Wednesday service and am teaching a class on Wednesday evenings this fall.

Professionally, I'm part owner and COO of Fair Market Health, a company that offers bundled, transparent prices for surgeries and procedures. I helped found the company with fellow Eastminster member Dr. Jeff Davis two and a half years ago. For four years, I served as the chairman of the Wichita Prayer Breakfast. I'm currently a regular guest columnist for the Wichita Eagle Opinion Page. As for hobbies and interests, I enjoy reading and writing. I also enjoy lifting weights, being in conversation with good friends, and spending time with my family. Galatians 2:20 has impressed itself upon me this year. Having just completed a graduate degree in theology, I look forward to serving Eastminster in the role of elder. The theological shepherding of God's people is one of the most vital and important tasks one can be given.



#### **Debbie Erdman**

I am a lifelong Kansan and have lived in Wichita since 1975. My husband of 40 years, Fred, and I have raised three sons. We are blessed to have three wonderful daughters-in-law, and 10 grandchildren. In 1987, I became a follower of Christ while attending Eastminster. God has graciously provided me with sound biblical teaching, mentors and dear Christian friends, all of which continue to help me grow in my faith. Previously, I have been involved with different ministries, bible studies, teaching Sunday school, a group leader of Hannah: Women Connecting, and couples' bible studies. Currently, I am finishing my role as a deacon while working full-time in our business. I am eager to serve the body of Christ as an elder. A verse that is dear to my heart is: "Teach me your way, Oh Lord, and I will walk in your truth. Give me an undivided heart that I might fear your name." Psalm 86:11



## **Kent Heady**

My wife, Cindy, and I have been attending Eastminster since returning to Wichita in 2002 after my residency. We were married at Eastminster in 1995, and have reared our daughters, Sarah and Jana, here. Both Cindy and I have served as deacons, and I serve as a greeter and usher. I have practiced orthopedic surgery in Wichita for 18 years. I grew up attending church with my family in a small country church and accepted Jesus as my savior as a child. That commitment is one that I have grown into and strengthened many times over the years, especially in my college years. Like many young Christian students, I struggled with my faith during college as I found the creationist view I was taught colliding with the truth of science, and went through a deep crisis of faith before finding my foundation in Christ once more. That experience has left me with a deep passion for the ministry of reconciliation of science and Christian belief, as well as for rational apologetics.



## **Susan Lear**

I had the privilege of being born into a family of faith and was raised in a small Presbyterian church in deep south Louisiana. I trusted Christ as a child. After graduation from college, I married and we began our family. Ten years into marriage, my husband made a life-changing decision to walk away from his faith and our young family. God carried me through several difficult years that follow divorce and single motherhood. In that dark time, God showed me the depth of his love and the intimacy of his companionship and delivered me in countless ways. He used the wisdom of Scripture and the fellowship and comfort of faith-filled friends and family who surrounded us with compassionate care and practical support.

In time, I met and married my husband Don, a previously confirmed bachelor. Don generously chose to invest his life with mine and became a parent to my four sons with courage and faithful love. We have been married 36 years now. God blessed our marriage with the surprise of a beautiful daughter. Rebecca was tragically killed in a Christmas automobile accident returning home from her freshman year of college, and once again God demonstrated sweet compassion and powerful healing as he slowly restored our lives and joy.

Don and I both had fulfilling careers as well as the privilege of ministering together, teaching and enjoying relationships for the sake of the gospel. We really enjoy living near our four married sons, our daughters-in-love and our 11 gifts of grandchildren! And the many precious relationships we treasure with our Eastminster Intimate Allies young families is like the icing on our life's cake!

My service at Eastminster is focused primarily on discipleship and global missions; my professional background provided me extensive experience in education, local church and not-for-profit ministry and leadership. As an elder, I serve our Great Plains Presbytery leading its EPC Engage 2025 Home Team – committed to planting a church among Albanian Muslims in North Macedonia. Recently, it was my privilege to serve as Eastminster's Interim World Missions Director and my special joy to welcome Ken and Wendy Ferguson to the Eastminster Staff! I am looking forward to returning to Session in January! Thank you for inviting me to serve you in this way.



### **Stacy Peterson**

I am a plastic surgeon in private practice with a musically talented wife, Allison, and five beautiful, believing daughters. I have attended Eastminster for a total of 15 years and have taught in the children's ministry. Currently, I serve as the Kansas State Representative for the Christian Medical and Dental Association as well as the Kansas Director for the American Academy of Medical Ethics. I have had a passion for teaching the Bible since I became a Christian in high school and currently co-teach a couples' bible study. One of my life verses is Micah 6:8, "And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." I would be both humbled and honored to serve Eastminster as an elder.



### **David Rogers**

I have been married to Sally for 36 years. We have one son, Jack, who is in medical school in Texas. Sally and I have been members at Eastminster for over 25 years. I have served as an elder and a deacon, helped to lead worship at the contemporary service and also sing with the choir. I have taught a number of Sunday morning and Wednesday night classes over the years, taken a turn or two in the pulpit, and served as counsel to the church. I have practiced law for 33 years and am a partner at Foulston law firm. I am currently on the Board of Trustees at Trinity Academy, as well as having served as past president of the advisory board for the Salvation Army in addition to serving on the boards of other faith-based nonprofits. One verse that has been foundational for my life and faith is John 14:20, "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you."



### **Lindsay Smith**

I am married to Ron Smith. We have two sons, Colby and Conner, and a daughter-in-law, Grace. I have two grandsons, Jack Leslie and George. I have attended Eastminster for 40 years. I have been in Bible studies at Eastminster, served as deacon and am on the Finance Committee and lasis committee. I am the vice president of finance/CFO at Rainbows United and am treasurer of the Board of Hope in the Valley Equine Rescue and Sanctuary. One of my hobbies is walking. I love to walk, and I walk in the Susan G Komen 60 mile, three day walk each year. I lost my sister to breast cancer so I love to walk in honor and memory of her. I am happy to serve Eastminster as an elder. I love serving God. A special Bible verse to me is Phillipians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thansgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



### **Dave Unruh**

Karen, my wife of 58 years, and I are both lifelong Wichitans. Our two sons, their wives and all seven of our grandchildren are a great blessing to us. We joined Eastminster in 1981 and have been blessed, excited and challenged by the many changes during the time. My service in the body at Eastminster has been primarily in the area of Christian education and small group studies. I have also served on pastoral nominating committees. I am recently retired from 40 years in the automotive repair business and 16 years as a Sedgwick County Commissioner. It was a great privilege for me to coach a kids wrestling team for 10 years and referee high school wrestling matches for another ten years. Presently, I am making a valiant attempt to learn the game of golf. Although my “life verse” is Romans 5:1-5 It seems that, in these recent times, our Lord is impressing Philippians 2:1-5 upon my heart and mind. I look forward to serving Eastminster as we continue in faith and witness while we navigate through the turbulence of community health, political influence, and the snares of the evil one.

## **DEACON NOMINEES (THREE-YEAR TERM)**



### **Greta Biggs**

I am a more recent member of Eastminster, but have many years of history with the church. In my early 20s, I was a part of the thriving young adult 242 ministry where I met my husband Andy Biggs. We have four boys ages 2-9 that keep us quite busy. Over the years, I have enjoyed different Sunday school classes at Eastminster and getting involved with Hannah: Women Connecting. Although I am no longer working full time outside the home, I do spend a lot of time volunteering at Wichita State University with their student athletes. I help facilitate a character development class for incoming freshman and enjoy mentoring and fostering relationships with many of my students long after our class is completed. In the small amount of spare time I have, I enjoy gardening, doing crossfit, and loving on people (especially if it involves making espresso in my kitchen). My favorite verse is Psalm 37:4 “Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.” If our true delight is in the Lord then our hearts desires will be his desires.



### **Steve Dixon**

I have been married to my wife, Julie, for over 25 years. Our daughter, Elizabeth, is currently a sophomore at Samford University, and our son, Ben, is a junior at Trinity Academy. I am the president of P.B. Hoidale, a company founded by my great grandfather. Hoidale is involved in providing fueling solutions to a wide range of customers throughout the Midwest. I have been a member of Eastminster for three years. We transferred our membership from Pathway Church after moving to the East side of Wichita. I am involved with several local non-profit organizations. I sit on the board for United Way of the Plains, Lead Wichita, Firm Foundation Ministries, and the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition of Sedgwick County. In my spare time, I like to travel, cook, read, and follow Ben’s soccer team. Philippians 2:3-4 is a verse that is in my heart during my daily walk: “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”



## **Megan Frieze**

I have been a member of Eastminster my entire life. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Andy, and have four amazing and full of energy children, Mason (10), Kenna Jane (7), Maddox (4) and Henry Mack (2). Several bible study and Grow Groups have caught my heart throughout the years, leaving me more fulfilled as a wife, a mom and a follower of Jesus. By trade, I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and have been in healthcare for the past 13 years. My husband and I also have the blessing of owning two businesses that we get to grow around our bustling family. I love getting to be involved with my kid's activities both inside and outside of school, impacting my neighborhood community through committees and projects and helping people whenever I get the chance (acts of service is my love language). You will never see me turn down a good cup of coffee, K-Love radio or fellowship with friends. The year of 2020 has been heavy for so many, but as Phillipians 4:13 reminds us, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



## **Hellen Haag**

I started attending Eastminster when my husband, Dee and I moved back to Wichita in 1992 after finishing up our schooling. We are so thankful for our church family. Dee was a deacon many years ago, and we both taught fourth grade Sunday school for several years. What a fun age that is to teach! I have been blessed with a wonderful family. I have been married for over 30 years. What a blessing it is to be married to your most favorite person in the whole world! We have two children, Ben and Lauren. It is so fun to watch them grow into exceptional young adults. We are also excited about and so in love with our first grandchild, Graham, who is now 14 months old. I have been an attorney for 25 years. I think that facet of my life is where God has taught me the most about relying on him, in every moment, to show me how to best serve his people in a Christ-like manner. Outside of the office, I have served on the board of several non-profit organizations through the years. I am currently serving on the board of Senior Services of Wichita. I have been so thankful for the opportunity to witness and be a small part of Wichita's loving and creative charitable non-profit community. I look forward to serving as a deacon at Eastminster with the congregation that I love. I can't wait to see what God has in store for our church family going forward!



## **Kiley Henderson**

I am Kiley Henderson. My husband is Zack Henderson, and we've been married for 20 years. We have a son, JJ, and two daughters, Ally and Joley. We have attended Eastminster for 11 years. During my time at Eastminster I have attended and been a part of different Sunday school classes, Hannah: Women Connecting and various serve teams. I enjoy fitness, walking my dogs, traveling, the lake and boating with my family, bible study fellowship and supporting my kids' schools and sports teams at both Trinity and Baylor! A verse I lean on daily is Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."





## **Ransom Kilgore**

I've been married to my wonderful wife, Mary Jane, for 36 years and we have four children, Evan, Christian, Chesley and Kendall. Evan is a tour manager for Collette Tours and lives in Italy. Christian married Monica last summer and they live in Dallas; he works in cybersecurity sales and she in commercial properties. Chesley also lives in Dallas and is a high school English teacher in Frisco. Kendall is a 2020 United States Air Force Academy graduate and is a second lieutenant at Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro, NC. I have been a member of Eastminster for 30 years. We joined after moving to Wichita after I completed a gastroenterology fellowship at Duke. I have helped teach fourth grade Sunday school, have sung in numerous Chili Christmas services and most recently have been a golf cart driver and greeter. Mary Jane has served as a deacon and we continue to visit and support friends recovering from illness. I am a gastroenterologist at Ascension Medical Group and am a past president of the board of the former Wichita Clinic. I volunteered for several years at the Wichita Swim club where all four kids swam. I enjoy music, theatre, and tennis. My fun fact is that I've been a Presbyterian since age 8. I am exploring and trying to live out what Mark 10:45 really means.



## **Kathy Killingsworth**

I've been married to Scott for 41 years. We have a son, a daughter and an absolutely adorable five-year-old granddaughter named Opal. After teaching in both the Wichita and Maize school districts for a total of 38 years, I am thoroughly enjoying retirement! Scott and I like to take day trips, discovering antique stores and fun places to eat. We have attended Eastminster for 30 years, and during that time I have volunteered as a Sunday school teacher, cooked hundreds of meals at Westminster Woods, gone on several mission trips to Guatemala, and served three terms as a deacon. I've been a member of the leadership teams for both the Hunger Challenge as well as RIOT (Refugee Immigrant Outreach Team, also known as the Oaks). Even though the Oaks are no longer on Eastminster's campus, I continue to be involved with them and have set up a Blessing Closet at their new church home. God has blessed them through the donations of many Eastminster members. Psalm 19:1 has been on my heart lately. "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands."



## **Nancy Kunkel**

I'm married to Mark and we have attended Eastminster for close to five years. I have two grown children: a daughter, Hallie Quiroz (husband Ivan, daughters, Sofia and Camila) who live in Aventura, Florida, and a son, Ian Graham, who lives in Kansas City. I was an active member of the RIOT team and am currently serving on the East Africa Team. I am a Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist with a private practice in Wichita. Mark and I enjoy golfing, camping, and playing with our two dogs. I have a passion for missions and have recently started a non-profit organization: The Mission Focused Therapy Group, Inc. I hope to help missionaries on the field and at home with education and therapy needs. A Bible verse that has significant meaning for me is 1 Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."



## **Jennifer Lette**

Chris and I have been married for 33 years and have three children, Ben, Emily and Aaron, daughter-in-law, Summer and granddaughter, Riley. We joined Eastminster two years ago after being a part of RIOT. I enjoy a continued relationship with the Oaks Fellowship church and helping out with special ministry projects that continue what the RIOT team started. Chris and I also enjoy growing in Sunday school classes and our Grow Group. After enjoying working in the banking profession for some years, I enjoyed being able to raise our children full-time and help with community, church and school volunteer opportunities. My chosen field of study in college was human services/psychology, and I very much enjoy serving others. Currently, I love to use my therapy dogs to visit children and the elderly or anyone who could use my smile and a tail wag from my dogs. I enjoy learning and playing tennis with my husband and friends and hiking. But mostly my heart's desire is fellowship with my family and friends. I was raised in a Jesus loving family (thank you Mom, Dad and Leah) and am so grateful for a lifetime of being pointed to serving and worshipping our Heavenly Father. I am grateful to be surrounded by fellow believers who encourage me in my faith. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son in the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son." John 3:16-19



## **Mark Metz**

I am married to Lynda Carrier-Metz. I have three children, Mike, Matt and Renny, and five grandchildren, Millie, Carson, Molly, Patrick and Palmer. I work as a Program Manager/Drive Qualification at NetApp and as a part-time wine guy at Jacob's Liquor Exchange (2-4 days a month). I like piddling at the family farm, playing golf and walking/running. I've been attending Eastminster for over 15 years. I was part of the men's Monday morning Bible study a while back, I've served on the Nominating Committee, assisted with fifth or sixth grade Sunday school, and serve as a bus driver for the Senior Bus. I was drawn to this church many years ago when I was a Cubmaster for the Eastminster Pack, because of the faithfulness I saw that was so apparent in its membership. A Bible verse that God is currently using in my life is Psalm 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart oh God..." from way back, growing up with the Lutheran liturgy.



## **Sandra Middleton**

I am married to Mike and we have three sons, Jason, Justin and Wes. We have eight wonderful grandchildren. We enjoy watching as many of the activities they are involved in as possible. Each of them is a joy. We have been members of Eastminster since 1986. Over the years, I have been a kids Sunday school teacher, a Hannah co-leader, served as deacon, been a part of the prayer team, Christian Concerns, and a women's retreat co-leader. Currently, I am a docent for Hopenet. I am so thankful and blessed I was able to be a stay at home mom and enjoy my sons and grandchildren. I have recently taken up golf, and I enjoy exercising and gardening. The verse I have recently memorized is 2 Chronicles 7:14. "If my people,

who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” It seems so fitting for the times in which we are living. Another verse that I find fitting is John 16:33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”



### **Isaac Montgomery**

I am excited to be nominated as a deacon! I am the eldest of four boys, proud sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gummy, and I have been attending Eastminster my entire life. I have been a part of several ministries at the church for several years; my personal favorites were the two summers I got to be one of the Student Ministry Interns, and the many weekends and summers spent as a camp counselor out at Westminster Woods. My full-time job is as a seventh grade teacher at Classical School of Wichita, teaching Omnibus (English and History mixed), Bible, and Logic. I enjoy photography, cycling, and curling up with a cup of tea and a book. I find joy in my family, a tall glass of lemonade (especially from Sonic), and though I can't explain why, I find going for walks in the cold or in the rain to be incredibly soothing. One of my favorite verses is 1 Peter 4:12-13.



### **Lynette Penner**

I'm the wife of Shawn and the mother of Colten and Chase. Both of our sons are currently students at Oklahoma State University. I've attended Eastminster for close to 20 years. In the early years, I participated in Hannah: Women Connecting and was a shepherd in the three year old Sunday school classroom. I also helped with VBS in a variety of different roles and am currently enjoying the Women In Action Bible study. Professionally, I was a fifth grade teacher in the Wichita Public Schools before staying at home to raise our boys. For the past 16 years, I've been involved with BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) first as a class member and then in leadership for the last seven years. I was also active with Mom's In Prayer while our boys were in elementary and middle school. My hobbies include gardening, reading, and cooking. As a new empty nester, I've found God leading me to 1 Peter 1:13, "Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed."



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1958 N. Webb Road • Wichita, Kansas 67206-3404  
p 316.634.0337 • f 316.634.1496 • [eastminster.org](http://eastminster.org)