

## WE WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT COLIN HEISE IS BEING CONSIDERED AS AN ELDER AT REDEMPTION BIBLE CHAPEL.

### BACKGROUND

We believe God would have us grow our elder team numerically to about eight elders. In pursuit of this, for the past number of years we have been praying and working on adding more elders, adding Sam (2022), Ian (2023), and Scott (2024). This announcement marks another step in this direction.

Colin Heise has been an intern on our elder team for the past 18 months. As an intern, he joined our elder team and was a part of all meetings, decisions, and praying together regarding various ministries. Elder internship is a fixed period, with no promises of anything beyond the one year.

Our elders recognized over the term of Colin's internship with us, that God has uniquely worked in his life, maturing and growing him well beyond his age. This has made him ready, we believe, to hold the role of elder, a senior shepherd and leader in our congregation.

We went through a very thorough and detailed examination of Colin's doctrine, personal and family life, as well as assessing his qualifications according to 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

After much prayer, and our time working together with Colin, we believe God has prepared him for this role and we are excited to bring him to you, our church family, to prayerfully consider whether you believe he is qualified as an elder according to Scripture.

### STRUCTURE

We are an elder-led church, meaning that biblically we see God's design for leadership as a plurality of godly and called men to act as under-shepherds (Jesus is the Chief Shepherd), feeding and leading the church. Our elders primarily focus on the leading, care, and nurture of those God has entrusted to us. You will see in some of our material about our structure that we refer to the elders as looking after the direction, doctrine, and discipline within the church.

In other words, a summary of our responsibility is to determine where God is leading us as a church, what our church believes about Scripture, and the care and nurture of our people.

New elders are selected by the existing elder team with much prayer and thorough investigation, which includes asking the church family to examine each man according to God's Word.

Our elders make all decisions by prayer, gathering information, in-depth discussions, and seeking consensus as God leads.

### BIO

Colin (46) and Stacey have been attending Redemption since 2013, along with their four children – Levi (15), Jordyn (13), Micah (11), and Josiah (7).



Colin and Stacey have been involved with various ministries at Redemption over the years, including Kids Ministry, Small Groups, and Discipleship Groups.

Vocationally, Colin is a Commander within the emergency services (paramedic) sector.

Colin was raised in the Niagara Region in a Christian home. He heard the gospel and believed in Christ at a young age. As a young man, he slipped into selfish ungodliness, but through God's kindness and grace, He drew Colin back to a relationship with Him.

Colin is very thankful to his parents and godly mentors in his life who disciplined him, instilling a passion for the Lord and teaching him to walk daily with, depend on, and fear the Lord. One of Colin's favorite verses is Lamentations 3:22-23, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Stacey grew up in Wyoming, Ontario, with her seven siblings in a loving, Christian home. She gave her life to Christ at a young age and has sought to grow in her knowledge and faith in the Lord since that time.

Colin and Stacey have exhibited humble, teachable, and submissive hearts to God, His Word, and our elder team. They are fully supportive of our doctrine and distinctives including our mission, purpose, and pillars.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Elders are held up to the highest standard according to the Word of God. Being an elder-led church places significant responsibility upon our elders. Each elder is required to open up his entire life in full accountability to the other elders, including his personal walk, his family life, work life, finances, time, purity, spiritual growth, etc. Each elder affirms that the call to elder means a commitment to servant leadership and thus God and His church are put above one's own personal needs and wants. Humble, sacrificial, and gentle leading by serving is the call.

Scripture clearly teaches the qualifications each elder is to be measured by. We ask you to prayerfully consider Colin accordingly to these passages.

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**1 Timothy 3:** <sup>1</sup>*The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup>Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup>not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup>He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup>for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? <sup>6</sup>He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup>Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.*

**Titus 1:** <sup>6</sup>*If anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. <sup>7</sup>For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, <sup>8</sup>but hospitable, a lover of*

*good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. <sup>9</sup>He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.*

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## PROCESS

We have prayerfully and extensively examined Colin and his worship, walk, and work for Christ according to Scripture and believe him to be a man of God, fully devoted to the kingdom and the advancement of God's church. We believe he qualifies in every area and thus are presenting him to you for your consideration.

After much prayer and contemplation, should you have concerns with Colin's qualifications as an elder according to Scripture, we would ask you to **first** go directly to Colin and share your concern(s) with him. If, after talking with Colin, you still have concerns, either Colin or you should approach our elder team. We will investigate and make a decision regarding moving forward or not.

We would ask you to take the next month to prayerfully consider this important request. Should Colin proceed through this next phase, he would be installed as an elder in a weekend service shortly after this phase of the process.

Tim Wiebe (Elder Chair)  
Ian Havercroft  
John Klassen  
Sam Lyra  
Ben Tucker  
Scott Vanderform  
Norm Millar

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