

Nominating Committee Recommendations for 2026 Leadership Candidates

Mandate: The Nominating Committee is elected by the church members to discern eligible candidates for elected positions. It comprises five members, including one representative from Council as a voting member and the Lead Pastor (ex officio). The committee prayerfully considers the gifts and abilities of possible candidates along with the needs of the various positions and proposes one candidate for each available position. Names of the nominees are announced, with their brief biographies, four weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.

The Nominating Committee members for 2025-2026 are Virginia Jack Bell, Asty Ma, Tom Walker (chair), Nancy Lee (council representative), and Ken Radant (ex officio).

2026 Council Candidates:



Tom Walker (first 3-year term)

The Nominating Committee presents Tom as a candidate for Council.

Tom has been a follower of Christ since the age of 18 and was baptized in 1974. He and his wife, Susan, have attended West Vancouver Baptist Church since 1982 and have been members for most of that time. Together they have four grown children and seven grandchildren.

Over the years, Tom has faithfully served WVBC in many leadership roles, including Youth Sponsor, Council Member, and Moderator. He has preached on numerous occasions, officiated Communion and baptisms, and participated in dramatic presentations. He has also served as a Stephen Minister and contributed to committees such as Search, Nominating, Pathway to Caring, Young Adults Task Force, and Benevolence.

Today, Tom frequently preaches at SNL and leads the bi-monthly Acoustic Gospel Jam group. He continues to serve as a Scripture reader, provides technical support during services, and shares in the leadership of the Baptism preparation course. Tom brings spiritual maturity, faithfulness, and a deep love for the church. The Nominating Committee is thankful for his continued willingness to serve.



Kathy Meakin (first 3-year term)

The Nominating Committee presents Kathy as a candidate for Council.

Kathy has been a faithful part of the WVBC family since 1984. She was baptized in 1992 and has consistently demonstrated a deep love for the Lord and a strong commitment to her church family. Over the years, she has poured her heart into the life of the church in countless ways, always ready to serve wherever she is needed.

Kathy is the mother of two grown children and two stepchildren, and a proud grandmother of two. She experienced the loss of her beloved husband, Howard, after 44 years of marriage. Through every season of life, Kathy's steady faith has been an inspiration and encouragement to those around her.

For the past 15 years, she has faithfully led the Ladies of Faith Bible study and regularly attends 20/20. She lends her voice to the church choir and has been a tremendous help in organizing and implementing church events. Over the years, Kathy has also served as treasurer, contributed her time to the Nominating Committee, and faithfully worked on the Building Committee — a role she currently serves in once again. She dedicated 15 years to children’s ministry, investing in the lives of young hearts with care and consistency.

Kathy brings a calming presence, a servant’s heart, and years of wisdom to everything she does. She truly loves the Lord and WVBC, and her life reflects a deep commitment to serving wherever she feels called. The Nominating Committee is deeply grateful for her faithful service and the steady encouragement she brings to our church family.



Sandra Sharma (second 3-year term)

The Nominating Committee presents Sandra as a candidate for Council

“Serving God and serving others “ is my calling.

I moved from my home in Western Australia to North Vancouver on Christmas Day 1970 to join my husband Amba. I began worshipping at WVBC, with my three children in 1986, where we were all baptized, for the second time after infant baptism.

VOCATION: My professional background and vocation include an educator of all age groups from preschoolers, elementary and secondary students, as well as adult education. I worked as a Lecturer and Researcher for the N.V. School Board.

I worked as a Group Facilitator/Leader of parenting groups for N. Shore Family Services. Later, I served as a Consultant with the Ministry of Children and Families (MCF) where I was a Mediator for boards, staff and children and assessed all staff for suitability.

For 18 years, I was a Protection Worker for the M.C.F. as a case manager, removing children when warranted, where I investigated all forms of abuse (including sexual abuse with a specialized RCMP unit), and working as a team with professionals in the community to whom I referred cases for specialized work.

Working with many children and teens in care, as their Guardian, I gained valuable experience in Provincial Court attendance and mediation.

CHURCH VOLUNTEERING

I served a two-year term as Chairperson of a Board of Directors (from three churches and the community) to operate a N.V. Special Needs pre-school.

At WVBC from 1986, I have served in a variety of positions that include: Deacon, Moderator and as a Councillor for the past three years, chairing the Human Resource Committee during my term of office. I write detailed monthly reports to abreast Councillors on work being done by the H.R.C before the Council meetings.

I previously served as a Christian Education Committee member, Greeter and as a member of the Benevolence Committee. Currently, I am an intercessor for the Monday prayer group that meets on Zoom for 80 minutes.

I’m also a prayer partner to offer prayer on a Sunday morning after the service

A keen bible student, I attend two weekly bible studies that include a Women’s Bible Study Fellowship and 20/20 that enable me to delve deeply into God’s Word. I enjoy inductive bible study to understand God’s WORD and to live out my faith

Attending both Farsi functions and Mandarin celebration on a Friday or Saturday night have been a wonderful opportunity for me to meet and greet socially, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

On a Sunday morning, for the past five years, I have assisted Diane Radant in the Conversation Club, which includes both Mandarin and Farsi participants who wish to improve their English. This is an opportunity for mutual learning that has enriched my understanding of their cultures.

I have worked on both Search Committees for Lead Pastor, Ken Radant and Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Education, Aldo Zeng. I believe strongly in servant leadership, prayer and utilizing my spiritual gifts. (The Nominating Committee adds that, while living in Nanaimo from 1996 to 2016, Sandra served in various leadership roles at Nanaimo Baptist church.)



Les Nasserden (second 3-year term)

The Nominating Committee presents Les as a candidate for Council

Les holds a Diploma in Theology from Central Pentecostal Bible College in Saskatoon and has pastored four small-town churches, the last one in Haida Gwaii from 1993 to 1996. For 30 years, he has been involved in local churches on the North Shore, faithfully serving in a variety of roles and ministries. Alongside his ministry work, Les has also worked as a landscaper for three decades.

Les' primary spiritual gifts are teaching and pastoral care. His life and ministry are shaped by the theme of "living faith" — loving the Lord wholeheartedly and loving others deeply. He brings a thoughtful and reflective approach to Scripture and has spent the past eleven years ministering to the Persian community, nurturing their faith and helping them connect to the broader body of Christ.

Les has been part of West Vancouver Baptist Church for seven years. He currently serves on Council, is the council representative to the Facilities Committee, leads the Farsi group on Sunday mornings and fellowship nights on Fridays, and is actively involved in youth leadership. He is passionate about seeing the church firmly grounded in God's Word while maintaining vibrant ministries that reach people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultures.

Les brings warmth, wisdom, and a pastoral heart to all he does. The Nominating Committee is grateful for his faithful service, his commitment to discipleship, and the encouragement he brings to the church family.

2026 Church Clerk Nominee



Amber Zhao (2-year term – replacing vacated position)

The Nominating Committee presents Amber as a candidate for a two-year term as Church Clerk.

Amber has been attending WVBC since February 2015. Drawn by the welcoming community and children's ministry, her faith deepened over time, and she was baptized and became a member in 2022. She has actively served in Mandarin translation and previously completed a one-year term on the Nominating Committee.

Last year, Amber accepted a role on Council, serving on the Finance Committee and the Revenue Generating Task Force. When the Clerk position was vacated early in the term, she stepped in to fulfill the responsibilities. We are grateful for her willingness to continue serving in this important role.

Amber brings professional experience as a software engineer and later in management roles within international telecommunications companies. She is organized, thoughtful, and skilled in implementing ideas effectively. She and her husband, Feng, have been married for 29 years and have raised two sons.

2026 Nominating Committee Nominee:



Cissy Ahking (3-year term)

The Nominating Committee presents Cissy as a candidate for the Nominating Committee.

Cissy's connection with WVBC began years ago when she brought her young daughters to Walk to Bethlehem - they were especially attracted by the live animals.

Back then, she was a new Christian attending another church. Over the years, she has served in children's ministry, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Awana. As her daughters grew, she helped in teen ministries, including Alpha and youth camp, and also led Bible studies for youth and young adults.

Cissy returned to the WVBC Adult Lounge years later, joining other women in monthly prayer at WVBC for the establishment of a BSF class in the area. After 5 years of prayer, she is grateful that God answered when WVBC allowed BSF to use our building, and people from many nationalities came together to study His Word. Cissy has been involved in BSF for over 30 years and now serves as a BSF group leader.

During that time of prayer, Cissy and her husband, Henry, joined WVBC and helped with the first Alpha course. After a season away during the COVID years, she returned two years ago and now serves on the kitchen team for the 55+ ministry.

Cissy demonstrates spiritual maturity, a heart for prayer, and a deep commitment to discipleship. The Nominating Committee is thankful for her willingness to serve in this important role.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NOTES:

- Tom Walker has served one year on the Nominating Committee term, leaving a 2-year vacancy to fill.
- Belinda Kang vacated the Church Clerk position part way through the first year of her term.
- Amber Zhao has been fulfilling the role of Church Clerk, and has agreed to continue.
- Nancy Lee has completed two 3-year terms on council.
- Virginia Jack Bell has completed a 3-year term on the Nominating Committee.