

From the Desk of Hohn Cho

March 25, 2026

Re: Removal of Grace Community Church as an ACBC Training Center

To Whom It May Concern:

After more than three years of private appeals, submitted complaints, and public advocacy, I learned last month that Grace Community Church (GCC) has been removed as an approved training center from the website of the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). To be plain, I believe this removal is right, and long overdue.

On November 25, 2025, Christian Post reported on the lawsuit of Jane Doe and her children against GCC and her ex. The facts alleged therein are grievous, and in addition to the witnesses already described in the complaint, I can attest to many of those facts as well. After that story broke, I was advised by a friend influential with ACBC that Jane should consider asking for her case with ACBC to be reopened, something I had not known was an option.¹ Although somewhat skeptical given my past experience, I recalled various Scriptures about the importance of persistence, confirmed her willingness, and on December 10, 2025, asked to reopen her case and mine with ACBC. While I have few details about the particulars of ACBC's decision, whatever their reasoning, the removal is consistent with a pattern of facts that has been documented on the record for years without rebuttal.

Despite the circumstances leading up to the removal, GCC continues to stand fully behind elders Brad Klassen (a seminary professor, pastor of GCC's men's ministry, and Secretary of the GCC elder board), Rodney Andersen (director of GCC's international missions, who recently preached the Sunday evening service at GCC in December), and Bill Shannon (who according to a text from Brad had been providing key counseling oversight regarding Jane and her ex, and who according to GCC's website continues to serve as a lay elder in Commissioned, the fellowship group where Brad and Rodney are the two named pastors). That GCC still ratifies these men's actions, even as I am still approached regularly by GCC congregants seeking advice concerning ways in which they believe they have been mistreated, speaks for itself.

¹ The background of this ACBC case starts with the February 20, 2023, release of a letter from ACBC that described its continued commitment to care for its counselees. Based on that letter, Jane Doe and I and three other women filed "concern or complaint" forms with ACBC relating to Bill Shannon (who had been involved in all five of our situations) and the GCC training center. I previously shared some thoughts regarding that ACBC process on or around September 25, 2023, but my understanding remains that the end result was Bill resigning with the complaints still pending, and being removed from the ACBC website list of approved counselors. To the surprise of the four women and me, however, GCC remained as an approved ACBC training center under GCC elder John Street, who also served (and according to ACBC's website continues to serve) as a member of ACBC's board of trustees. And after some additional correspondence through 2024 where I appealed for ACBC to reconsider their decision regarding the GCC training center, to no avail, the matter went dormant until the events described herein.

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I commend ACBC for taking this action, and I pray it reflects (as I today choose to believe it does) a continuing commitment to genuine care for counselees, over institutional loyalty. I do ask that they provide Jane, and their own membership, with more information concerning this removal, as additions and removals from their published certification lists are obviously public matters.

As I request this on her behalf, perhaps it might be helpful to talk a little about this brave woman and how we came to advocate for her. By God's providence, completely unbidden, a mutual friend mentioned her to my wife and me in early October of 2022. We then were able to connect with her, and after hearing her plight, I had a phone call on the night of October 12, 2022, with Rodney and GCC elder Carl Hargrove, where I appealed to them not to support the husband's legal filing, which Rodney informed me had already been approved at the highest levels of GCC leadership. I explained why I believed those filings were both misleading and harmful to the wife and her children, and asked them to please support the wife instead, or at least to remain neutral.

While Carl heeded this appeal, sadly Rodney and his co-minister Brad did not, and the two of them proceeded to file declarations supporting the husband's legal filing, which was a significant factor in the husband retaining certain visitation rights, in the view of the wife's lawyer. Grieved by this, I sent a final appeal to all of the GCC elders on December 26, 2022, confronting them with certain information about Jane and her children, and others, and asking them to take decisive steps to begin to make these things right.

When that did not happen, as I have described elsewhere, I responded to a Christian reporter's inquiry, and an article about GCC's counseling practices was subsequently published on February 9, 2023. The response to that article was overwhelming and encouraging, and eventually led to the creation of the Ezekiel 34 Foundation. And throughout this time, Jane has become a dear friend to my wife and me, and a beloved figure to our children. She has prevailed despite challenge and hardship, ultimately winning full legal and physical custody of her children. They are now rebuilding their lives together.

My wife and I rejoice in that, and we continue to pray for all involved, for the ultimate glory of our great God.

Respectfully Submitted,

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