

**INFORMATION
ABOUT
VESTRY CANDIDATES,
DIOCESAN
CONVENTION/HURON
VALLEY AREA DEANERY
REPRESENTATIVES**

**FOR ELECTION AT THE
ANNUAL MEETING**

JANUARY 26, 2020

Dear St. Andrew's Parishioners:

In preparation for the election at the annual meeting on January 26, 2020 following the 10:00 service, it is important that you become more familiar with the candidates. The candidates standing for election to the Vestry and Diocesan Delegate/Huron Valley Area Deanery are:

Vestry

Carol Bernard
Catherine Carver
Dave Hunsche
Dennis Powers
David Van Wagenen
Judy Woods

**Diocesan Delegate/
Huron Valley Area
Deanery**

Bob Edwards
Nathan Sten

Continuing Vestry Members			
Ransom Duncan	Jan 2021	Trent Collier	Jan 2022
Judy Dyer	Jan 2021	Sandra Murchison	Jan 2022
Mary Edwards	Jan 2021	Luke Thompson	Jan 2022
Jude Wilson	Jan 2021	Susan Wakefield	Jan 2022

These candidates were asked to reflect and respond to the following text:

Each of you has had a different relationship with St. Andrew's over the years, and has a different circle of contacts in the St. Andrew's community. So all of our parishioners can learn more about you and how you may contribute to our mission ("Witnessing to the Good News of God in Christ"), please consider telling us about:

1. Yourself and family, and work or volunteer work in which you have been involved.
2. Your journey of faith and how you ended up at St. Andrew's.
3. How you're currently involved with St Andrew's (e.g., which service you attend, and what activities or ministries you're involved with).
4. How your life experiences at St. Andrew's, other churches, and in the community at large illustrate your dedication to the ministries of St. Andrew's.
5. What aspects of St. Andrew's you're especially passionate about, want to work to support, or want to strengthen.

This booklet contains the responses from the candidates.

I would like to thank the members of the nominating committee for all of their hard work:

Katherine Beck Ei
Jackie Doneghy
Ola Kolawole
JoAnn Socha

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the nominating committee.

Bruce Robinson
Senior Warden
Chair, Nominating Committee

CAROL BERNARD
VESTRY CANDIDATE

I was born in Port of Spain, Trinidad and attended All Saints Anglican Church. During my late teens I migrated to the U.S. and St. Marks Episcopal Church in Brooklyn NY became my spiritual sanctuary for about a decade.

I met my husband, a U of M alumnus, and relocated to Ann Arbor where my affiliation to St. Andrews commenced. We have a son Kolin who was christened at St. Andrews and who participated in all the age group activities which included but was not limited to serving as an Acolyte, and singing in the Junior Choir.

As a member here at St. Andrews, I served in the following capacities; Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer of the Vestry, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Usher and as a member of the search committee to identify one of our Rectors.

My community activities included being a member of the Board of Directors for Spectrum Prevention & Treatment Services and in many capacities for Washtenaw United Way, one being a member of the Strategic Planning Committee.

I was the Director of Administrative Operations for the Washtenaw County Sheriff Department for fifteen years, and after retirement went on to fulfill one of my dreams by becoming a Flight Attendant with Delta for the past fifteen years.

The Vestry at St. Andrews would serve as a platform where my skill set could be put to use as it has done in the past



CATHERINE CARVER VESTRY CANDIDATE

Faith has always been a part of my family narrative, but it took moving to Ann Arbor as the parent of three young children to commit to a community of faith. My great-grandfather was a Baptist theologian (of the liberal kind), and my missionary grandparents taught English at University of Shanghai as their assignment from the Baptist Mission Board. Yet, I did not grow up as part of a church community. The study of faith, however, seemed intrinsic, and it is perhaps no surprise that my academic interests gravitated to medieval ecclesiastic architecture and church history.

After moving to Ann Arbor in 2002 at the end of 12 itinerant years, I felt a need to find a community of faith. The transcendence of St. Andrew's beauty inspired me. More importantly, I wanted a community that would reinforce the values we practiced at home – openness to all, recognition that we are all humans with goodness and faults, and expectation of our shared responsibility to engage in making the world a better place. We attended our first service on the Feast Day of St. Andrew in November 2002. Warmly welcomed by the community of St. Andrews, I knew we had found our spiritual home.

For 17 years, St. Andrews has been more than a place for Sunday worship; it has been a port in the storm. My children Sarah, Nicholas, and Stephanie McCurrach (now 17, 19, and 22) were baptized together here. They attended Church School, I taught Church School, and we were active in the theatre program. We have participated in every Christmas Pageant, but one, since 2002. The last decade has held many unexpected turns of life – single parenting, loss, and the challenges of three active teenagers. I quickly learned that St. Andrew's mission of serving humanity through Witnessing to the Good News of God in Christ was not just outward facing, but started within the congregation. Support came in so many forms – a carpool, a meal delivered, a hug in the narthex and a gentle reminder to cherish the frantic years of parenting, extra prayers, and, after missing weeks of Sundays because of travel schedules, being welcomed at service. Our spiritual home.

Faith, I have learned, is not just the study of church history. Faith develops and grows in the active ministries of the church community. A new chapter of life begins in 2020, as my youngest heads off to school. I now would like to give back to St. Andrew's as a member of the Vestry. I

will continue my role helping with the Christmas Pageant, of course, as there are wise men, shepherds, and angels to organize. I hope to share my expertise in care of the building itself and work with the History and Memorials Committee. And, I would like to help St. Andrew's further develop its engagement of members of the parish, with particular focus on those in the middle stages of life, caught between caring for children and for family, and perhaps also needing a port in the storm.



DAVE HUNSCHÉ VESTRY CANDIDATE

I retired from the University eight years ago after 43 years working in the area of instructional technology and health education.

I am a life-long member of St. Andrew's. Mom went into labor during the midnight service on Christmas Eve, but I didn't make my appearance until early on the 26th, so I just missed being a Christmas gift. I first joined the choir at St. Andrew's in 1952 and sang for 26 years before taking a break, and rejoined the choir about 12 years ago. I have rung with the bell choir for over 50 years. Eight years ago I offered to introduce members of the junior choir to handbells while Deborah completed her sabbatical. What was to have been a one-month "filler" was so popular with the junior ringers that it has become a regular part of the musical program. Their enthusiasm is gratifying, but I must say that I have a new respect for anyone who chooses to teach elementary and middle school grades. In addition to singing and ringing you may also see me assisting as an acolyte. I previously served on the vestry 2014-16.

Because of my background in education and technology I'm particularly sensitive to the importance of effective communication. Members of the St. Andrew's parish family are an active and engaged group and want to be involved in the planning and execution of parish programs. It is an ongoing challenge to provide regular and adequate information to those who desire it and yet not overwhelm those satisfied with less. St. Andrew's has done well with both print and electronic media and face-to-face presentations, but it is apparent that even more is needed. I would welcome the opportunity to work with others to expand our efforts (while working to contain our costs). As the treasurer of the Ann Arbor chapter of the American Guild of Organists I'm also sensitive to the challenge of providing desired services with a limited (and often shrinking) budget.

The teacher in me wants a proper summation here, but space is limited, so I'll simply sign off.



DENNIS POWERS VESTRY CANDIDATE

I was a regular at Canterbury House in the late 1970s when it was located just across Catherine Street from St. Andrew's. I felt drawn to St. Andrew's by the music, as well as Gordon Jones's preaching, but especially by the Breakfast Program. It was inspiring to see how effectively an intractable social issue like hunger could be addressed by committed Christian outreach.

Shortly after Jeanie and I were married at St. Andrew's in 1979, job changes for both of us led us to the Boston area. I was serving on the vestry of Christ Church in Andover MA during its sesquicentennial celebration. Drawing on the Breakfast Program as a model, I persuaded my colleagues to create the Legacy Loan Fund. 10% of the parish's endowment was set aside to provide seed capital, at 2%-5% interest, for local non-profits in the Merrimack Valley which sought to create programs directly addressing poverty and affordable housing in the community.

On coming back to Ann Arbor in the late 1990s, I helped Matthew Lawrence reinvent the Canterbury House ministry that had been so meaningful to me. I was an active member of the Organ Committee when it resumed efforts to replace our instrument following conclusion of the Capital Campaign. I contribute music notes for the Sunday leaflet to support and promote appreciation for our excellent music program.

I have been active in the Breakfast Program and other outreach ministries. It would be a privilege and an honor to join the vestry so I can give back to this wonderful place that has meant so much to me.



DAVID VANWAGENEN VESTRY CANDIDATE

I have been a lifelong Episcopalian, beginning with my baptism in the Anglican Church in Tasmania, Australia. I attended Grace Episcopal Church in Cincinnati from childhood thru College, participating as an Acolyte and singing in the Junior Choir. I have been a member of St. Andrew's since 1976, shortly after my first daughter was born. I graduated from the University of Cincinnati (1972) with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and spent most of my career in Ann Arbor working for Bechtel Power Corporation and Black & Veatch on the design, construction and renovation of power plants. I have been retired since August of 2015.

St. Andrew's has been a very important part of my life. Early on I participated in our Church & Society group which had regular potlucks and brought in amazing outside speakers. I served on Vestry from 1982 – 1984, when we authorized the formation of the Breakfast Program and worked on the development of a shelter program. I was also Vestry liaison to the Building & Grounds Committee. I have been a regular volunteer at the Breakfast program for the last 10 years. My wife Susan and I have participated in the Coventry Suppers for the last 15 years.

St. Andrews has been the center of my spiritual life and has supported me through my personal life. My wife Susan and I were married at St. Andrews in 1987. The church was also there to support me through a divorce and after the loss of my oldest child.

I would be honored, if elected, to serve on Vestry: to assure that St. Andrew's remains a vibrant spiritual home to all who come through our doors. I will listen to all sides and will work as a group to address the concerns and issues St. Andrew's faces. My technical background would be very helpful in managing facilities projects, such as assisting with the oversight of construction for installation of our new organ. I hope to be a worthwhile contributing member, representing all parishioners' viewpoints and concerns for the good of church and congregation.



JUDY WOODS VESTRY CANDIDATE

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

My name is Judy Woods and you can usually find me at the 10:00 service on Sundays (sitting near the back on the right side) when I'm not out of town visiting family. I've been married to my husband, Kevin, for 41 years. I'm retired but in my former life I worked as an interior designer and facilities planner with projects spanning small residential remodels up to large commercial installations in and around southeast Michigan. Kevin is retired from his life's work in manufacturing.

I grew up in Bay Village Ohio and was baptized and attended Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA, in Lakewood, for most of my childhood. My mother's parents came from Sweden and the Lutheran church is naturally part of our DNA. The Lutheran and Episcopal churches have a special relationship so switching between has always been natural. My father's family was Catholic. Mom won out eventually and my father was confirmed a Lutheran along with me so we could worship as a family. Church was always a centering place for me, and I continued in The Lutheran Church when my own children were born.

I have three children:

Abigail, 39, is married to Daniel Ferreira (here at St Andrews) and is currently a stay at home mom with her three children in Sandy Hook, Connecticut and attends Trinity Episcopal in Newtown. She has Annika (7), Elsa (5) and Marta (1 ½). Prior to motherhood, Abbie was a career counselor at Fordham University in NYC and holds degrees in Theology and Mental Health Counseling.

Jonathon, 37, is married to Erica Kovacs, both UM graduates, currently living in Ann Arbor with their two children, Audrey (3 ½) and Matthew (1 ½). Jonathon and Erica were married here at St Andrews and the children both baptized here as well. Erica holds a degree in education and is currently staying home with the children. Jonathon received his degree in business and owns a manufacturing company in Dexter.

Our youngest, Caitlin, 32, resides in Seattle and teaches Special Education to 6th graders in the city. She graduated from Kalamazoo College and received her Masters in Education from the University of

Washington. She is currently happily single with no children besides her students.

Throughout my adult life, raising my family was always my first priority. I volunteered as a room mother every year that I had a child in grade school and taught 4th grade Sunday School for a number of years. When Abbie reached middle school, I became the parent volunteer for the Confirmation classes, organizing social, fund-raising and charitable activities.

I currently serve on the Altar Guild at St. Andrews where I have made many meaningful friendships. I recently volunteered to help with funeral receptions as well, a job I also held at my former church. I look forward to the possibility of sitting on the Vestry and continuing to be a contributing member of St Andrews.



BOB EDWARDS
AREA DEANERY/CONVENTION DELEGATE

My name is Bob Edwards and I am running for delegate to our annual Diocese Convention. St Andrew's has been an important center of mine and our family's lives. Mary and I were married here, and both of our daughters, Mary Clare and Laura, were baptized here. All four of us have volunteered at the Breakfast Program for many years supporting this critical and long needed service. When my oldest daughter was in middle school and high school, I had the wonderful opportunity to co-teach her Rite 13 and J2A youth classes. It was a great experience with a close-knit group of students who had been together since their Early Sunday School classes with my wife Mary as one of their teachers. For 3 years I served as the Lay Baptism instructor for many families here.

I discovered St Andrew's in 1995 when Interim Rector Bob Hart suggested this church as a place to support the need for a safe space for LGBTQ youth to meet for peer and adult support groups and host monthly social events. This support from our church let numerous LGBTQ youth know that there is a place for them in many houses of worship wherever their journey takes them. At the time I met Bob Hart I was transitioning from my family's church, working with a spiritual advisor and seeking the faith community that I needed. I decided to attend a few services here and ended up finding the church and community that did fit my needs.

We attend Sunday 10am service where I enjoy serving the congregation as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, attending and assisting at many extra services and activities, and engaging with members of our community. With my upcoming retirement I look forward to attending more of the additional services, bible studies and Sunday evening Compline and music services and programs. I am sure that there will be other opportunities to serve.

My experiences at St Andrew's have given me a faith-based view in my daily life, interactions and opportunities to share the

experiences and teachings here with the church and community. I enjoy my involvement at St Andrews and with the many people that I have learned from in our community.

Each week, I always look forward to our liturgy, readings and sermons and serving our congregation as LEM. I look forward to the broad range of composers, hymns and other works that Deborah has made part of our service and I look forward to contributing wherever I can. If chosen I look forward to representing and serving St Andrew's at the Diocese Convention.



NATHAN STEN
AREA DEANERY/CONVENTION DELEGATE

I grew up in the church, as my father was an organist and minister of music. This began with my baptism at Christ Episcopal Church, Williamsport, PA, and then Sunday school at age 2 with Maple Grove United Methodist Church in Columbus, OH, where my father served. My family then moved to Battle Creek, where we attended the Congregational Church (UCC), at which time I concurrently trained as a chorister with the Battle Creek Boychoir, affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music. I was often a soloist, and this was my first exposure to anything "Episcopal." At the Jr. High School age, my family joined the Episcopal church. As a member of St. Thomas in Battle Creek, I served as an acolyte and often volunteered at the local soup kitchen.

Whilst attending college, I attended All Saints Episcopal in East Lansing where I worshiped with the college group, playing the bass guitar and travelling to Georgia for a spring break of volunteering with Habitat for Humanity.

After college, I remained at that church but graduated to the "adult" services and sang in the choir, where I met Dr. Friauff (Deborah). There, I also became involved with the YAC group, volunteering as an adult mentor.

As my career took me through the States of Missouri, Arkansas, and Iowa, I remained with the Episcopal church at each stop, volunteering with the J2A group, and being confirmed, when in Missouri. My horizons were especially broadened in Iowa, where I attended both a very traditional Episcopal church, and served in the praise band with the non-denominational, baptist-like, "New Bethel" church.

Upon my return to Michigan, I learned that Dr. Friauff was serving here at St. Andrew's, not too far from my home in Monroe. The Sunday I decided to visit her and the church, St. Andrew's and its choir instantly became my home--that very day. Since then, I have become involved with the theatrical ministry as a cast member in Our Town, The Wizard of Oz, and future productions.

In addition to these, I am proud of and strongly support the breakfast, church school, and outreach programs. I am excited with the opportunity to accurately represent all of St. Andrew's interests at the diocesan conventions and clearly communicate the contents back to our parish.



