

MEET THE VESTRY

Class of 2024

JEANINE DILLER

Jeanine Diller has attended St. Andrew's ever since 1993 when she split her time between here and Canterbury House while earning a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Michigan (Father Witke graciously served on her dissertation committee). She got married to her husband Larry Murphy at St. Andrew's, and has been teaching Sunday School many years here as their boys Jack and Grant have grown through the St. Andrew's curriculum.

Professionally, Jeanine is an associate professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at the University of Toledo, teaching and researching in philosophy of religion and religious studies, concentrating especially on the nature of ultimate reality, the diversity of traditional and secular views of religion, and the power of religion to change the world for ill and for good. She co-edited *Models of God and Other Alternative Ultimate Realities* (Springer 2013), authored several articles, and worked on poverty-related issues in the federal legislative, state executive, and local non-profit sectors. She lives in Whitmore Lake with her husband and two sons.

LORRAINE FIELD

I was baptized, as an infant, in a little Episcopal church in Coatesville, Pennsylvania. It was like a little miniature

cathedral, and that is where I had my first experience singing in a church choir. I remember climbing the stairs to the choir loft. I am sure there was a lot of wiggling and some fooling around, but it was never a problem because we were mostly out of sight. After many years and several other choirs, I now enjoy singing in the choir at St. Andrew's, where the seating for the choir is in front of the congregation. Fortunately, I am pretty well past the age of wiggling and fooling around as I look out over the congregation at the many faces of the community that welcomed us when we moved to Ann Arbor about 10 years ago.

Michael and I moved many times during his career in the Navy. We have many wonderful memories of the parish families where we have felt at home: singing in choirs, teaching Sunday School, and serving on vestries. After we retired, we moved here to be closer to our children and grandchildren. We are both happy to have found St. Andrew's at this time in our lives. I value being asked to serve on the vestry at St. Andrew's. I appreciate the chance to become more involved in the life of this parish that has become such an integral part of our lives.

CHRISTOPHER WATSON

I have been attending St. Andrew's for as long as I can remember. I was raised in the church, after my parents moved to Ann Arbor from New York in 1993. I came to find community in many facets of St. Andrew's. I have fond memories of growing up attending church school, serving with The Breakfast at St.

Andrew's, acolyting, and acting in the Christmas Pageant. After leaving town to attend college at Yale University and graduating in 2014 with a B. A. in Economics, I came back to Ann Arbor to take a job with Mathematical Reviews. I have worked there for the past 5 years and am proud to count vestry member Norman Richert, as one of my professional mentors.

After returning to Ann Arbor as an adult, I took on new roles and responsibilities within the church. I was one of the co-teachers for the J2A class from 2016-2018 and helped chaperone their pilgrimage to San Diego. During my time as a teacher, I appreciated the chance to listen to the questions of a younger generation and discuss our faith together. It was very gratifying to help lead a group of young adults as they took on activities like serving at the Breakfast and fundraising for their pilgrimage. I also returned to the stage with the St. Andrew's Players and was able to take on many meaningful roles like Tom Robinson in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and recently, the Cowardly Lion, in *The Wizard of Oz*. Working to put on these shows, with a cast and crew ranging from toddlers to octogenarians, really highlighted the talent and diversity of our parish.

In serving on the vestry, I will think of all the parishioners, from many generations, that I have gotten to know over the years at coffee hour or in the many St. Andrew's ministries I have been a part of. At St. Andrew's, I discovered what it means to be part of a community and the joy that comes

from serving others. I am happy to take on this opportunity to serve the parish on the vestry and to help continue St. Andrew's mission to embody God's love for the world through Jesus Christ.

ROBERT WESTVEER

I grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan and, for the first 50 years of my life, I was a member of the Christian Reformed Church. I came to Ann Arbor in 1975 and obtained a Master's degree in Library Science from U-M. When I did not find a job in that field after graduation, I spent the next twelve years working in several local bakeries. Then I spent the next twenty three years working as a paralegal for a Detroit law firm. I retired from that position in 2015.

I joined St. Andrew's in 2001. I was confirmed in 2003. I also began serving as Lay Eucharistic Minister. In 2007, I was a member of the search committee for our present rector, Fr. Alan. In 2009, I joined the Vestry to fill out a partial term when the person elected has to withdraw for personal reasons. In 2011, I was licensed as a lay Preacher. I served as a deanery representative and diocesan council delegate, retiring in 2015. I served a second term on the Vestry, retiring in 2017. I have served as a guest lecturer for Education for Ministry. For the last three years, I have also taught an adult education course during the summer.

I have found St. Andrew's to be a vibrant, inclusive, welcoming community. It has become my spiritual home and has nurtured my spiritual growth in many ways. I am honored to serve another term on the Vestry.