



# Spiritual Leadership

## Serving on the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church



## The Candidates for Vestry Class of 2029

**VESTRY MEMBERS** offer their leadership to serve the mission of the congregation — “to strive to bring all into a closer relationship with God and one another through Jesus Christ.” Vestry members serve the *entire* congregation, rather than represent one specific ministry. They also continue to serve in the ministries of the parish, practice sound stewardship, and support our Bishop and Diocesan ministries.

The Vestry includes the Rector, who serves as the presiding officer, and an elected group of parish members. Together, this group is the legal governing and decision making body of a parish with regard to most matters pertaining to the church and its operations. As the presiding officer, the Rector only votes on matters when there is a tie among the other Vestry members. The goal is to work as partners and through consensus.

Vestry duties include approving the budget, making policies and supporting the mission of the congregation through spiritual leadership. At large churches, such as St. John's, this includes strategic planning and oversight. Operational & regular ministry decisions are left to the Rector, staff, and commissions. The strategic work of the Vestry, in collaboration with the Rector, includes identifying goals, opportunities, and challenges; creating a strategic vision; monitoring steps toward implementing the vision; overseeing financial health and progress; developing leadership in commissions and committees; and communicating with the parish.

### EXPECTATIONS OF A VESTRY MEMBER:

- Attend worship regularly
- Attend parish events
- Pledge proportionally
- Attend Vestry meetings
- Arrive at meetings prepared
- Minister collaboratively with the Rector and other Vestry leaders
- Serve the whole congregation
- Show commitment to the Church as a community of God's people called to ministry
- Pray

The six nominees for the Vestry Class of 2029, outlined in this brochure, are offering their spiritual leadership for St. John's.



## **MARCIA BOYLE**

**Years at St. John's:** 3

**Service regularly attended:** Historic Church—11 a.m.

**Involvement at St. John's:**

Usher at 11 a.m. service, serve on the Planned Giving and Gift Acceptance Committees, participate in Women's Bible Study, serve on the Stewardship (Co-Chair) and Finance Committees.

### **Outside Church:**

In 1980 my husband and I, with three others, founded the Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF), the national patient organization for the primary immune deficiency diseases (our son was born with one of these disorders). I served as the chair of the Board and the volunteer president for many years until hiring a full time CEO, after which I continued as Board chair. I was hired by Johns Hopkins where I served as a development director for ten years in a number of roles including Director of Principal Gifts for Johns Hopkins Medicine. In 2005 I returned as CEO of the Immune Deficiency Foundation until my retirement in 2017. What started on my kitchen counter had an endowment of \$6 million and annual budget of \$9 million when I retired. I also helped develop the International Patient Organization for Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases (IPOPI) and served on its Board for 10 years. Since retirement, I have served as chairperson of the Foundation Board for the Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center and participated on the Center's Finance Committee. I currently chair and serve as a Commissioner on the Maryland Health Care Commission and serve as a Board Member on the Mid Atlantic Patient Safety Center.

### **Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

I grew up in the Episcopal Church, and although I hadn't attended for some time, I felt a profound need to return. Since returning, I have been extremely impressed with the work that is being done at St. John's and the people I have met. I feel that serving on the Vestry is a way in which I can make a difference to the community through my experience in nonprofit management and board leadership, as well as development/fundraising. To meet the spiritual, educational and pastoral needs of the community, the church needs to support sufficient staff, satisfy the ongoing upkeep of the buildings and grounds, continue to engage our current members and attract and engage new members. These goals require robust annual and multi-year plans, which address raising and stewarding sufficient funds to meet annual needs as well as appropriate reserves. I would like to help with the work already being done and be a resource for developing new approaches to encourage and recognize ongoing giving, as well as planned giving for the future. In terms of recognition, we need policies, including for plaques and naming opportunities. When I joined St. John's, we were fortunate to have an assistant minister, and the Reverend Derek needs help to continually meet the growing needs of the church and the demands on his time. It will take planning, financial management, giving and stewardship to ensure the resources are there. In addition, I know that several parishioners are active in engaging new members, and I would also like to explore with others what more we can do in this area.



## **BARBARA EPKE**

**Years at St. John's:** 3

**Service regularly attended:** Historic Church—5 p.m. & 11 a.m.

**Involvement at St. John's:**

Small Group Leader, Women's Group, ongoing; Labyrinth Committee, year 1 and 2; Usher, Historic Church, ongoing; Planned Giving Committee, ongoing; Women's Bible Study, as able; volunteer for various events as needed.

### **Outside Church:**

25 years, Vice President, Sinai Hospital/LifeBridge Health, oversight of multiple departments throughout the system, managing up to 800 FTE's and budgets in excess of \$125M, retired 2018; post retirement, Interim President, MD Patient Safety Center, 2019, 2020; 10 years Board service and Vice Chair of Board, MD Patient Safety Center; currently Co-chair, Baltimore Women's Giving Circle, a 400+ member volunteer organization awarding over 20 grants of \$25,000 each, every year, a volunteer position, ending June 1, 2026. **Early career:** family therapist, educator; **Education:** MA/MSW/MHP Hosp Admin/ completion of coursework for MPH/Phd, up to dissertation.

### **Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

I would like to be a part of planning for St. John's future. I believe that we have something special that I have not experienced previously. We will need to secure and build upon this strength, including recruitment and retention of members willing to invest in our stability and future through a strong financial development plan including fund raising. We will need a management structure that supports our high quality leadership as well as continuing the investment we already have made in a phased facilities plan. I have seen how vital a financial and multi-faceted strategic plan will be to a strong future, and maximizing our assets—our school programs and diverse opportunities for all members, as well as our connection with the community—will be key elements in this strength base in the future.

I have lived in Ellicott City with my husband Gordon Nahas for 25 years, and enjoy all our community has to offer, but I believe strongly in giving back, which is my focus now in my retirement years. In addition, I enjoy Osher classes, book groups, a gourmet club, and belong to the Dancel Y. The inclusiveness and cohesiveness of the St. John's family was immediately evident to me as I began to attend services casually prior to joining in early 2023, and my goal is to use the skills I developed in my years as a hospital administrator to do my part at St. John's.



## **MATT MALONEY**

**Years at St. John's:** 20

**Service regularly attended:** All Saints Hall—9 a.m.

### **Involvement at St. John's:**

My involvement has covered the operational, spiritual, and social life of our parish. From providing leadership during capital campaigns and stewardship drives to serving as the Usher Coordinator. Beyond these formal roles, I have supported the

spiritual growth of our congregation through Discovery Weekends, meal packaging ministries, and our annual parish day fairs. Whether I was helping plan a major fundraiser or serving as the "Coffee and Doughnut Commissioner," my goal has always been to strengthen our community's foundation. As a previous recipient of the St. John's Cross Award, I remain committed to the mission of this church and am grateful for the opportunity to have served in these roles for the past two decades.

### **Outside Church:**

Beyond my service to the church, my professional and community life is defined by discipline and technical expertise. I am a retired Navy veteran, with a background that instilled in me a deep sense of duty and leadership skills. Following my military service, I transitioned into the private sector with a career at AT&T. My commitment to others also extends to the next generation through years of coaching youth sports, where I focused on teamwork and character building. Additionally, my heart for service has led me to participate in mission trips to Puerto Rico, where I worked on the front lines to rebuild.

### **Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

If elected to the vestry, my vision for St. John's is to build upon our solid foundation by bridging our financial sustainability with our mission of welcoming hospitality. Drawing on my experience with capital campaigns and my professional background at AT&T and the Navy, I aim to ensure our parish remains fiscally resilient while expanding our outreach ministries. I want to foster a culture where every parishioner feels the same warmth I strive to provide as Usher Coordinator, ensuring that our spiritual life is matched by a commitment to community growth. I hope to lead St. John's into its next chapter by honoring our traditions while remaining agile enough to meet the evolving needs of our congregation and the world beyond our doors.



## **ED MCCAULLEY**

**Years at St. John's:** 10+

**Service regularly attended:** All Saints Hall—9 a.m.

**Involvement at St. John's:**

Eucharistic Minister (in ASH); Holy Grounds (coffee crew); volunteer at various events, including Shrine Mont (Swing dance instructor), campus grounds clean-up, and Rebuilding Together Howard County.

### **Outside Church:**

With a CPA, MBA, and JD, I have spent most of my career in accounting and risk management roles (e.g., financial analysis, financial reporting, internal audit, and Enterprise Risk Management). Where I see this being beneficial is on the business side and with church governance.

### **Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

My vision is for a vibrant and growing congregation with a strong and flourishing children's faith formation program, robust outreach ministries, and meaningful opportunities for adult faith development, small groups, and liturgical service. We can make St. John's even MORE of a friendly, welcoming community. By nurturing and sharing our supportive community, we can inspire greater engagement and participation across all ministries.



## **ANNE REILLY**

**Years at St. John's:** 15

**Service regularly attended:**

ASH—9 a.m. & Historic Church—11 a.m.

**Involvement at St. John's:**

Lector and Altar Guild member in ASH, volunteered in the kitchen during Vacation Bible School, and helped in small ways at the Rummage Sale and Discovery Weekend. Most recently, I co-chaired

the Discernment Committee that led the search for our new rector. Currently, I am a Stephen Minister, a member of the steering committee for Women's Bible Study, and an enthusiastic Shrine Mont-goer.

**Outside Church:**

Trained as a librarian, I have concentrated my energies in the last 18 years on parenting our high school senior, Ruby. I love to read, and I dabble in baking, cooking, knitting, sewing, and other handcrafts. I enjoy poetry and singing. Participating in the beauty of music, scripture, and prayer at St. John's draws me closer to God and to those around me.

**Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

I would like to see St. John's to become more widely known in Howard County as a place where people can be met by God, and where people do God's work for the community. Our recent leadership has done important work in shoring up the church's infrastructure and economic health. We should continue caring for our campus and one another, supporting the small groups that forge close bonds, while fostering connections between groups and people that may not meet in worship. On the Vestry, I would expect to serve as a liaison to the groups I am part of, to help ensure every voice is heard in important decisions, and to be prepared to listen and learn.

## **LAY DELEGATES TO THE 2026 DIOCESAN CONVENTION**

Our 2025 lay delegates — *Brian Stone and Sharon Weston-Dawkes* — have volunteered to once again represent St. John's at the annual Diocesan Convention in November 2026. They are joined by Gaius Lee and Thecla Song from the St. John's Korean Congregation.



## **LANE ZABRISKIE**

**Years at St. John's:** 20+

**Service regularly attended:** All Saints Hall— 9 a.m.

### **Involvement at St John's:**

I was involved in a few committees early on but, invested most of my time with Boy Scouts of America or assisting with J2A and Parish Day School fundraisers, Discovery Weekend and the J2A pilgrimage to Ireland.

### **Outside of Church:**

Founded and 27 years supporting the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Visualization Laboratory's digital transformations and geographic information systems

### **Vision for St. John's and interests that would be pursued if elected to the Vestry:**

I have been a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church and a member of this parish for more than twenty years. During that time, this community has been an important part of my family's life and faith journey. My wife, Barbara, and I raised three children who grew up in the church and are now thriving in their own lives. As we enter a new season as empty nesters, we are grateful for the opportunity to give back in new ways to the community that has meant so much to us. Service and learning have always been important to us. In 2025, we spent two weeks volunteering with Kenya Connect, an inspiring organization that works to strengthen education through community partnerships, teacher support, and creative resources such as a mobile library serving local schools. I would be honored to serve on the vestry and help support the mission and future of our parish. I care deeply about the health and vitality of our church community and would welcome the opportunity to listen, learn, and contribute wherever I can.

**The Vestry Election will take place at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 3, in All Saints Hall, following the 9 a.m. service.**

# Many thanks to our outgoing Vestry Class of 2026



Scott Geist



Katie Kalel



Lucia Martin



Marsha Trant

&

to our outgoing Senior Warden, for his faithful stewardship during this time of transition.



Gordon Knox

**SUN., MAY 3RD**  
**All Saints Hall**



**ONE WORSHIP**  
**9:00 AM**

**FOLLOWED BY OUR**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**

*All are invited to celebrate this past year and our annual awards winners. Voting-eligible members will elect new Vestry members and Lay Delegates to the 2026 Diocesan Convention.*