



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

CANDIDATES *for* VESTRY and DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES

ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

All members of Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral congregation are invited to attend the 2022 Annual Meeting to elect new parish Vestry members and Delegates/Alternates to the Diocesan Convention. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 6, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. and may be attended in person in Bloedel Hall or online via Zoom. The usual festive community potluck meal will not be offered in 2022. In addition to the Vestry and Convention Delegate elections, the agenda includes brief reports from parish leadership and committees, the presentation of awards, and the Dean's address.

WHO MAKES UP THE VESTRY?

The Vestry currently consists of 17 members: 12 elected from Saint Mark's Parish, three diocesan members appointed with the consent of the Bishop, the Dean who chairs the Vestry, and the Bishop (or his designee). Additionally, the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Treasurer, and Clerk serve with the Vestry as non-voting officers. All Vestry members are to be persons with demonstrated qualities of dedicated commitment to Saint Mark's (or their own parish), leadership and vision with responsiveness to the needs, concerns and hopes of the world.

Vestry leadership resides with the Dean and individuals who are traditionally known as "Wardens", together with other Vestry Officers. In accordance with the By-laws (Art. IV, sec. 1), the Senior Warden, the Chancellor, and Vice Chancellor (the Cathedral's attorneys) are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Dean. The Junior Wardens, Clerk and Treasurer are elected by the Vestry. Currently, the Dean prefers to appoint as Senior Warden the leader chosen by the Vestry.

Each member serves for one three-year term. This year, the members completing their terms are: **Kristen Austin, Jim Buskirk, Marjorie Ringness, Robert Stevens, and Micah Kurtz** (Diocesan Member from St. Columba's, Kent).

ABOUT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The 112th Diocesan Convention will be **October 21–22, 2022** tentatively planned to be held at the Hilton Hotel Seattle Airport in SeaTac. More than 500 convention delegates from around the Diocese of Olympia will come together to conduct diocesan business. This includes electing individuals to offices and deputations, admitting worshipping communities as missions or parishes, and voting on resolutions. The Bishop also gives an annual address.

Convention Delegates are a major link between the parish, the Vestry, and the Diocese, at both convention and other diocesan meetings. Delegates serve for two years. The 12 Delegates elected at the 2022 annual meeting will join the 12 delegates already elected in January 2021.

WHO CAN VOTE IN PARISH ELECTIONS

Saint Mark's Constitution (Art. I, sec. 3) provides:

In accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Olympia, "Parish Communicants" are those baptized persons who are faithful in corporate worship and who have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Saint Mark's at least three times during the previous year...;

"Parish Communicants in Good Standing" are those Parish Communicants age sixteen years or older, who are recorded contributors to the support of Saint Mark's with money or with person al service...

Unless subsequently defined otherwise by Diocesan or Episcopal Church canons, "Parish Electors" shall include all the Parish Communicants in Good Standing."

Note that for purposes of voting at the 2022 Annual Meeting, the inability to have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion at St. Mark's at least three times during the previous year because of to the pandemic will be considered to be "good cause."

Prior to the balloting, nominations may be offered from the floor.

VOTING REMOTELY

Parish Communicants in Good Standing who attend the Annual Meeting virtually using Zoom will be invited to vote using a link that will be posted in the Zoom chat during the meeting. The link to vote will not be available before the meeting. If you have concerns about your ability to vote remotely, call Erik Donner in the Cathedral office at 206.323.0300 x217.

Complete election rules are presented during the meeting.

ABOUT THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This committee is designated by the Cathedral's Constitution and Bylaws to present to the annual Parish meeting a list of nominees for Parish representatives. The committee also invites nominations for delegates to Diocesan Convention. The process involves careful vetting of all candidates and includes interviews with those standing for election to the Vestry. This year's committee membership is: **Julia Logan** (chair), **Jim Buskirk, Carrie Davis, Michael Perera, John Selberg, and Dean Steve Thomason** (ex officio).

Questions? Contact: nominations@saintmarks.org.

CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY

WAYNE DUNCAN



Each week I feel blessed to be part of the Saint Mark's community. From listening to Compline on Sunday nights to co-leading an Education for Ministry class on Monday evenings, participating in the Creation Care programs, ushering at the 11 AM services on Sunday, and helping install the Stations of the Cross during Lent as part of the Visual Arts Ministry group, I am blessed. I became active at Saint Mark's in 2017, returning to the Episcopal Church after twenty years of active membership at Plymouth Church in Seattle. My completion of the four-year Education for Ministry program last spring highlighted for me the importance of small group learning and sharing for spiritual growth. The opportunity to continue that group learning process over Zoom during the pandemic highlighted the importance of new approaches to faith formation and ministry. I believe our Radix program, where I have led two groups, is an important way to strengthen our community as we seek new ways to live out our faith in a world suffering from global warming and economic, educational, and social inequality. My background in mental health and education as a child clinical psychologist and my previous work on various community and church boards will be a helpful perspective to bring to the Vestry. If elected, I would be honored to serve on the Vestry and help guide Saint Mark's over the next three years.

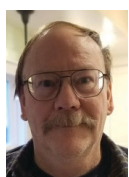
NANCY GEORGE



I grew up in a small town on the Oregon coast. My family did not attend church except for a few times with our grandma. I knew there was a God, because we said the Lords Prayer every morning in school until about 4th grade. I worked in aerospace for 35 years starting out as an airplane mechanic, and then working my way into engineering. I was a mechanical engineer in fasteners with Boeing when I retired in 2017.

After retirement I felt like I needed to grow my community so I started attending services at Saint Marks figuring I'd find a good cross section of people on Capitol Hill. The first morning I walked into the 11 am service Carolyn White nabbed me. She told me about the service and sat with me until it ended. After a couple more services I felt like I found a home so I was baptized and joined the church in 2018. I cooked soup for Noel House for a few years until our gals found a permanent place. I also wash dishes for the Wednesday supper. Jim Green told me the secret for making salads and I assumed that task when he was ready to stop. During the summer months I grow tomatoes to share with the clergy and some other folks. I'm always trying to learn more about how the church works and where my work is within it. Joining the vestry might tie it altogether. Besides that, I feel like God has a job for me. I don't know what it is, but maybe it's the Vestry.

DOUG THORPE



Doug Thorpe is emeritus professor of literature and creative writing from Seattle Pacific University and the author of four books, including *Rapture of the Deep: Reflections on the Wild in Art, Wilderness and the Sacred*. Having joined the Episcopal Church and Saint Mark's Cathedral at the Easter Vigil in April

1980, he subsequently served as a vestry member, a lector, chalice bearer, greeter and spiritual director. He chaired the Adult Education Committee, taught adult education classes, worked for twenty years with the labyrinth group, and co-led a high school group to Belize (such a hardship!). He currently co-chairs the Mideast Focus Ministry (and serves on the Diocesan Middle East Affairs Committee) and writes for and helps the Creation Care Committee publish its newsletter. He's married to Judy Andrews, is the father of Kate Thorpe and delighted grandfather of Walter.

SHARON FERGUSON



I have been attending Saint Marks since 2010 and was received in the church in 2011. Currently, I am serving as a verger, a member of the Altar Guild and serve on the Facilities Committee. I recently joined the Quilt Ministry.

I am retired after working twenty-five years as an Environmental Health Specialist in both Maryland and Washington. I ended my career working for the Food and Drug Administration. While I was volunteering at Paws, I adopted a dog, Olive, she has been with me since 2015 and keeps me moving everyday with our walks. Since I retired, I have volunteered at the Arboretum in the greenhouses and plan to start again this Spring. I enjoy tending the plants in a small garden. I also serve on the board of our condominium association.

JUSTIN MILLS



I moved up to Seattle in 1992 from Southern Oregon to attend the University of Washington, and have attended Saint Mark's with my wife, Nicolette, since 2008. We got married at the cathedral in 2010, and have two wonderful daughters, Alexandra (9) and Elizabeth (5). We attend the 9am service, with some appearances at the 11 A.M. as well. I have been chairman of the Saint Mark's Justice Ministry Coordinating Team from 2017-2021, and have always had a keen interest in local and international justice issues as well as creation care initiatives. I would love to represent the congregation on the Vestry and find ways we can positively impact the world through the wonderful people and steadfast presence of Saint Mark's.

OLIVIER SANTOS



Here are three things everyone considering me for the Vestry need to know: (1) I'm honored to have been asked to have my name placed in nomination, (2) I am already engaged in a fair amount of work at Saint Mark's (in various ministries and roles in Prayer & Worship, Social Justice, and Cathedral Life (like hosting Coffee Hour for Newcomers, and staging the Ministry Fair), (3) I highly value my time: I work in a stressful social services workplace. And I tend to do a fair amount of travel in the course of a year - pandemic or not (it broadens my mind). My top areas of interest at Saint Mark's are ones addressing social injustice, racial inequalities, greater access to economic & social opportunities people with many barriers, sanctuary for those fleeing persecution, and immigration issues. If asked, I say my faith as very private, but how I practice that faith is better pursued in

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communion with our Saint Mark's congregation. And that is why I agreed to run: faith is more than prayer, faith is taking a stand and acting on issues that matter to God. I am uncertain if I ought to serve in the Vestry; but I will certainly do my best, if elected.

SCOTT HULET



My first Saint Mark's experience was attending Communion as a college student 50 years ago. The beauty and mystery of the chanted prayers spoke to a longing deep within me. I did not imagine that decades later the cathedral community would be a place of healing and new life for me during a time of significant life transition. My return to Saint Mark's happened 9 years ago when taking determined and yet faltering steps toward living the truth of being Gay and my life turning inside out and upside down. Here I found a Christian community that affirmed that I was not damaged goods but I was indeed created good and loved unquestionably. Here I met, fell in love and married my husband, John Simmons. I have 3 daughters, a son-in-law and 4 grandchildren.

Professionally, I served both in pastoral ministry and in Executive Director roles in long term senior care. I retired 2 years ago from Horizon House where I served as Director of the Assisted Living.

The Cathedral ministry goals and Statement of Lament and Commitment to Action resonate with how I want to reflect Christ in the world. I am grateful to be a part of a community ready to be honest about our failings and bold in our actions to embody the compassion of Christ.

KRISTEN KELLY



I Moved to Seattle in 2006 for residency in Family Medicine at UW. My husband, Ralph, and I started attending Saint Marks in 2006 and were married there in 2007. We have three children - Mariam (12), Peter (7), Eleanor (3). I am a family medicine physician and have worked for a local community clinic (Neighborcare Health) since 2011. The clinic system is a federally qualified health center with a mission to provide care for vulnerable populations. I speak Spanish and particularly enjoy working with immigrants to the US and refugees. I do some inpatient medicine and obstetrics with the Swedish First Hill Family Medicine residency. I have participated in Saint Mark singers since 2013 and have assisted with children's ministries (e.g., Sunday school, children's chapel, etc) since 2014. Mariam sang with youth choirs until last year and Peter currently sings in Junior Choristers. We have been so grateful for the Saint Mark's community!

VESTRY MEMBERS CONTINUING IN OFFICE

Term ends January 2023:

Walter Stuteville, Clara Berg, Emily Meeks
Karla Koon, Diocesan Member (St. Andrew's, Seattle)

Term ends January 2024:

Carmen Brady, Chris Rigos, Scott Kovacs
Kathy Minsch, Katie Prettyman, Diocesan Member

Four members elected at the 2022 Annual Meeting will end their term January 2025.

CANDIDATES FOR DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATE

DEBORAH PERSON



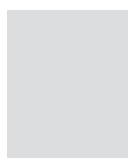
I am relatively new to Saint Marks, having discovered this wonderful community via livestreams and Zoom sessions at the top of 2021. I made a deliberate choice to say "Yes!" and roll up my sleeves and get involved and have deeply enjoyed and appreciated the opportunities I've found to serve so far—participating in services through the altar guild, as a reader and as an usher, and leading morning and evening prayer. I know that there are so many more ways I can grow in service and fellowship, and I welcome the chance to serve as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention.

KATHY MINSCH



I am happy to once again be nominated to serve as a Diocesan Convention Delegate from Saint Mark's. This would be my fourth term. A life-long Episcopalian, I've been an active member of St Mark's since 2009. I just finished my first year on the Vestry, which has been a fascinating and enriching experience. Additionally, I am a Vestry liaison to the Creation Care ministry that I've been involved with for the past 2 years and am now Co-Chair. I've also served as a lector and intercessor for many years, and just became a Greeter. I look forward to the opportunity to serve in as Convention Delegate.

MICHAEL MURPHREE



First Hill has been the neighborhood I call home since my arrival in Seattle. I moved here to pursue a career opportunity as a pharmacist and almost immediately Seattle felt like home. I was confirmed at Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral during the Easter Vigil in 2002 and have attended the 11 a.m. service regularly since then. Over the past 20 years I have been blessed to serve in several ministries at Saint Mark's including Altar Guild, Lector/Intercessor, Chalice Bearer, Lay Eucharistic Minister/Visitor, Evening Prayer leader and office volunteer. During my time at Saint Mark's, I have been inspired by the parishioners, administrators, lay ministers and clergy who have faithfully served the community within our parish and beyond.

MARIS OLSEN



I have been an Episcopalian for most of my adult life, and formerly was very active at St. Matthew's, Brown's Point, and St. Margaret's in Bellevue before making my way to Saint Mark's. My main ministry is centered around social justice issues; primarily homelessness and immigration reform. I have been the team lead for Saint Mark's engagement with UW Teen Feed for the past 3+ years, and am passionate about this mission. My husband and I live in Bellevue, where he still works for Microsoft and I am self-employed teaching people to sew after retiring from almost 20 years at Microsoft. My favorite job, though, is spending time with my five grandchildren, all of whom live nearby. I am honored to be considered as a candidate for Diocesan Convention, and expect it will be a great experience.

CANDIDATES FOR DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATE (cont.)

BARBARA ERICKSON



I have been retired for 20 years now and enjoy knitting and traveling in our RV with my husband Steve and kitty Gloria from April through October. I retired from the phone company (Qwest), and although I no longer have a 9-to-5 job, I have filled my life with volunteer jobs. I have been a member of Saint Mark's since the early 1990's. You can find me on Mondays at the Cathedral Office Front Desk—answering the phone or performing various jobs. At least once a month you will find me baking the communion bread for Sundays with my fellow bread bakers. I attend the 11:00 service, greet on the third Sunday, and am investigating Contemplative Prayer.

MAE DIRAC



I grew up in the Episcopal Church, which has been consistently welcoming yet spiritually and intellectually provocative for me. During my childhood and adolescence, I played many roles at St. Timothy's, Yakima, including as an acolyte, chorister, Junior Daughter of the King, and Hispanic Outreach Group volunteer. As a young adult, I served as a Los Angeles Episcopal Urban Intern, deepening my faith and discerning my career path. My primary connection to Saint Mark's is as a choir school parent. I am honored to be asked to serve as a Convention Delegate.

G PRO



I come from a classical music background. With a DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts) in organ and piano performance, I taught at 3 universities and concertized around the country in the 70s and 80s. Life has a way of changing, and after careers in real estate and computer sales, I started my own business selling and installing home theater systems, which I still enjoy today. After changing from Methodist to Episcopalian at the Church of St. Michael and St. George in St. Louis, I joined Saint Mark's in 1996. Currently I am a lay reader and am co-chairman of the Hunger Ministry. I find in Saint Mark's a beacon of hope and justice in a hurting world.

KATE HALAMAY



I was raised in the Episcopal Church and grew up attending St. David's Episcopal in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts. As a teen, I served as an acolyte and a lector and was active in their youth group. I moved to Seattle in 2006 to start my pediatrics residency at Seattle Children's Hospital and now work as a general pediatrician at a private practice. I started attending regularly in Fall 2011, and am now proud to call Saint Mark's my church home. I was drawn to Saint Mark's by the diversity of our congregation, our strong emphasis on social justice, our wonderful clergy, and all of the kind people I have met here. I am honored to represent Saint Mark's as a delegate to Diocesan Convention.

CHERIE BRADSHAW



Although living in the Pacific Northwest most of my life, I have spent significant time in other areas of the country, namely, Minnesota, Wisconsin, California and Louisiana. I grew up in the Lutheran tradition. As a young adult, I spent formative time at Holden Village, including a 5 month stay in which I volunteered during the winter months. I have been a Special Education teacher in the Seattle Public Schools for over 20 years in different areas of the city. I have been a member of Saint Mark's since 1994. My two children, then 7 and 10 years old, participated in Chil-

dren's and Youth activities and were confirmed here. I attend the 9:00 service and continue to sing in the choir. It has remained an important part of my life. My husband, Hal, also sang in the choir for many years. I am currently in my 4th year of EfM classes at Saint Mark's, and participated in two Radix groups last year, which were valuable in many ways. I have also volunteered at Lowell Elementary school and have valued the connections I have made. Intergenerational ministries has been an interest of mine. (Although my name is "Cheryl," I prefer "Cherie," pronounced "Sherry.")

PETER SNYDER



I was baptized and raised in the Episcopal Church but took a detour into other denominations as a young adult. In 1988, I began regularly attending St. Stephen's parish in Seattle. It felt like I had returned home! I was drawn by the beautiful liturgy and music. As I struggled with making the Christian tradition my own, I appreciated that questioning and doubting were not only accepted but encouraged. In 2012, I felt called to deepen my own understanding of that tradition and began a Master of Arts in Theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore MD, where I was living at the time. I received my degree in 2017. After retiring from a career in biomedical research and education in 2018, my wife and I returned to the Seattle area, and I began attending Saint Mark's, where I have served as a lector, intercessor, and ALM; I am currently in my second year of EfM, and I sit on the Council for Intergenerational Ministry. I have served previously as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention on behalf of St. Stephen's, and look forward to representing Saint Mark's in that capacity.

HISAKO BEASLEY



I grew up in Japan and graduated from St. Margaret's Anglican School in Tokyo. I moved to Tacoma, WA in 1973 where I joined St. Matthew, Brown's Point. I served on Vestry there and as Junior Warden. I moved to Seattle and became a member of Saint Mark's 2002. I have served on the AIDS Care Team, as a chalice bearer and Eucharistic Visitor; also I was a member of Integrity and the women's choir. I'm currently serving as a greeter. I have been involved with the Episcopal Church on both the Diocesan and National levels. I've served as a Deputy to General Convention six times and on the Executive Council (the governing body between General Conventions); the Nominations Committee and the Middle East Peace committee. I'm a member of the Ethnic Ministries Circles of Color.

Note: in 2021 Hisako was awarded the Bishop's Cross Award by Bishop Rickel, given to those "whose very lives embody the spirit of Christ".

SUSAN KNIRK



Saint Mark's has been my spiritual home for over 35 years and has enriched my life more than I could have ever imagined; community and relationships, spiritual growth, and many servant leadership ministry opportunities! My current ministries include serving as a chalice bearer and ALM at the 8 a.m. service, and Radix co-leader. My ministry involvement has varied over the years serving on the Vestry, Chair of the 2012 Call Committee, Banquet Co-Director for the Living Stones Capital Campaign, Chair of the Cathedral Foundation, and Chair of the Planned Giving Ministry. I have served as delegate to Diocesan Convention over the years and would be honored to represent Saint Mark's in 2022.