

2018

St. John's Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Vestry Nominations



The St. John's Episcopal Church Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Barr Center following the 10:30 am service on Sunday, December 9. At this meeting, five new Vestry members, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, one delegate and alternate delegates to the Diocesan Convention will be elected. A light lunch will be served. All members, 16 years-of-age and older, are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy. Sunday school is scheduled on December 9. The Fellowship Breakfast has been canceled. Children are welcome to enjoy a time of fellowship in the Barr Center Dining Room during the meeting.

Proxy voting can be completed at the Parish Office
8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, except during Thanksgiving holidays

The 2019 Nominees

Senior Warden

Benton Williamson

Junior Warden

Julian Horst

Vestry Members

Brock Dillard, Craig Keeney, Will Grice, Mackie O'Keefe, Mary Sherrer

Diocesan Delegate

TBA

Diocesan Alternate Delegates

TBA

For more information, contact the Parish Office at 799-4767

2019 Vestry Nominees



D. Brock Dillard

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(803) 904-9921

Occupation- Medical Device Sales, Abbvie Inc.

Family Information- Rebecca Dillard (wife), Evie Dillard, Reisey Dillard (children)

Parish Experience- Sunday School teacher (Wired Word), Ecuador Mission Trip, Johns Island Mission Trip, Girls Basketball Coach (coached my daughter (Reisey) K-5th), Men of St. Johns Board Member

Community Involvement- VP Dreher High School Booster Club, Special Olympics Volunteer, Moving Day and POP Walks for Parkinson Disease

Hopes for St. John's future- It is a simple vision for me. I want St. John's to continue to grow with the surrounding community. I want us to be able to offer a strong foundation based on Christian values where individuals and families can have their spiritual needs met.



Craig Keeney

ckeeney@mailbox.sc.edu
(803) 727-3823

Occupation- Librarian, South Caroliniana Library, USC

Family Information- Areli (wife); Allene (daughter); Malcolm (son); Beckett (son)

Parish experience- Secretary for the Men of St. John's Board, 2014-2016; discussion facilitator for the Wired Word Sunday School class, 2014-2017; member of the Adult Formation Committee, 2011-present; Eucharistic visitor, 2016-present; member of Selah (music group), 2008-present; volunteered and participated in Family Promise, Stop Hunger Now, and Service in the Soda City.

Community Involvement-Den leader, Cub Scout Pack 308

Hopes for St. John's future- I would like to see St. John's explore some of The Rev. Alan Bentrup's observations regarding community programming. Alan, a canon with the Diocese of Upper SC, spoke recently at St. John's.



Will Grice

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(803) 543.9519

Family Information- My wife, Jessamine, and I have two sons, Francis (9) and Ezra (6).

Occupation - I was born and raised in Columbia. I graduated from Dreher High School and attended the University of South Carolina. After spending a few years in Boston, where Jessamine went to law school, and a few more in Nashville, where I went to graduate school at Vanderbilt University, we moved back to Columbia in 2011 and have been attending St. John's ever since. I have been a Latin teacher at White Knoll High School since 2012.

Hopes for St. John's - We have always felt welcome at St. John's, and I want St. John's to continue to be a welcoming place for all people. I think St. John's strikes a good balance between changing with the times and preserving our Anglican traditions. I want to help St. John's grow and thrive in the coming years.



Mackie (Emily S.) O'Keefe

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(803) 767.1338

Occupation- Retired pharmacist, sometimes swim instructor

Family Information- Pat (husband); Emily Davison (Byron); Michael O'Keefe (Jordan) (children); Keating, Rebecca and Allison (granddaughters)

Parish Experience- Past Vestry member and secretary, rector's search committee; St. Teresa's, president; past ECW president; 2nd grade, 3rd grade and adult Sunday school teacher; Adult Education Committee; needlepoint kneeler coordinator; flowering plant sale coordinator; Guild of the Flowering Cross; Tweenagers; helped with VBS, St. John's Tea, Clericus refreshments, Feast of Lights, and Hospitality of the Grieving Committee.

Diocesan Experience- Diocesan delegate; helped with Diocesan convention held at St. John's; assisted with Diocesan ECW; helped coordinate fundraising for Cange.

Community Involvement- Volunteer swim instructor, Columbia Garden Club, (previously active as an Naval officer's wife, volunteered at the Free Medical Clinic and was a girl scout and boy scout leader, PTO president and board member, ESOL homeroom mother and volunteered with local elections.

Hopes for St. John's future- We lived in several states and attended many different Episcopal churches before retiring and returning to St. John's in 1994, my home church. I am delighted with the direction that St. John's is going and the priorities that I see being established. I want us to be a welcoming church while still nurturing our members. I think we could try new paths, but maintain our Episcopal traditions.



Mary Sherrer

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(803) 254.5934

Occupation- documentary editor

Family Information (spouse and children)- husband = John, children = Nick (16) & Katherine (13)

Parish Experience- member of Servant Ministry committee & volunteer coordinator for Hand Backpack program; St. Clare's Guild; former Sunday school teacher; former Third Sunday Squad (middle school program) volunteer

Community Involvement- former school & Meals on Wheels volunteer

Hopes for St. John's future- I hope St. John's will strengthen its connection to its neighborhood and wider community of Columbia, and that its members will continue to support one another in all our walks through life and faith.

Senior Warden



Benton D. Williamson

Email - bwilliamson@hsblawfirm.com

Occupation - Attorney

Family - Spouse, Elisabeth; Children, DuBose; Betsy, Sara and Locke

Parish Experience - Over the past 30 years or so: Vestry Member; Senior and Junior Warden; Finance Committees; EFM Graduate; Stewardship Committees; Building Committees; Lector/Chalice Bearer; Sunday School teacher; Adult Christian Formation Committees

Diocesan Experience - Now or formally: Diocesan Executive Council; Sewanee Trustee; Select Commission for Constitution and Canons; Standing Committee; Board of Trustees Still Hopes (Chair); Board of Trustees Bishop Gravatt Camp and Conference (Chair)

Hopes for St. John's future - As always "for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory."(*BCP*). More specifically, our hope should be for continual strengthening of our traditions of meaningful worship, of disciplined spiritual growth for youth and adults, of caring outreach and of joyous fellowship; all in the furtherance of His Kingdom

Junior Warden



Julian Bourne Horst

Occupation – I have worked at the Dorn VA Medical Center since 1989 as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist. I was also an Assistant Clinical Professor at the USC College of Pharmacy from 1989-1994.

Family - Spouse, Eric; Two sons: Ben (24) graduated from Furman in 2016 and is in Graduate School at USC. Bill (23) is a senior at Clemson. We have two crazy Havanese, Emma and Roger

Parish Experience - My family has been a member of St. Johns for over 25 years. I am a lifetime Episcopalian, having grown up in Prince George Winyah, Episcopal Church in Georgetown, SC. I am an active member of St Teresa's Guild and Tweenagers. I have attended the Rector's Bible Study and was in charge of the 2011 Feast of Lights. I had the privilege of serving on the Stewardship Committee for two years and as a previous and current member of Vestry. I taught 2-year-old Sunday school many years ago. My children were both acolytes

Community Involvement - I am a member of the Columbia Garden Club where I am currently serving as Treasurer. I have participated in Stop Hunger Now, Hand Backpack Program, and Family Promise.

Hopes for St. John's future - My immediate goal for St John's is that we continue to remain unified, energetic and strong during this period pastoral transition. We are off to a great start! I hope we can lovingly agree to disagree, keeping the First and Second Commandments in the forefront of our hearts. I am committed to foster St. John's historical traditions, however, not closing the doors on making new traditions in order to appeal to all age groups. Together we can continue to make St. John's a thriving, healthy church for all.