

The Church Council has approved the following slate of nominees to be elected at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 2. Please read the biographies of our nominees, so that you can learn about our fellow members who are willing to serve faithfully in carrying out the mission and vision of St. Mark's. Keep in mind that we are seeking a diverse council membership that represents the full demographics of our church.

Joan Galvin has a strong spiritual and lay-leadership background, having served/participated in Via de Cristo faith renewal retreats, as well as Kairos prison ministry. At St Mark's, Joan has served on long range planning, volunteered for Room in the Inn, and has lead numerous spiritual retreats and faith formation classes. Currently, she is a member of the St. Mark's Kairos group and the Racial Healing Team. She has been one of the key organizers of the Inter-denomination VBS for the local African American community. Joan has a graduate degree in adult education from NC State, and has a wealth of experience in adult education. She brings passion, energy, and commitment to a future role on Council

Cat Slater is a fresh face at St Mark's, having joined this past year along with her young daughter, Isa. Cat grew up in Costa Rica and North Florida. Having graduated from Florida State University, she has worked in Graphic Design Production, and the hospitality industry. Currently, she is part of the Grove Park Inn Marketing Team. Cat has served on her neighborhood HOA and the Employee Culture committee at her place of employment. She is warm, energetic and engaging, and will bring a wonderful, fresh perspective to the leadership of St Mark's. Cat, her husband JD, and Isa enjoy being part of the St Mark's family, and are grateful for the warm welcome they have received from the congregation.

Judy Taylor is a life-long Lutheran and the daughter of a Lutheran pastor. She has been a member of St Marks since 1975, along with her husband, Bob. They have two children and four grandchildren. Judy has a degree in Education from Capitol University, and has worked in the insurance, real estate and health care industries. She has served as a Sunday School teacher, and on the Long Range Planning and Christian Education Teams. She has previously served on Church Council. Currently, she is a co-coordinator of Lay Ministry and the new member photo board and is a member of Yarn Angels and WELCA. Judy brings a wealth of enthusiasm, experience, and commitment to a future role on Council.

Bonnie Richards has been a member of St. Mark's since March 1993. She has served churches of various denominations in several states as an Organist/Choirmaster and Administrative Assistant for over 45 years. She became Interim Organist at St. Mark's in 1994 and then Director of Music in 1995. In 2001, she left her full-time job as Administrative Assistant at Emmanuel Lutheran Church and School in West Asheville to become Parish Administrator at St. Mark's. She retired from the Director of Music position at St. Mark's in 2006 and from the Parish Administrator position in 2016. Since then, she has been actively involved with several organizations including St. Mark's Yarn Angels and Silver Sisters, ABCCM Medical Ministry Pharmacy, the Asheville Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota (international music fraternity), and High Country Estates Homeowners' Association. She has also been singing with the Asheville Symphony Chorus for the last 19 years. She looks forward to serving God at St. Mark's to the best of her ability.

Randy Warren, along with his wife Kari, son Matthew and dog Marshall, moved to Asheville the summer of 2015 and have been members of St. Marks ever since. As Owner and Coach at Warren Cycling LLC, Randy is able to enjoy WNC's natural beauty, outdoor culture and active community. Randy currently serves on St. Mark's Worship and Music Committee and is a regular Lay Reader. Randy loves to travel (which his cycling facilitates) but spending time with his family, whether exploring outdoors or just curled up at home watching a movie together, is what really makes his heart sing.

Frank "Pat" Patton and Susan Reiser joined St. Mark's in 1991. He has served two terms on council, including a year as president and one as vice president. He also served several terms on the Benevolent Foundation board, including a few years as chair. Pat was a member of the Stewardship team for many years, including several as its leader. His other roles have included usher, lay reader, Sunday School co-teacher and kitchen gopher when Susan would prepare the youth show meal as well as other short term roles over the years.

Amy Zellers is a cradle born Lutheran enjoying retirement, hiking with her husband and taking care of a houseful of rescue cats. Over the years at SMLC Susan has chaired the Columbarium Board and the Worship and Music team and have served on Council. Currently she is a member of Worship and Music and the Altar Guild. Susan serves as an assisting minister, acolyte and, for the last four years, have been the Council Secretary.

Nicholas Mueller has been a member of St. Mark's since 2004 when he was born. He was recently confirmed this past summer and he enjoyed going to his first youth gathering in Houston, Texas. Nicholas is currently a freshman at Asheville High School where he enjoys playing in the marching band and discovering new subjects such as engineering. Nicholas is a diehard Green Bay Packer fan, he enjoys playing baseball and going out for a round of golf. Nicholas looks forward to serving on the Church council this year.