

*St Anne's Parish
Vestry & Diocesan Delegate Nominees
2021*



Photo courtesy of David Childers



ST. ANNE'S VESTRY NOMINATIONS

SLATE OF NOMINEES

VESTRY, CLASS OF 2024

(Five positions open):

Howard Buskirk
Katie Creely
Kara Friedell
Jason Houser
David Huggins

ST. ANNE'S DIOCESAN DELEGATE NOMINATIONS

SLATE OF NOMINEES

(Top two vote-getters will be the delegates; the next two the alternates)

Joe Clapsaddle
Kay Davis
Elizabeth Rogers
Bill Silva

To provide the parish information to make voting decisions, all nominees were asked to answer:

- How long have you been a member of St. Anne's?
- Present work in the church.
- Biographical statement in 250 words or less.
- Statement of qualifications for and interest in serving on Vestry or as Delegate or Alternate in 250 words or less.

Their responses follow on the next pages.

Vestry

Linda Adamson, Thea Chimento, Alvin Collins, Betty Creighton, Carrie Dana-Evans, Mark Grimes, Kevin Hays, Katherine Hilton, Jason Houser, David Huggins, Sharon McElfish, Townsend McNitt, Sarah Morse, Paul Pope, Susan Thaxton, and the Rev. Dr. Manoj Mathew Zacharia

Respectfully submitted, The
Nominating Committee

Betty Creighton, Kevin Hays, Vollie Melson, Judy Olson, and Paul Pope



Candidate for Vestry Howard Buskirk

Baptized: as an infant

Confirmed: 1981

Member of St. Anne's Since: 2016

Occupation: Journalist

Present Work in church: Clerk of Vestry, 2019-. Co chair of Communications Evangelism Ministry and Back-to-School Backpack Ministry. Coordinator of virtual Evening Prayer since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Active in altar service. Reconciliation Ministry. Forum Committee.

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I am a longtime Washington-based journalist and former newspaper reporter and am currently the executive senior editor at Communications Daily. My wife Mary Greczyn and I moved to Annapolis in 2019 from Laurel, in part to be closer to St. Anne's. After our first trip to Israel, we came away with a burning conviction we needed to make a much bigger commitment to dedicating our lives to Christ and to service. We have been active in church since. I am a returning Episcopalian. We also attend Church on the Square in Baltimore on Saturdays, virtually since March. That church is a joint venture of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and the ELCA and a kind of testbed for reaching younger people who too often today are reluctant to become involved with a church.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

I am familiar with the work of the Vestry, having served as the clerk for the last two years. I was a member of the Search Committee, which led to the selection of the Rev. Manoj Mathew Zacharia as our rector. As a professional communicator, my top focus has been assisting Father Manoj and our leaders in outreach to the public. I have attended seminars and am especially focused on using social media as a tool to spread the Good News about Christ and all of the good things happening at St. Anne's each week. I believe that social media can be a force for good, as well as for evil, and that the good can counteract the bad. I have tried to make myself available to serve as needed and am prayerfully hopeful I can be useful as a member of the Vestry during this very difficult time.



Candidate for Vestry Katie Creely

Baptized: 1990 (via a mature Christian commitment)

Received into the Episcopal Church: 2005

Member of St. Anne's Since: 2005

Occupation: Attorney

Present Work in church: Served on most recent Rector Search Committee; currently serving on the St. Anne's Transformation Team.

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I was born in Virginia and grew up in South Carolina. After getting my undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Georgia Southern University, I moved back to Virginia and obtained a Masters in Chemistry from Virginia Tech. My husband, Tom, is also a Virginia Tech alum, which makes football Saturdays in our house much easier. In 2001, after graduate school, Tom and I got married and moved to Maryland. I taught in the Chemistry Department at The Catholic University of America while going to law school there at night. I practiced law at a large international firm for twelve years and now work as an in-house attorney at McKesson Corporation.

After looking for a church family for a while and never quite finding the right fit, Tom and I began attending St. Anne's in 2004 and felt at home right away. We got to know folks at St. Anne's and fell in love with the community. After living in Laurel for several years, Tom and I moved to Annapolis in 2011 and have been in the St. Anne's "neighborhood" ever since.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

As we understand now more than ever, St. Anne's is more than a physical place of worship. It is a source of love and hope for us and those around us. While resource management and other vestry duties may seem somewhat distinct from our church's role as a spiritual anchor in the community, I view them as intertwined. The most obvious example is the vestry's role in selecting the rector, but there are other vestry functions that exhibit this link, as well. We

might not think of the vestry's responsibility for the church's property as particularly tied to its spiritual mission. However, the beautiful exterior lighting that provides a physical representation of the church's role as beacon of safety and belonging would not have been possible without an effective vestry. Good stewardship of our church's resources takes planning, organizational skills, and the ability to collaborate with others. I have worked hard to master those skills, developing them into core strengths. I look forward to implementing them as a member of the St. Anne's vestry.



Candidate for Vestry Kara Friedell

Baptized: 1973

Confirmed: 1985

Received into the Episcopal Church: 1996

Member of St. Anne's since: 2013

Occupation: Higher Education Enterprise Software Sales Consultant

Present work in church: Children and Youth Program and supporting The Light House.

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I became a parishioner at St. Anne's in 2013 shortly after moving to Annapolis from New England. My faith journey began at a very young age where I was raised in Sea Cliff, NY. Throughout my life I continue to believe that it is with my faith in God that with gratitude my life journey is unfolding. I first attended the Episcopal Church in Morristown, NJ at St. Peter's in 1996. Since then, I've been a member of Christ Church, New Brunswick NJ, Trinity Church, Cranston RI and St. Martin's Church Providence RI. I became a member of St. Anne's shortly after moving here from New England. Before Covid-19 my family attended the 9:30 am or the 5:30 pm Sunday Worship Service. Our son Will (15) attended Sycamore Tree then Sunday School and served as an acolyte. Currently we enjoy worshiping and fellowship virtually throughout the week.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

My interest and wish to serve on the St. Anne's Vestry comes from my desire to deepen my faith through service, offer any contributions that may be needed by the Vestry as well enjoy Christian fellowship. My qualifications include strong communication skills, mentoring and training experience and knowledge of higher enterprise software. My professional experience includes being a higher education Regional Sales Executive for Cengage, a Regional Sales Consultant for Starfish Retention Solutions and most recently Community Outreach Manager for Faculty Guild. These positions and the experience that came with them will bring a unique set of skills to serve on the Vestry.



Candidate for Vestry Jason Houser

Baptized: August 27, 1997

Received into the Episcopal Church: 2013

Member of St. Anne's since: 2013

Occupation: Foreign Engagement Officer – United States Cyber Command

Present work in church: Vestry, Lector, & Usher

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

A native of Parkersburg West Virginia, Jason Paul Houser served on the St. Anne's Vestry since 2017. He currently works at the United States Cyber Command.

Jason has had a diverse political, military, and professional background which has all grown out of the impact that his family, community, and the global events have had on his life over the last 30 years.

Jason's political and campaign work began in 2002 while working for his home-state Senator - Sen. John Rockefeller. While working for Sen. John Kerry in 2004, Jason met his wife - Jaclyn Macek Houser - and they were married in 2009 in East Lansing, Michigan. In 2008, he worked as a Deputy Political Director for Senator Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign, as well as many other positions over the last 20 years.

In 2009, Jason was appointed to a position within the Department of Homeland Security in support of President Obama's Administration, and the counterterrorism efforts of the Department. He concluded his tenure at the Department serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff of Intelligence & Analysis.

As a college student affected by 9/11 in 2001, Jason pursued avenues to serve his country however he could. Jason currently serves as an Intelligence Officer in the US Navy Reserves where he supports the US Navy mission at Fallon Air Station. He recently served as a Political Science Instructor at the United States Naval Academy. In 2015, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of NATO and Afghan forces operations,

After completing his degree at the University of Tennessee, Jason went on to earn a Master's in Public Policy from George Mason University. Jason is a 2013 graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School National Security Program & Executive Fellow Program(s).

Jason, his wife Jaclyn, his six-year-old son, Lyndon, and his two-year-old daughter, Caroline, live in Severna Park, MD, where they spend most their time together building Legos, swimming, and enjoying everything that the Annapolis area has to offer.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

My family and I have been blessed to serve God through all the amazing opportunities here at St. Anne's. It has been the blessing of my life to serve on the vestry at St. Anne's, and having the ability to see the love, compassion, and giving of such a prayer and scripture-focused parish. If given the opportunity to serve again on the Vestry, I would do everything I could to continue to support our church family in growing The Circle, engaging our community, and evangelizing.



Candidate for Vestry David Huggins

Baptized: Yorkshire England

Confirmed: 1959 - St. Paul's (C of E), Whitley Bay, Northumberland, England

Received into the Episcopal Church: 1985 - St John's Ross, California

Member of St. Anne's since: December 2002

Occupation: Retired International Minerals Executive

Present work in church:

Since joining St. Anne's I have had the opportunity to provide informal leadership as an usher, both by personally performing those duties and by helping others, through the preparation of a "job description" for the role and providing "on the job" guidance. I have also been a lector and prayer leader. I served on the Vestry from 2009 to 2015 and 2017 to 2020; I was closely involved in the selection and hiring of both Amy and Joe, and Manoj. I have been a member of the both the personnel and investment committees and have held a leading role in the Stewardship Committee since 2011. From 2015 to 2017, I was a member of the Diocesan Compensation and Benefits Committee, which committee is responsible for recommending the guidelines for clergy and support staff remuneration and benefits.

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

Prior to moving to Annapolis, we were for 17 years members of St. John's, Ross California, where I had assumed similar responsibilities to those at St. Anne's, namely as an usher and a reader. My international assignments precluded my participating more deeply in church affairs. Those international assignments, however, provided me with the opportunity of instituting and overseeing community development programs in countries as diverse as Mali, Indonesia and Guatemala. In Canada, from 1961 until 1984, I was involved in the Boy Scout Movement, as Scout Master, District President, Assistant Provincial Commissioner for Ontario and as trainer both of Scoutmasters and Trainers. For four years I served as President of the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra and over ten years held several volunteer leadership roles in the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. In Annapolis I have been a member of the Board of the Symphony Orchestra since 2011 and served 2 years as Treasurer. I was for several years President of the International Club of Annapolis, which organization arranges

and manages monthly dinner meetings at which International Ambassadors address the membership.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

I believe I can continue to offer my management skills, particularly such skills developed in providing leadership in volunteer organizations, and the ability to understand and resolve diverse view points, which skill set is the outcome of years of dealing with governments and community leaders at all levels, from village chiefs to heads of government. I can be quite blunt and perhaps outspoken at times, but behind that lies the ability to listen to, to discuss, and to analyze and draw on the “facts” as viewed by the various stakeholders. Over the past 12 years I have found my continued involvement at St. Anne’s in my various roles to have been most emotionally rewarding. As a retired corporate manager to be able to serve on the Vestry provides a continued opportunity to do something meaningful with my time and talents.



Candidate for Delegate/Alternate Joe Clapsaddle

Baptized: Andrews Methodist Church, Andrews, Indiana, 1941

Confirmed: First Methodist Church, Vincennes, Indiana, 1956

Received into the Episcopal Church: May 17, 2009

Member of St. Anne's since: 2018

Occupation: Entertainment Producer/Consultant

Present work in church: Coordinator, St. Anne's Rainbow Group; St. Anne's Stewardship Committee; Foyer Group; Lector; Government and Social Justice Committee Volunteer, Maryland Diocese of the Episcopal Church

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

PERSPECTIVE

Marketing and sales professional, skilled communicator (writing and public speaking), innovative leader/manager and creative problem solver with for-profit and not-for profit companies, associations and organizations.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

JOSEPH CLAPSADDLE & ASSOCIATES: Corporate sponsorship, event and strategic marketing partnership consultants.

RETAIL AND MANUFACTURER AUTOMOBILE SALES, MARKETING, TRAINING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, EVENT MANAGEMENT (Los Angeles based)

JOSEPH CLAPSADDLE PRODUCTIONS: Co-produced 13 plays and musicals on London's West End and Broadway in New York City

MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE PERFORMING ARTS COUNCIL OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSIC CENTER

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND: Member Stewardship Committee; Coordinator, The Rainbow Group; Host, The Foyer Group; Volunteer, Government and Social Justice Initiative for the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

COMMISSIONER: Anne Arundel County Human Relations Commission

WEST HOLLYWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Board Member, Chair of the Board of

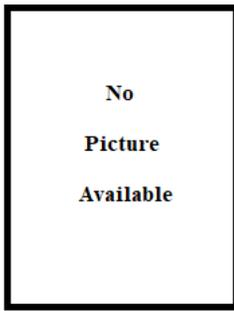
Directors, Trustee of the West Hollywood Chamber Political Action Committee 2000-2012
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD: Business License Commissioner 2012
BEVERLY HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: "Beverly Hills Tomorrow" event committee
EDUCATION
M.F.A. Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
B.A. DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

I am honored to be considered to serve as a Delegate/Alternate of St. Anne's Church to the Maryland Episcopal Diocesan Convention in 2021. For over 40 years, I have served as a management staff member or Board volunteer for leading not for profit organizations which includes organization, management, personnel, financial planning and discernment of defining and enhancing mission objectives.

Historical respect, fulfillment and guardianship of the Episcopal Church's spiritual, temporal and social responsibility in relationship to Christian ethics and evangelical mission in communicating and witnessing Jesus Christ's life, teachings and mandates is of utmost importance to our denomination.

Involvement is key to my interest in serving.



Candidate for Delegate/Alternate Kay Lassiter Davis

Baptized: Christened: Indianapolis, Ind. 1948. Full Immersion Baptism: Temple Hills, Md. 1988.

Confirmed: Easter, 1958: Baltimore, Md.

Received into the Episcopal Church: Easter, 2012: Baltimore, Md.

Member of St. Anne's since: May 9, 2019

Occupation: Current: Graduate Student: Theology. Previous: Educator/School Librarian; Social Work Planner/Administrator/LICSW

Present work in church: Verger, Acolyte, Holy Family Altar Prayer Leader, Prayer Shawl ministry, Lector, Episcopal Diocesan Women's Retreat Planning Committee, and Episcopal Diocesan Women's Retreat Workshop Leader

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I was born in Brooklyn, New York, reared in Baltimore, Maryland and a graduate of Western H. S., Ohio State, Howard University School of Social Work, and Notre Dame University of Maryland School of Education. My paternal family from the 1700's is from North Carolina (& 1940's New York) and my maternal great grandfather relocated from North Carolina in the 1800's to Indiana. New York is my heart's geographical home, the one that makes me smile when I secretly think of it. Alone, in Baltimore, Christmastide, 1995, God deepened his relationship in my heart. I saw that home is God fully within me no matter where I am placed in his world.

The privilege of being God's child has afforded me great joy, comfort, trials, material goods, travel, and interaction with diverse people and languages. The true privilege is consistently seeing him in myself and others, realizing we are one, and learning to forgive and love.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

God's people at St. Anne's, you have opened your hearts and parish to me – to pray, to love and serve my God, to listen to you and get to know you in my own way. I am humbled by your trust in God to consider me as a servant in the post of Diocesan Convention Delegate.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic St. Anne's has continued to Build, Engage, Evangelize, and Form. Yes, the leadership has been great. But so, have we. Both our leaders and parishioners have worked together tirelessly: Clay St. tutoring, backpacks, food distribution with St. Luke's, plus untold kindnesses, actions, planning, and mercies. The Church in The Circle's work is known in Annapolis. Quietly, without fanfare, we are known in the Diocese because of our willingness to do the work of God in our parish, our Diocese, and our world – Guatemala being a prime example.

To the extent that we, St. Anne's, are in one accord with the Diocese, all is well. If there is misconception, misunderstanding, missteps, or misperceptions in our parallel and shared work for God's church; discomfort arises. In either well-being or discomfort the need for gentle, firm, courageous delegates and alternates to listen lovingly, hear truthfully, move graciously, and resolve peacefully; so that, God's Will, God's Way is manifested. We, God's people, and our world benefit.

I pray that I daily demonstrate this, and if I am to represent St. Anne's for two years at Diocesan Convention that God increase them in me mightily.



Candidate for Delegate/Alternate Elizabeth Rogers

Baptized: October 23, 1945 at Christ Church, Raleigh, NC

Confirmed: 1957 at St. Peter's, Charlotte, NC (approximate date)

Received into the Episcopal Church: N/A

Member of St. Anne's since: 1980 (approximate date)

Occupation: Social work/hospice. Retired in 2020.

Present work in church: Lay reader and chaliceist (Pre-COVID), Evening Prayer leader, Grants Committee, Altar Guild

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I grew up in North Carolina and have lived in Annapolis since 1970. I am a cradle Episcopalian. My paternal grandfather was an Episcopal priest. I have two grown daughters and three amazing grandchildren. Most of my career was a social worker working with families under hospice care. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from The University of North Carolina and a Master of Social Work from Catholic University. My leisure time is spent reading, knitting and exercising.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving on the Vestry or as Delegate/Alternate.

My interest in being a delegate is the opportunity to work with the larger Maryland church community and bring that knowledge back to St. Anne's congregation. In addition, I would be an advocate in our diocese for St. Anne's interests and concerns. My long history with St. Anne's; extensive volunteer work at St. Anne's, love for the Episcopal Church and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ are some of my qualifications. It would be an honor to represent St. Anne's as a delegate.



Candidate for Delegate/Alternate Bill Silva

Name: Bill Silva

Baptized: Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, Union, NJ 1943

Confirmed: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Seattle, Washington

Received into the Episcopal Church: Bishop Bayne, Seattle, 1959

Member of St. Anne's since: September 2007

Occupation: Retired communications attorney

Present work in church: Former member and Chair of the Outreach Committee, former member of the Environmental Committee, helped with the cemetery clean-up.

Please provide a biographical statement of no more than 250 words:

I grew up in Seattle where I joined the Episcopal Church as a teenager. I attended college at Rutgers and law school at UConn. I worked for the Federal Communications Commission for 13 years and then went into private practice. I also served as an adjunct professor at Columbus School of Law, Catholic University for 20 years. I married Linda Newsom in 1972 and we raised three children in Bethesda, MD. We were parishioners at St. Columba's in DC for approximately 20 years. We moved to Kent Island in 2007 and began worshiping at St. Anne's at that time. We have four grandchildren; one in Bethesda, one in NYC, and two in Syracuse. In terms of community service, I have been a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for children in foster care in Queen Anne's and Kent Counties for 7 years and am currently Chair of the Queen Anne's County Library Board of Trustees.

Please provide a statement of no more than 250 words about your qualifications for and interest in serving as Delegate/Alternate:

In growing up, I was exposed to several different denominations and chose to join the Episcopal church because the liturgical form of worship was meaningful to me and the church was more tolerant of different people and religions than I had experienced. I also believe that outreach to the larger community must be an integral part of being a Christian. I believe that St. Anne's epitomizes these principles/goals and I would hope to further these as a delegate/alternate to the Diocesan Convention.

