

2025 Vestry Nominees

The Vestry Nominees were asked to submit a brief bio and photograph.

Please take a few minutes to read through the information, and prayerfully consider your options, so you are prepared to cast your vote for your choice of Vestry Members.

Vestry Ballots will only be filled out during the Annual Vestry Election. Please make plans to attend.

Vestry Elections will be held on January 8, 2023 during the Annual Parish meeting to be held immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.



I was born in Brooks County and attended Valdosta State College and received my Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1984.

In 1994, Ron and I met and began attending Christ Episcopal Church with my two daughters. Ron was received and I was confirmed in 1995, just prior to our wedding. We have been working together in Real Estate since 1998.

As a member of Christ Church, I taught Sunday School when my children were young. Ron and I attended Cursillo and I served on the first Mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

I am a member of the Daughters of the King and have taught bible study for approximately 15 years. I have hosted the Valencia Bible study for many years. I have served as a vestry member twice.

I came to Valdosta in 1989 to accept a faculty position at Valdosta State. Shortly thereafter, I started attending Christ Church, following the lead of several of my English Department colleagues (who are still members here!). I was confirmed at Christ Church in 1990 and have been a member ever since (and I still continue to work at VSU, currently serving as the Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Services). Henry Louttit asked me to serve a lay reader and Peter Ingeman encouraged me to become a lay eucharistic minister; I continue to serve in both roles. I also have enjoyed the educational ministry of the church, completing EFM here and occasionally teaching Adult Sunday School. Hospitality has been important to me as well; I've helped out with events such as coffee hour and Octoberfest. Throughout my years here, I have served on a wide range of committees, including stewardship and several search committees. I have had the opportunity to serve on the vestry several times; I truly understand the critical role this group plays, particularly as we hope to welcome a new rector soon.



Sheri Gravett



My wife, Phyllis, and I joined Christ Church in 1973 after I returned to VSC from doctoral work at Emory University. We were warmly welcomed by the parish, which, over the years, helped us raise a family of three. I have served on several vestries and was honored to serve as both junior and senior warden, including during the transitional year after Fr. Henry Louttit became Bishop of Georgia.

I also served over 40 years as an usher and taught several classes for our Sunday School and for Lenten studies. On the diocesan level, I served for six years on the Commission on Ministry and currently serve on the Honey Creek Commission.

John Hiers After retirement from VSU as a faculty member and administrator, I have continued to be active at Christ Church, although I now spend some of my time raising longleaf pines in Thomas County. Time and again, I have seen this parish define and redefine its significant ministries in the Diocese of Georgia and in our geographical region. Over and over I witnessed this parish respond to many challenges in Valdosta and Lowndes County, including significant work for many charities and agencies. When I look at our incredible food bank, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, the Soup Kitchen, the Red Cross, Lunch Bunch, and the Michael Clark Fund, I think of Christ Church. Our members have been active on the Diocesan Council, the Standing Committee, the Honey Creek Commission, the Corporation, Cursillo, New Beginnings, Happening, summer camps at Honey Creek, and mission to the Dominican Republic—to name a few. Throughout the years we have committed resources to the world beyond our walls. I hope that Christ Church will continue along these paths.



John with his longleaf pines

Institutional memory, of course, is no substitute for focused energy. We are fortunate to have many parishioners who have both, several of whom are on the ballot for vestry. Thanks be to God.



We joined Christ Church in 1988. Our children grew up participating in numerous activities under the leadership of godly and dedicated parishioners. I find spiritual nourishment and support and fun in my life at Christ Church.

Areas of service include Daughters of the King, Lay Eucharistic Minister, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, Acolyte, Altar Guild, Lector, and Coffee Hour. I had the privilege of chairing the last Search Committee and have served on Vestry and as Junior Warden. I am a graduate of Education for Ministry.

Phyllis Holland My Reunion Group, Tuesday Night Bible Study, and the Walk in Love group are sources of growth, accountability, and the previously mentioned fun on my spiritual journey.

I grew up attending the Nazarene Church in Fort Mill, South Carolina. In 1974, I started dating a girl who attended an Episcopal Church, which was quite a change for me. Four years later, I married that girl, Sallie Spencer Honeycutt. Throughout all those years, I learned so much about the Gospel, passion, acceptance, and love of the Episcopal faith. I knew this was the place I belonged. Due to my profession, we moved from state to state. As soon as we relocated, Sallie would search out the Episcopal Churches in the community, and we would attend each one until we found the one that best meet our needs. As we look back on it, what a blessing it was to have the opportunity to attend such a wide variety of Episcopal parishes.



Steve Honeycutt

We have four grown children and eight beautiful grandchildren. We have lived in Valdosta for 14 years and truly enjoy calling Christ Church our home. I am currently the Chairperson for the Search Committee; serve on our Habitat for Humanity building committee; help the Garden Guild; Lunch Bunch; and enjoy our Foyer Group. I look forward to continuing to serve any way I can for Christ Church.

I was received into Christ Episcopal Church in 1995, having been baptized and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church on Long Island, New York. I was unchurched for a long period of time between these events, but after moving to Valdosta in the 1970's, I was gradually drawn to Christ Church through its social activities, the Valdosta Recorder Consort which met here, the welcoming people, and the rich liturgy.



I have had many opportunities here to grow and serve. These include the St. Francis Choir (playing recorder), **Katherine Mayer** St. Gregory Choir, Cursillo, the 2006 Dominican Republic mission trip, EFM, coffee hour hostess, Bible studies, helping with Vacation Bible School and Children's Church, working at Convention, and Jammin' for Jesus. In 2008 I started the Iraqi Children's Fund Pencil and Paper Project, and this year I am promoting Vet Team Six.

I am a retired elementary school teacher, and have a son, daughter-in-law, and two young grandchildren. I like to help others, hike, and travel.

I am honored to be nominated for the Vestry, and, if elected, would do my best to address the concerns of our members and the business of the church.



I am a cradle Episcopalian and have been a member of Christ Church since the mid-80s. I have been blessed to serve in several capacities here including Sunday school teacher, preschool committee member, children's choir director, director of youth ministries, and two previous terms on the vestry. I was the parish administrator from 1998 to 2012. Currently, I am in the adult choir, a lay reader, a chalice administrator, chair of the adult formation committee, President of the Daughters of the King, and recently chaired the transition committee.

Molly Stevenson On a diocesan and national level I have and/or currently serve on Diocesan Council, the Standing Committee, the Cursillo Commission, the Honey Creek Commission, Deputy to General Convention, as well as being active in diocesan youth programs.

My children were raised, loved and nurtured by this Christ Church family. Paul and I have forged unbreakable bonds with our friends here, and my Christ Church family was the foundation of prayers and support when I was diagnosed with and treated for breast cancer in 2007.

I joke about being a church nerd but there's probably some truth in that. I feel complete and fulfilled when I serve and would be honored to be elected to serve on the vestry.

I am a cradle Episcopalian who grew up in Savannah going to St. Thomas on the Isle of Hope. Amber and I were married here at Christ Church in 1990 and together have raised our children, Hudson and Grace at Christ Church. I have been fortunate to be a high school Sunday school teacher (with Molly Stevenson as lead teacher of course). I also served three years in a row as Junior Warden while we were building the Gabard Educational building. I also like to cook things on the grill for my church as a member of the Men in Blue. This church is my family and given the opportunity I would love to serve in any way I can.



Mike Tanner



Lucy Tomberlin

I was born and raised in Valdosta. After graduating from Valdosta High School, I left South Georgia briefly to attend college – history major at Agnes Scott College, law school at the University of Georgia – before returning home to practice law. Outside of work, I enjoy reading, gardening, taking walks, practicing yoga, travelling and watching college football.

I grew up attending Christ Church. When I returned to Valdosta as an adult, there was no question that I would also return to Christ Church. Christ Church is my second home and my second family. I have served on the altar guild for 25+ years and I enjoy helping set the Lord's Table. In the past, I also assisted my mother, Norma Tomberlin, when she taught Sunday School. I previously served on the Vestry, and I was Vestry secretary in 2013.

My church family has been there for me as I have journeyed through the peaks and valleys of life. If it is God's will for me to serve on the Vestry during this time of transition, I am happy to give back to the church community that has given so much to me.
