

# Annual Parish Meeting January 26, 2025

# 1848 2023 17 Years

### Order of Business

Call to Order and Welcome

### Adoption of Order of Business

Approval of this order of business must be received by two-thirds of the voting members attending.

### **Appointments**

### Approval of 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

Election Procedures
Candidates for Election as Members of the Vestry
Candidates for Election as Delegates to Diocesan Council
Election Results

### **Introductions**

- Recognition of Vestry and Officers
- Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members
- Recognition of Parish Staff

### **Ministry Focus**

2025: Preparing the Way for the Future

### Reports

- Senior Warden's Report
- Junior Warden's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Rector's Report

Our Annual Report is available at stdave.org/annualreport, or in print by request.



Announcement of Senior Warden

Necrology Report
The Doxology
Prayer for Mission
Blessing and Dismissal
Adjournment

Father Chuck Treadwell, the Rector, called the meeting to order. There were no objections to the Order of Business, which was adopted by a vote of over two-thirds of the parish members present. Father Chuck prayed the invocation. He then thanked the Racial Justice Committee for creating the parish's Land and Labor Acknowledgment Statement and read the statement to the parish.

Father Chuck appointed Lowell Keig as parliamentarian and Jim Norman as clerk for the meeting. Father Chuck asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting. A motion was made and seconded. There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

Lowell Keig read the election procedures aloud to the parishioners present. Father Chuck presented the candidates for election as members of the Vestry: Matt Carlberg, Meg Erskine, Bunny Neible, Dan Salter, and J.C. Sanders. He then presented the candidates for election as delegates to the upcoming Diocesan Council: Tom Gebhard and Joy Philpott. Motions to approve the slate of candidates to both the Vestry and the Diocesan Council were made and seconded. There were no objections, and all proposed candidates were elected.

Father Chuck recognized the Vestry and its officers, the retiring vestry members, and the parish staff.

Ministry Focus: 2024 Year of Discernment – Fr. Chuck explained the plan for the coming year, which we will call the "year of discernment." We will ask intentionally of God what He would have us do in the coming years. The parish is invited to read Discernment by Henri Nouwen to help inculcate a spirit of listening. We will explore the Lenten Invitation found at the beginning of the Book of Common Prayer's Ash Wednesday service. During the great Fifty Days of Easter, each ministry in the church will be invited to ask the same question about God's will for us.

Senior Warden's Report – Ann Jinkins noted the completion of the renovation of the historic sanctuary. Last year also saw a significant increase in attendance at services and participation in ministries over 2022, as people sensed that the COVID-19 pandemic had come to an end. The church also made progress in bringing the local community into the parish by hosting a number of events and with the hiring of Dianne Hardy-Garcia as Director of Community Engagement and Advocacy. Finally, Ann noted the adoption of the new Land and Labor Acknowledgment Statement.

Junior Warden's Report — Jennifer Scariano also pointed to the completion of the historic sanctuary renovation as a high point of the year. Facilities staff hosted many community events, e.g., the Texas Tribune Speaker Series, the World Music Encounters, the Austin Film Festival, the Candlelight Music Concerts, and meetings with the City of Austin, the Downtown Alliance, and other area businesses. Each of these events required much work by

our facilities staff. Jim Lamm negotiated a contract with Cruise to park and charge electric vehicles, and when Cruise invoked the contract's early termination clause, he negotiated for three charging stations to be given to the parish at no charge. These will be a future stream of revenue for the church. Holy Grounds was transformed into a meeting space for the community. The church staff undertook significant measures to increase security on the campus, including the addition of a remote lock for the main entryway, installation of cameras throughout the grounds, and the hiring of unarmed security guards. These are only some of the many projects undertaken during 2023. Many thanks are due to Jim Lamm and the hard-working facilities staff.

Treasurer's Report — Merrell Anne Schearer presented an overview of church finances. We ended 2023 with a larger budget deficit than originally approved, mostly due to being behind on pledge receipts by about 8%. Fortunately, the Employee Retention Tax Credit (a federal government response to the pandemic) has covered this deficit. Merrell Anne encouraged parishioners to complete their pledges if they had not already done so. So far, pledges for 2024 are higher than pledged amounts for 2023 by about \$100,000, due to people returning to church after the pandemic.

Because pledges from the capital campaign for the renovation of the historic sanctuary will continue to come in through 2025, we have had to take a three-year bridge loan in the amount of \$1.8M. The loan requires payments only on interest, and the remaining capital campaign receipts should pay the loan off entirely.

Merrell Anne expressed many thanks to Jim Lamm and also to the Finance Committee.

Rector's Report – Fr. Chuck informed the parish that a reduction in staff would be necessary because of increased expenses in other budgeted items. Mailings with more details will go out in the next two weeks. He also told the gathering that an organ committee has been formed; our pipe organ is not in good shape, and the new Organ Committee has been working to research the condition of the organ and options to repair or replace it. More information will follow.

Announcement of Senior Warden – Fr. Chuck announced that George Zwicker has agreed to be the Senior Warden for the coming year.

Necrology Report – we recognized and prayed for the parishioners who died in the past year.

Father Chuck led the meeting in the doxology, the prayer for mission, and the blessing and dismissal. He then adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Norman, Clerk

# St. David's Vestry Members

### 2025



**SANDI BOONE** 



**BESS CARSNER** 



**GAY GILLEN** 



JIM NORMAN **TREASURER** 



**GEORGE ZWICKER SENIOR WARDEN** 

### 2026



**JOHN CROW CLERK** 



**PENI ELLIS** 



**ALLISON MARSHALL JUNIOR WARDEN** 



**RICK PATRICK** 



**JOE SANCHEZ** 

### 2027



MATT **CARLBERG** 



**MEG ERSKINE** 



**BUNNY NEIBLE** 



**DAN SALTER** 



**JC SANDERS** 

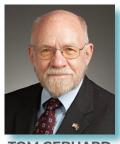
# Diocesan Council Delegates



KRISTINE **DEVINE** 



**LAURIE EISERLOH** 



**TOM GEBHARD** 



**JOY HARRIS PHILPOTT** 

# Election Procedures for St. David's Church Lowell Keig, Parliamentarian

The Canons of the Diocese of Texas provide that "Men and women at least 16 years of age, who are enrolled confirmed communicants in good standing of the Parish, are entitled to vote for members of the Vestry and upon all questions requiring the action of the Congregation, but none shall be admitted to serve as members of the Vestry except those who are at least 18 years of age."

Under the Canon, St. David's has decided that 15 qualified persons shall serve three-year terms on the Vestry, five of whom shall be elected each year and by written ballot. A member of the Vestry having served a three-year term shall not be eligible to re-election until one year has passed after the end of the member's term. Only those present at the Annual Parish Meeting are entitled to cast a ballot. Voting by absentee ballot has not been authorized. All elections, by Parish tradition, are determined by those receiving the highest number of votes within the field of eligible nominees. A majority of those voting is not required to elect. In this Parish, tellers appointed by the Rector are designated, under the Canon, as the election managers charged with reporting the results of elections to the Rector unless the meeting, by a two-thirds vote, shall determine otherwise. By Canon, members of the Vestry may not be elected to serve more than three consecutive years; however, this restriction does not apply to a person serving an unexpired term. This person is eligible for nomination and election to a full term at the conclusion of service for the unexpired term.

As to Council Delegate elections, the Parish is entitled, under the Canon, to elect four Lay Delegates. Elections may be either by the Vestry or at the Annual Parish Meeting, as the Vestry may determine, unless one of these methods has been stipulated at an Annual Parish Meeting. By Parish tradition, persons elected Lay Delegate serve four-year terms with one position being filled each year. By Canon, the Rector is authorized to fill any vacancy in the Lay Delegation at the time Council meets by appointment from parishioners who meet the qualifications.

# Vestry Nominees

### JOHN FITZPATRICK



My name is John Fitzpatrick. I hope to serve on the St David's Vestry. Our family attends 9am Sunday service. I serve monthly at Café Divine with Chef Ray with our son Jack as well as participating in Holy Hikes, and volunteering at El Buen Samaritano's annual Thanksgiving event and periodic Trinity Center services.

I have been a non-profit executive director since 1998 both locally and statewide focused on improving K12 education, higher education and workforce development primarily for African-American, Latino and first-generation students. My experience includes fundraising, statewide advocacy, HR/fiscal oversight and board governance. I served on a prior Episcopal church board (Bishop's Committee for Soco Episcopal 2020-2022) and as an Austin ISD trustee (2002-2006). My current non-profit board service includes Austin EdFund (chair of Audit committee), Austin 2030, Western Governor's University-Texas and co-founder of a Dad's Club at GreenLeaf NCC (18+adult program for young people with neurological differences). I would be excited to be a resource on the Vestry on annual audits, HR issues, expanding community service, and ideas on new revenue ideas including leveraging our unique downtown facility.

Our family has been a member of St David's since enrolling our now 19-year-old twins, Jack and Ellie, in St David's preschool in 2007. As a former Catholic, I feel fortunate to have raised our kids within the religious values and leadership of the Episcopal Church including the role of women in leadership roles and the embrace of the LGBTQ community. During a sabbatical in the summer of 2022, I read "Love is the Way" by Bishop Michael Curry which was inspiring and motivating. It was the first time I thought seriously about ways to give back to St David's and the Episcopal Church overall. Currently I am in a career transition and feel drawn to service on Vestry.

### **CLARE KNAPP**



My name is Clare Knapp and I am humbly submitting my nomination for Vestry. I was actually raised in a Baptist church in Waco, but enjoyed a close relationship with my grandmother, who attended St. Paul's Episcopal Church. (At that time, Father Chuck just so happened to be the rector of St. Paul's, and I had formed a fast friendship with his son Colton in middle school!)

After careful consideration, study, and introspection during my undergrad years at UT, I began the process of my conversion to the Episcopal faith during my graduate work at A&M. (I attended St. Thomas Episcopal Church while Pastor Angela was the rector!) I completed my conversion at St. David's where I was baptized in May 2023. It was indeed a full circle moment!

I have enjoyed spending time with the EpiscoPals, learning from the many fascinating speakers on Sundays in Crail C, and serving as an usher at the 9 AM service. I even met my husband, Alex, a past Vestry member, in Sumners Hall during Father Bob's retirement! (Although our tenures never overlapped, Alex even attended both St. Thomas and St. Paul's while in school himself!) I will never be able to repay St. David's or the broader Episcopalian body for giving me the tremendous gift of new life through my baptismal covenant (and, of course, the opportunity to meet my now husband)! Serving as a Vestry member would be a small way for me to try to begin to repay these innumerable gifts.

As the Housing Economist for the local board of realtors, I have extensive experience in exploring financial, economic, and housing data and deciphering trends.

I am committed to helping St. David's continue its many wonderful ministries while also cultivating growth—both in members and in ministry—for future generations.

### **MELANIE MOORE**



I'm Melanie Moore. I've been a member of St. David's since 2003. Currently I'm the editor of The Abbey blog, Practicing Presence, and participate in the Abbey groups. I've been co-leading Pickleball on Wednesday nights and helped with the Open Table ministry (I attended the first GLEE gathering years ago!). I completed EfM in May 2024. During my time at St. David's I've served on the Library Guild, the Adult Christian Formation Commission (before it was a staff position), participated regularly in the Women's group, and have led book studies.

I'm a writer/editor and have worked as a journalist, tech writer, database integration account executive, and for 17 years as a nonprofit and private foundation Executive Director. Many people at St. David's played meaningful roles helping me as I founded and led Badgerdog (a creative writing program now a part of the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation. Badgerdog put writers in K-12 low-income schools, started a popular summer writing camp, and relaunched the defunct literary journal American Short Fiction (ASF) after I acquired it from the University of Texas Press. ASF remains in publication under a different nonprofit).

More recently I was involved in the Central Texas Education Funders, Austin Area Funders, and Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium, the Association of Writing Programs, and other literary and nonprofit organizations including the Workforce Solutions board. Currently I'm a member of the Texas Writer's League and the Longhorn Aquatics Masters swim team.

I feel called to serve on the Vestry at this time because St. David's is in an exciting place as the "light on the hill" in an ever-changing city. I feel like my mix of experience and creative vision could be useful. But mostly it's a chance to give back to this parish that's given me so much.

### **MITY MYHR**



My name is Mity Myhr and I am honored to be considered for a place on the parish vestry. My husband, Larry, and I joined St. David's in 1999 before we were married. Since then, St. David's has been an important part of our lives, nurturing and sustaining us and our son, Andrew, as well as challenging us to grow in our Christian faith.

I have been a part of many ministries including the Altar Guild and Stewardship Committee. When our son was young, I volunteered with children's ministries. Additionally, I served on the Grants Committee, on several discernment committees, and as an Evening Prayer leader. We are regular members of the Crail C Adult Formation community. More recently, it has been an honor to serve as the parish archivist, maintaining and building our records. I served on the 175th Anniversary Committee, helping to coordinate the parish time line and calendar.

I believe my years of service on a variety of ministries and committees gives me a good understanding of the St. David's community and will help me to support our on-going parish discernment process.

My professional experience as a professor of History and Associate Dean at St. Edward's University has also given me experience planning and evaluating programs. As a teacher and administrator, I try to listen deeply to my students and peers and to consider diverse perspectives when participating in decision making.

A cradle Episcopalian, I have grown up in downtown churches. I believe strongly that St. David's can continue to be a faithful and dynamic community in the heart of Austin.

### **COLBY SIMPSON**



My name is Colby Simpson, and I am honored to have been tapped for a nomination to the St. David's Vestry. My wife, Lauren, and I have been members of the parish since 2015 and can typically be found at the 11:15 service.

For a few years we were regular participants in Amy Moehnke's Wisdom Ways discussions until the autumn of 2018 when the birth of our son complicated things a bit. Once he was old enough to attend the nursery we had mostly aged out of the "young adult" label.

We now have two boys, one in catechesis and one in the nursery. This frees us up to participate in formation most Sundays including Crail C lectures. I am also a member of the Environmental Guild which meets periodically during the formation hour. I have over a decade of professional culinary experience which I plan on applying to Chef Ray's food ministry once the kids get a bit older.

After I left the restaurant industry I began work in customer service for a technology company. Fast forward about ten years, and I now find myself managing a team that supports high performance computing software for Nvidia. This, combined with my time on a kitchen line, has provided a wealth of experience managing multiple concurrent fires (sometimes literal), creative problem solving, and anticipating the unexpected.

I have always admired the work put into the parish by the Vestry, and it appears that the Spirit has called upon me to take up the mantle and take part.

# Diocesan Council Delegate Nominees

### **BILL LANDON**



My name is William Landon, and most people know me as Bill. I am submitting to be nominated as a delegate to the Diocesan Council. I have been a member of St. David's for about two and a half years and have grown very fond of the church and my fellow parishioners. I am quite active at the church and involved in several ministries. Most people know me as a lector or as the salad guy at Thursday lunches. I work in the kitchen with Chef Ray quite frequently and dust off my carpentry skills with Rex on the ramp builds once a month. I have been put into the rotation of eucharistic ministers and visitors and can often be found volunteering with

Kelsey and the youth at formation on Sunday mornings.

I am currently in discernment for the priesthood and have gotten support from my discernment committee, Father Chuck, and the vestry. I am trying to delve deeper into my church life and community as I move towards seminary and beyond, in pursuit of this end I feel that serving the Diocesan Council would be an excellent step in that direction allowing me to support the diocese as well as learn more about the inner working of our church system to inturn be of even better service in the future. Will is a nominee for a one-year unexpired term as a delegate for Diocesan Council.

### JOY HARRIS PHILPOTT



My family and I began lurking around Saint David's in 2003 and finally became members of the church in 2007. St. David's has provided a wonderful community for our family, and Ben and I are grateful for all who have helped to form us and our children, Winn and Tate. Hopefully, we've given back to the community as well. I've had opportunity to serve as a youth Sunday school teacher and have been on the Vestry. I currently chair the Racial Justice Committee and am fortunate to help facilitate Sacred Ground when we offer the course.

At a diocesan level, I am one of the trainers for the Anti-Racism training provided for clergy new to the diocese.

Last year, Joy filled the one-year unexpired term as a delegate for Diocesan Council. This year, she is a nominee for a full four-year term.

# Ministry Focus

### 2025:

### PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE FUTURE

### **LENTEN FOCUS**

Prayers of Jesus and practice of prayer

### **GREAT FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER**

Receive and analyze feasibility study results

### **SUMMER 2025**

Explore property, facilities, ministry, and budget possibilities for the future

### **FALL 2025**

Continue parish-wide dialogue and articulate vision



The Judge's Window, installed 1898

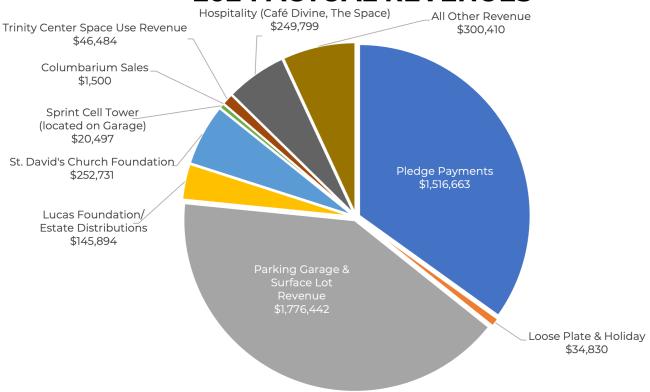
# Parish Financial Summary

	Unaudited	2024	2025
REVENUES	2024 Actual	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pledge Payments	1,516,663	1,500,000	1,600,000
Loose Plate & Holiday	34,830	30,000	35,000
Parking Garage & Surface Lot Revenue	1,776,442	1,782,050	1,588,000
Lucas Foundation/Estate Distributions	145,894	104,000	106,200
St. David's Church Foundation	252,731	250,000	255,000
Sprint Cell Tower (located on garage)	20,497	22,300	22,350
Columbarium Sales	1,500	6,000	3,000
Trinity Center Space Use Revenue	46,484	42,885	43,350
Hospitality (Café Divine, The Space)	249,799	290,300	261,500
All Other Revenue	300,410	116,700	52,800
TOTAL REVENUES	4,345,250	4,144,235	3,967,200
EXPENSES			
Clergy & Pastoral Care	35,001	37,000	35,000
Worship & Music Ministry	73,596	79,400	74,600
Formation Ministries & The Abbey	55,344	59,150	55,350
Community Engagement & Outreach	29,081	34,500	35,700
Communications & Stewardship	33,449	39,000	40,000
Hospitality (Café Divine, The Space)	94,090	92,700	93,300
Administration	407,907	372,700	361,900
Diocesan Assessment & Episcopal Support	393,497	394,574	394,384
Facilities	349,809	283,980	266,100
Utilities	222,677	206,500	232,500
Payroll & Benefits Expenses	2,652,165	2,444,481	2,746,351
All Other Expenses	11,776	7,600	11,400
TOTAL EVENIES	/ 750 700	( 05) 505	/ 7/6 505
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,358,392	4,051,585	4,346,585
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(13,143)	92,650	(379,385)
* One-Time Disbursement from Church Foundation	N/A	N/A	382,500
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(13,143)	92,650	3,115

<sup>\*</sup> The St. David's Church Foundation approved the vestry request for a one-time disbursement for 2025 to cover the loss of garage revenue and projected 2025 deficit.

## 2024 Financials

### **2024 ACTUAL REVENUES**



### **2024 ACTUAL EXPENSES**

