

2016 SLATE OF  
VESTRY NOMINEES

FOR THE  
2016 ANNUAL MEETING

CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2016  
11:30 AM

# 2016 Slate of Vestry Nominees

## Annual Meeting

January 31, 2016  
11:30 AM

Each candidate was asked to describe their sense of calling to serve on the vestry by answering the following questions:

1. Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and professional) you bring to the vestry
2. How would you further our mission statement?

They were also invited to include their occupation, length of membership, previous vestry experience, activities they are involved in at Christ Church Cranbrook and any professional or volunteer experience or expertise that they can bring to the vestry.

The following pages are the candidates' responses.

### **Our Mission Statement**

*The mission of Christ Church Cranbrook is to*

Learn the faith,  
Live the faith,  
Love the people in our midst, and  
Spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Through*

Expansive Ministries with Children and Youth,  
Challenging Adult Christian Formation,  
Abundant Outreach,  
Extravagant Hospitality,  
Generous Stewardship, and  
Intentional Leadership Development.

# Michael Andrews



## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Management Consultant

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

Four years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

Little Lambs Parent; Member of Outreach Committee; Participant and Leader of Crossroads Luncheons; Leader of Feeding & Caring Committee (Baldwin Soup Kitchen, Bound Together, Community Garden, Crossroads of Michigan, SOS); Co-Chairman of CCC Technology Committee.

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

I have spent the last 20 years as a management consultant. That is, I make a living solving significant individual, group, organization and market problems. I am highly experienced in: 1. organizing and listening to individuals, teams and organizations; 2. documenting and providing objective assessments; and 3. Designing, planning, leading and coordinating action toward effective, intended outcomes.

This helps improve individual, group, organizational and market situations.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

The CCC mission is clearly stated, intentional and direct, and we currently do many good things in support of our mission. I asked a handful of CCC members – including 20+ year members, clergy leaders and new members – what they thought about the CCC mission, and how our mission can most effectively be furthered. I received VERY consistent feedback: “We know that we do a lot, but we don’t know specifically what that includes.” Not one of the people I spoke with was aware of exactly how much Ministry work we do as an entire congregation. I believe that as a collective membership, we must better document and communicate ALL of the good things we do. Then we will truly understand how we are fulfilling our Mission today. We can then determine specifically where to focus our abundant resources – time, talent and treasure – on the intended outcomes that we have designed and laid out in our Mission. One of my primary goals as a member of the Vestry would be to inventory, summarize and communicate this information so that our members understand how we are succeeding in our Mission today and how we will continue to move the Mission forward.

On a personal, spiritual note, I am passionately committed to our Mission; it lives in my soul, heart and mind as this line in the Prayer of St. Francis: “It is in giving that we receive.” I look forward to being in this discourse – both in conversation and in the world - with my fellow CCC members for the work of Christ Church Cranbrook and for the work of The Kingdom of God.



# Kathy Bass

## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Weight Watchers, counselling clients and training counselors; former production manager of a furniture and import company; assistant librarian and basketball coach at Dana Hall. Volunteer in son's school, helped with giving campaign, President of U.S. Naval Academy Boston Area Parent's Club, Associate Vestry member at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in NYC.

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

13 years

**Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:** Altar Guild Executive Board member; Flower Fund Chairman, Salon Concerts, in charge of hospitality; Adult Education Committee member; Music at Christ Church Cranbrook; Funeral Ministry; Wedding Coordinator and Trainer.

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

What an exciting odyssey my life is, rich in experience and active involvement! New York City -corporate executive, first woman elected to Associate Vestry at St. Bartholomew's and first woman usher. Our son is born. He begins pre-K. I begin supporting activities, first as class mother. Then Boston - a career as an executive at a private school and a full range parent activities at our son's schools, elementary and middle school then high school. When he goes to the Naval Academy, I join the Boston parents' club, finishing as its two term president. Naval Academy values run deep. Following his graduation, I begin over ten years' service as an Academy Blue and Gold Officer, a civilian program that counsels young men and women on admission to the Academy. Now Detroit - working at Weight Watchers, counselling clients on weigh loss and self-esteem and training other counsellors, and continuing as a Blue and Gold Officer, Detroit's first female one.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

Religious values run deep too. At Christ Church Cranbrook since 2002, I have been a member of the Altar Guild, Altar Guild Executive Board member, Flower Fund Chairman, Salon Concerts in charge of hospitality, Adult Education committee member, Music at Christ Church Cranbrook (MACCC) committee member Funeral Ministry and Wedding Coordinator and Trainer. Now I am seeking Vestry membership. The reason is simple: I am a "doer" and would like to think I can be of assistance to Christ Church in a carrying out the objectives of its mission statement.



## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Retired Bacteriologist, Cytologist and Gemologist. Led guitar/folk music, 1965-79 in various churches worship; choir member 1979-2013; Bloomfield Library book club facilitator, 2005- present. Currently member of Women's Spirituality Group; Healing and Oblation Bearing Ministries at CCC.

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

Three years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

Worship coordinator - Music College '65-69 and in Ohio '72-79. Currently enrolled in Women's Spirituality Group and am in charge of finding volunteers and scheduling of Oblation Bearers Ministry, Former Healing Ministry scheduler, spoke at Advent by Candlelight in 2013.

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

"Surely the presence of the Lord is in the place, you can feel His mighty power and His grace..." - so wrote Lanny Wolfe in his 1977 hymn. Pretty sure he was not talking about Christ Church Cranbrook specifically, but he could have been! Certainly the architecture, sanctuary, and artworks are more than stunning, but even more beautiful are the open-heartedness and loving kindness of its members, which my husband Ed and I felt since attending our first Sunday service here. In 46 years of marriage, we've lived in five states, travelled abroad, and been members of seven other church parishes before making Christ Church our spiritual home almost three years ago.

We've both been motivated to give something back. Ed is a verger and usher, and I've joined the Women's Spirituality Group, and belong to both the Healing and Oblation Bearing Ministries.

My background is Science - I've worked as a bacteriologist, cytologist, and gemologist, so I like getting to the "bottom line." But my "right brain" stays happy with yoga, music, ballet, gardening and reading. I like staying physically and mentally busy, am reasonably well organized, and very much enjoy group discussion, collaboration, and problem solving.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

If elected, I'll continue to work in any capacity to help Christ Church Cranbrook expand its vibrant diversity, intellectual and spiritual vitality, and extraordinary Spirit-filled hospitality.

# Jim Clarke



## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

My job title is President of Robertson Homes, a local builder and developer of residential homes. I am the current president of the Home Builders Association of South East Michigan and was the former President of Lighthouse PATH. I have volunteered for several assignments at CCC including the rebuilding of the columbarium and a assembly of the playground equipment at Focus: HOPE.

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

34 years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

At Christ Church Cranbrook, I have served on Vestry, Building and Grounds and participated as auctioneer at the annual Auction for Outreach and the Rector Search Committee (Gary Hall).

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

I am honored to be considered as a Vestry candidate and if elected, will be serving for a second time. My wife, Spring, and I were married at Christ Church Cranbrook in 1982 and our adult children, Ashton and Jayme, were both active in the Acolyte program. Spring also served on Vestry and stays active in the Women's Spirituality Group. I also served on the Search Committee for our former rector, Gary Hall, and was active on the Buildings and Grounds committee for a number of years.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

I would volunteer my time to work in the areas of Outreach and to help with the buildings and grounds. The experience, knowledge and skills I have gained at Robertson Homes and with Lighthouse of Oakland County should translate well to these areas.



# Kristen Goren

## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Paid occupation: Senior Research Consultant with Unitedhealth Group.

Volunteer experience: **CCC:** Hospitality Committee, Artworks Committee, Substitute Sunday School Teacher, One Bread Ministry. **Non-CCC:** **Junior League of Birmingham**, MI, Board of Directors (Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, Endowment Chair), **Skyline Camp and Retreat Center**, Almont, MI (Board member), **Orchard Lake Sanctuary** (Board member), **Boys & Girls Clubs of SE MI Women's Group** (Board member).

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

20 years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

My service at CCC includes the Hospitality Committee, the Artworks Committee, Sunday school teacher and substitute, Greeter, and founding member of the new One Bread Ministry. .

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

Our family has been a member of CCC since the 1990s. My husband Jim and I found it to be a receptive and comfortable home to pursue our spiritual and fellowship goals. Our two daughters, Elyse and Hailey, have gone from baptism through Sunday school, confirmation, and serving on the acolyte corps (and as one of the first Junior Vergers). We have always tried to set an example of active participation in church life. For me, the culmination of that example would be to serve on the Vestry.

My service at CCC includes the Hospitality Committee, the Artworks Committee, Sunday school teacher and substitute, Greeter, and founding member of the new One Bread Ministry. In my professional capacity, I work as a Research Consultant in the healthcare insurance industry, currently for Unitedhealth Group. I also have a graduate degree (and extensive work experience) in Human Resources, focused on employee relations and compensation. If entrusted to the Vestry, I hope to take my love of service, education, outreach to the next level, and believe I would provide a range of experience to that end:

- Non-profit financial management and board/committee operations.
- Strong interpersonal and “soft” skills –active listening, conflict negotiation, and facilitating productive meetings.
- Consultative leadership experience, through work as a healthcare industry Research Consultant.
- 10 years of Human Resources experience, to liaison with/support Personnel Committee needs.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

Under our new leadership and in support of our growing membership, I would be honored to serve the mission of CCC. I hope to help develop leaders within the church; engage new members through our outreach and hospitality; and help with financial/stewardship management.

Thank you for your consideration.



# Chas Kipp

**Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Senior Vice President, Multi-Bank Securities

**Length of membership at CCC:**

13 years and then most recently the last 24 years

**Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

Vestry, Search Committee member (Gary Hall), Usher, CCC Investment Committee, Lead Verger, Eucharist Minister, Acolyte Leader

**Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

Thank you for the opportunity to run for the Vestry. I am humbled to be included with the other very qualified nominees. Having been a member of the Vestry before, I know the commitment required to guide our wonderful church.

I was baptized and married at Christ Church. My wife Kristen and I have raised our two children, Hannah and Alec, here. I currently serve as the Chair of the CCC Investment Committee. I am a verger, a Eucharistic Minister, a Thurifer, an adult leader for the acolyte corps, and a reserve usher. My service to Christ Church is deeply rooted in a belief that the Booth family, in its extraordinary generosity and vision, created a place from which God's light can shine in all directions. I believe that we are charged with the responsibility of carrying on that mission. We are the stewards of their gift.

**How would you further our mission statement?**

If elected, I would like to make sure that our relationships with the diocese and our neighbors flourish. We achieve that by growth in membership and stewardship. We achieve that by uplifting our youth and pastorally caring for our congregants in need. We achieve that by generating an environment in which people are inspired, challenged and involved for the greater glory of God.



# Gail Smith

## **Occupation and Volunteer Experience**

I am a retired elementary school teacher. Before joining Christ Church Cranbrook, I was a member of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul for more than 20 years. Since joining Christ Church, I have volunteered my services as a member of the Altar Guild, as a member of the Flower Guild and as a Verger. Until 2014, I was a member of the Executive Board of the Friends of African and African-American Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts. I currently serve on the Flower Guild Committee of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

## **Length of Membership at Christ Church Cranbrook**

Two years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership**

At the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, I served as Head Verger, the Chairperson of the Wedding Consulting Committee, as well as a member of the Vestry.

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

While a member of St. Paul's, I served on the Vestry, as a Verger, as a Lay Reader, as a wedding consultant, and as a Sunday School Teacher. I also volunteered my services as a member of the Altar Guild and the Flower Guild.

After my husband and I moved to Bloomfield Township, we continued our membership at St. Paul's for several years. St. Paul's provided a wonderful opportunity for outreach, stewardship and Christian service to an urban community facing many challenges. Our decision to transfer membership from St. Paul's to Christ Church was accompanied by the sadness of leaving the familiar, and the trepidation of facing the unknown. But it was my hope that the hours of commuting could be spent more productively in Christian service within a Parish closer to our home. So, for several years I attended Christ Church as a "Visitor," until I was absolutely certain that this was a Parish that would meet my need for meaningful Christian fellowship and service.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

I believe I can further the mission of Christ Church by sharing my experience in Parish governance, by participating in the Ministries with Children and Youth, and by furthering the Parish's Outreach program, particularly as it pertains to broadening our diversity.



# Pete Webster

## **Occupation or Volunteer Experience:**

Occupation: attorney

Within CCC I have served as an usher and on the finance committee. I have also participated as a parent through the acolyte program. Outside of CCC, I have been involved in the following: State Board of Ethics, Chairperson; Oakland County Brownfield Development Authority, Chairperson; Detroit Regional Committee, Life Member; Automation Alley, former Board Member; Oakland County Business Roundtable, Former Member; Former Oakland County Commissioner; City of Royal Oak, former Mayor Pro Tem, Commissioner and Zoning Board of Appeals Member and City of Royal Oak Downtown Development Authority, Former Board Member.

## **Length of membership at CCC:**

Six years

## **Previous Experience in Parish Leadership:**

None, other than Finance Committee

## **Describe your background, talents and experience (personal and practical) you bring to the Vestry.**

I am hopeful that my past experiences and considered and thoughtful approach to working together with the Vestry and other members of the congregation to expand our membership and create an even more sound base on which to build the Church.

## **How would you further our mission statement?**

My path to the Church has been roundabout, am I am newer to the Church. I hope that this perspective, as opposed to one who grew up in the Church, would be helpful.

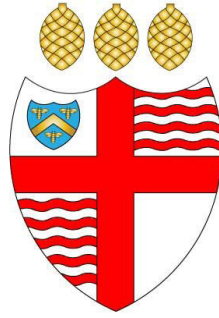
Christ Church Cranbrook is blessed to have such qualified and dedicated people willing to work in this important ministry. Only five positions are available, we are extremely grateful for the eight parishioners the Vestry has presented for consideration.

Please keep in mind that our by-laws require a parishioner be present at the Annual Meeting to vote and to vote for five people.

*Any ballot with less than five people listed will be disqualified.*

There will be two opportunities for parishioners to talk to the vestry candidates. There will be a “Meet and Greet” after the 10:00 AM service during the Coffee Hour on *January 17 and on January 24.*

Please use these opportunities to acquaint yourself with the five parishioners you will vote for to become the future leaders of Christ Church Cranbrook.



*Worship* is central to the life of Christ Church Cranbrook as we join together to adore God, hear the Sacred Word, offer prayers for ourselves and each other, and celebrate the Sacraments.

## Weekly Worship Service Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday ~ **8:30 AM** ~ Morning Prayer

Wednesday ~ **8:30 AM** ~ Holy Eucharist preceded by Bible Study at 7:30 AM

Wednesday ~ 6:00 PM ~ “Renew” Worship and Bible Study followed by a light supper and fellowship

Saturday ~ **5:00 PM** Holy Eucharist - “Sanctuary”

Sunday ~ **8:00 AM and 10:00 AM** ~ Holy Eucharist

Nursery Care and Sunday School ~ Sunday at 10:00 AM

**6:00 PM** ~ Evensong

Choral Evensong and “God in the City” speaker on the first Sunday of the month

*Schedule may change throughout the year.*

*Please check the website or call the parish office to verify service times.*

### *Please Join Us!*

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