



St. Christopher announces the 2025 Vestry Nominees to be voted on Sunday, October 27th to fill four openings.



Melodie Keener

Years at St. Christopher: 11 years

Ministries in which you participate: Bereavement Committee, Altar Guild, Usher, Bottle Pax, Finance Committee, and others as the need arises.

Why do you feel called to serve on the vestry? I served on the vestry several years ago. I found it very interesting to see how the leadership of the church worked, how decisions were made, etc. I believe I can once again assist in this leadership as St. Christopher continues to grow and move forward.

Briefly describe your faith journey: I grew up Presbyterian and like many young adults, stepped away from the church for several years. I found that I missed it though, and after Dan and I got married, we attended various churches together in Dallas before moving to League City and joining St. Christopher. Looking back over my life now, I can see that even when I had stepped away from the church, God was with me throughout! He has guided me through many struggles over the years and was there as I dealt with many of life's challenges. He continues to be with me today as I continue life's journey.



Vernon Thompson

Years at St. Christopher: 33 years

Ministries in which you participate: Vestry, Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM), LEM Coordinator, Teller, Usher, Board Member of the St. Christopher Endowment Fund

Why do you feel called to serve on the vestry? When Fr. Brian asked me to consider serving on the vestry, I was somewhat surprised. So, I asked if I could have a few days to think and pray about it and he said of course. Truthfully, I felt honored that he would ask because that meant he thought about me and that he had confidence in my ability to serve. I did not get a strong feeling from God whether to serve or not, but that He would support me either way. I can't ask for more than that. As previously mentioned, I had served on the vestry, but it has been several years.

Ultimately, I decided to accept Fr. Brian's invitation. It was at that point that I received a strong message from God that I had made to right decision. With God's help, I will do the best job I can to serve Him and St. Christopher Episcopal Church.

Briefly describe your faith journey: My faith journey began when I was about 10 years old. At that time, there would be about 2 TV broadcasts per year of the Billy Graham Crusade. I realize it is a little out of the ordinary for a 10-year-old to be so strongly attracted to a religious crusade on TV, but I was. I didn't know it then, but I know now that it was

all God's doing. I watched Billy Graham even when I was in high school and as much as I wanted to attend one of his crusades, I never thought I would have the opportunity. Well God had other plans. While a student at Texas Tech, I learned that Billy Graham's crusade would be coming to Lubbock. God gave me that opportunity and I wasn't about to waste it. So, I went. I listened to Billy Graham's message and when it was over, he invited everyone to come down to the field and publicly accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. I had seen him do this so many times on TV. The music started playing and the choir was singing the familiar and beautiful "Just As I Am", one of my favorites. I got up from my seat and went down to the field and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Soon thereafter, I began attending an Episcopal church in Lubbock and in 1975, I was confirmed. My faith journey is continuing, with a destination yet to come. Thanks be to God!



Cindy Wilems

Years at St. Christopher: 12 at St. Christopher Episcopal Church

Ministries in Which You Participate: Assisting with youth formation, women's Bible study

Why Do You Feel Called to Serve on the Vestry? St. Chris is at a very pivotal time with a lot of new growth and opportunities in many areas of the church. One of my strengths is leaning in during pivotal moments such as this and assisting in long-term planning, growing strategic opportunities, and creative thinking.

Briefly describe your faith journey: I am a "cradle Episcopalian" who grew up in a church in Vermont where the church was my family. As Craig and I grew our own family here in the Houston area, I knew we wanted to find something similar to what I had grown up with. In the past 10 years, I've enjoyed becoming closer to God through Bible study and prayer, listening to KSBJ radio, and learning to really listen to what God is saying and leading me to do. I find God everywhere but feel especially close when surrounded by nature and water. I know that every good thing that has come into my life is because of God and I am truly grateful.



Heather Zapp

Years at St. Christopher: Approximately 27 years

Ministries in which you participate: Over the years I have served a three-year term on the Vestry, with one year as Senior Warden, co-chaired the Stewardship Committee for eight years, and co-chaired the capital campaign in the fall of 2013. I have also worked with the Lay Eucharistic Visitors, as a Sunday School teacher, and am a member of the Tuesday night growth group.

Why do you feel called to serve on the vestry? I love the welcoming, friendly atmosphere of St. Christopher, as well as the commitment to continued spiritual growth in Christ shown by our members. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on Vestry as we walk through this season of growth and change.

Briefly describe your faith journey: I would love to say that my faith journey has been a steady, forward moving one, but I have learned over the years that faith is more like a tide with ebbs and flows. I am grateful to have a faith family walking with Jesus to keep me going in the ebbs; a family that offers opportunities for praise, worship, and service in the time of flow.