

CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

Vestry Candidates *for the* **2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

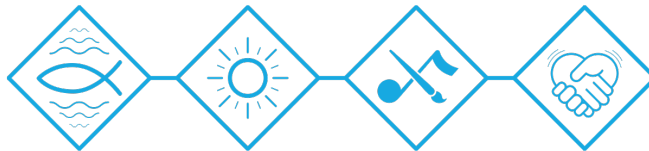
Sunday, January 26, 2020
11:30 am | Hospitality Center

2020 VESTRY CANDIDATES

Candidate Requirements

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

1. They were invited to include their occupation, length of membership, activities they are involved in at Christ Church Cranbrook, their Parish Leadership experience, and any professional or volunteer experience or expertise that they can bring to the vestry
2. Using 250 words or less, to reflect on how their work on CCC's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: Meeting Jesus, Finding Joy, Sharing Beauty, and Serving Others.



OUR FOURFOLD VISION

We **meet Jesus** when we discover the joy that meeting him brings, the beauty he reveals, and the ways we are called to serve others as he does.

We **find true Joy** when we meet Jesus, experience beauty, and find the perfect freedom there is in joyfully serving others.

We **share in Beauty** when we see all the ways meeting Jesus, finding joy, and serving others bring out what is truly beautiful in ourselves and others.

We truly **serve Others** when our service reveals joy, beauty, and Jesus. For Jesus is the model of all loving service, liberating joy, and transfiguring beauty.



KATY ALLEN

High School Japanese Language Teacher, HR Manager

I have been a member of CCC for 1 year.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Member of the Flower Guild Leadership/Board, Advent by Candlelight Organizing Committee, some experience as Altar Guild trainee. Participation with husband and children in urban farm, Micah 6 and other Outreach.

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Served on the Vestry of St. Elizabeth's, Wilmington MA before relocating to Michigan and St. Stephen's, Troy before moving to CCC

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

My father passed away eight years ago, and I lost my moral compass when he died. Now, with many obligations of my own, I know that I always have the abiding love of God in all that I do. It is a great privilege for me to develop and deepen intergenerational friendships here with members of the congregation. I meet Jesus when I welcome people into my heart.

I came to CCC a year and a half ago desperate to find Joy again. After letting go of some sadness and healing from circumstances that were blocking the human connections that bring me Joy, I have been blessed to watch my children develop over that past year with the guidance of the ministers here. I love hearing my daughter sweetly sing in the Choristers and watch my other daughter as she serves with poise and grace as an acolyte.

God is nearest when I am in nature. I feel a deep responsibility to be a good steward of the gifts we have been given. Stewardship can seem like a serious, heavy weight. At the same time, with innovative and wise use, we enhance the treasures we have received. It is a great pleasure for me to be able to serve on the Flower Guild and honour God's Creation with embellishment, then to share with visitors and parishioners.

I want to be able to serve Others with abundance. My family is in a comfortable place right now, able to pursue our passions. When we build connections with others over similarities instead of looking for differences we are building loving relationships. CCC is a diversifying congregation and I love the projects we collaborate on in and out of the church.



ROB CARRIGAN

Retired finance and operations re-structuring specialist

I have been a member of CCC for 9 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Choir 1996-1998; Mission and Outreach Committee 2016-2018; Crossroads volunteer 2017-present; Cinco de Mayo auction volunteer 2018; SOS Overnight Host 2017-present; Stewardship Committee 2018-present; Music at Christ Church Committee 2017-present; Cabaret auction volunteer 2019; Delegate to Diocesan Convention 2019

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Co-chair Stewardship Committee 2018-present
- Chair Music at Christ Church Cranbrook Committee 2018-present
- 2019 Choir Tour co-organizer

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Current President, Cranbrook Music Guild, a Chamber Music Presenter, Board of Trustees 1996-present
- Financial Executives International – Detroit Chapter, Board of Directors, Officer 1997-2011
- Bloomfield Township Precinct Delegate (elected) 2010-present

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

Jesus gave me joy - - the message from Festival of Gifts - - and with that joy I have strived to serve others, fervently.

After years and years of indifference and self-centeredness, I re-united with Christ Church Cranbrook for a project that our daughter, Lydia, proposed for the CCC Teen Group - "Pizza and a Movie" for the residents and their children at HAVEN, the women's shelter in Pontiac. The event was a big success and I joined the Mission and Outreach Committee as a result. That led to participating in the planning and operation of the Cinco de Mayo auction; being the sloppy joe cook for the Crossroads Sunday meal for three years and serving as an overnight host for SOS for three years. It was a joy to participate and to serve so many.

The dear Lord must have recognized a willing hand because I was asked to join the Stewardship Committee, now co-chair, and have worked on truly beneficial endeavors - - three years of successful Pledge Campaigns and support in the development of the Capital Campaign and as an enthusiastic phon-a-thon contributor.

This past year with MACCC, I assisted in the planning and execution of the CCC Choir Tour to Exeter Cathedral in England. With so much blessed support from the entire congregation, the tour was an amazing and memorable experience for me, witnessing our wonderful choir using their gifts to create beauty and sharing it with others.

I reflect on what I have done at CCC as but a helper, on my faith journey. I am honored and grateful to be considered as a candidate for election to the Vestry.



PATRICK GAHMAN

Flooring Sales

I have been a member of CCC for 3 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

SOS volunteer 2017-2019; Engagement Committee 2018-2019; Hospitality Committee 2018-2019; Usher 2018-2019; Greeter 2018-2019; Vestry Nominating Committee 2018; Capital Campaign Leadership Committee 2019; Started CCC Cyclists 2019

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Served as Trustee at previous church
- Building and Grounds Committee
- Mission and Outreach Committee
- Usher

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

The Lord led me to Christ Church Cranbrook through a podcast I heard. Dr. James K. A. Smith, a professor at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, was discussing his book *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. He said "Who we are and what we worship shape our hearts." It led me to seek out ancient liturgies. At Christ Church Cranbrook I was amazed by the amount of Scripture that is read and also sung by our beautiful choir, the prayers, the dynamic, personal, heartfelt preaching and the warm and welcoming people.

Faith and service are synonymous to me. The clergy at Christ Church Cranbrook have continually, yet gently, prodded me to step out of my comfort zone. I look forward to serving on the Vestry, if I am elected, as it will inspire many more opportunities of service and growth.

- MEETING JESUS - Knowing that I participate during Communion in the Body of Christ around the world.
- FINDING JOY - I love sacred choral music and especially walking up to receive communion in the midst of our wonderful choir.
- SHARING BEAUTY - Our Sanctuary is just that: A beautiful respite from our hectic lives.
- SERVING OTHERS - I serve by giving, as a prescriptive as well as a response. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". MT. 6:21



SILVIA KARLSSON

Engineer

I have been a member of CCC for 2.5 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

2019 Advent by Candlelight Speaker; Hurricane Harvey Action Committee Volunteer; SOS volunteer, 2018-19; Volunteer at various hospitality events such as the Christmas Brunch

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Facilitator, The Second Mountain Class, 2019
- Vestry member, St. Stephens Episcopal Church
- Adult Faith Committee Chair at St. Stephen's

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Society of Women Engineers – various positions including serving on the board of directors
- PTO/PTA officer K-12 including president
- Founding member of the International Academy Music Parents Association
- Girl Scout STEM mom

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

Two and half years ago, when we had just started coming to CCC, hurricane Harvey hit Houston. Shortly after, hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico. I was overwhelmed by the size of the devastation and all 4 parts of our vision come together for me as I asked God "speak, for your servant is listening". How can my Spanish speaking skills be of service to you, to my church and to the Spanish speaking communities in Houston and Puerto Rico?

- I met Jesus in the lives of fellow parishioners that also wanted to help and in the lives of the people in Houston and Puerto Rico I came in contact with.
- I found joy through the ability to use my Spanish to help and through seeing what God was doing in my life, here in CCC, in San Mateo in Houston and the people I could reach out in Puerto Rico.
- Finally, I believe we shared the beauty of our church family, not by bringing them here to experience the beauty of our physical church, but by bringing the beauty of our community to them.
- I believe God brought us to CCC at such time so that I could be part of that. And ever since I have been blessed to be part of such an amazing community. What is God calling me to do next in our church community? So, I pray again: "Speak, for servant is listening"



TIM MILLER

31 year career with several of the world's largest advertising/marketing agencies. Specific experience in strategic planning, marketing research and account management.

I have been a member of CCC for 14 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Servant Saturday outreach projects, 2008-2010, 2018; SOS overnight host, 2009 & 2010; Mission & Outreach Committee, 2018- present; Lector and Eucharistic Minister, 2018-present; Cedarbrook lay chaplain corps, 2019; Baldwin Center, 2019

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Alpha Course group leader, 2009
- Co-chair of CCC Alternative Gift Fair, 2010 & 2011
- Sanctum House Planting Project Leader, 2018 & 2019

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

As I reflected on CCC's vision, I realized that three of the four vision goals were directly responsible for our original decision to join the parish. Karla and I had experienced life milestones that left us searching for a spiritual sanctuary. While the beauty of the church's architecture was the inspiration for our first visit, it was the solemnity and tradition of the liturgy within the space that made the presence of God feel very real to me. As former choral singers we were also overjoyed to hear the outstanding parish choir and musicians fill the sanctuary with wonderful music. As a result it was an easy decision to make CCC our spiritual home. Over time it has been the fourth goal of serving others that has become the most prominent focus of my life at CCC. My inspiration has been the example set by so many parishioners who give selflessly of themselves to contribute to both our church community and to those in need around us. It is in the hearts of these people who answer the call, and in the appreciative faces of those in need who are served, that I believe I meet Jesus.

CCC is entering an exciting period in its history with a new dynamism in the parish, increasing membership and upcoming physical changes in the campus. I would be honored to use my professional experience and volunteer background to help support the parish during this time of substantial and positive change.



JO OBASUYI

Banking

I have been a member of CCC for 12 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Acolyte Mom; Flower Guild; SOS Volunteer; 2019 Advent by Candlelight Speaker

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Board Member- Boys and Girls Club of Troy
- Chair- Development Committee- Boys and Girls Club
- Board Member- Cranbrook Art Academy and Museum
- Development Committee Member- Cranbrook Art Academy and Museum

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

It's been an amazing experience to be a part of this beautiful congregation. Over the past few years I have become more and more involved with the church and I find that am meeting new people and making new friends. I am making positive impacts in the community and the activities that am involved in have elements of the four parts of the Christ Church Cranbrook vision.

As a Sunday school and now an acolyte mom I am so grateful for those who are teaching and making a difference in our children's young minds. To see our son evolve into a young man who has a relationship with God and seeing him meet Jesus through his eyes is truly amazing. Making meals and serving the homeless through South Oakland Shelter with other Sunday school and acolyte families has been humbling experience.

Last year- I joined the amazing Flower Guild team and I make an effort to attend Saturday morning meetings as often as I can- It brings me great joy to create beautiful flower arrangements that bring people joy.

This year I was one of the four speaker for Advent by Candlelight. To see so many women gathered together to worship, fellowship and prepare for the celebration of Christ was such an enriching experience.

As I continue my spiritual journey here at Christ Church Cranbrook, I pray that the work I do continues to be focused on meeting Jesus, finding Joy and sharing Beauty while serving Others. I pray that I continue to make a difference and bring value in this community.



AMY PRESCOTT

Teacher

I have been a member of CCC for 3 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:
Sunday School teacher and SOS volunteer

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook’s committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

After my son was born, I looked for a church home. CCC was an impressive sight during a meandering “baby boy, please fall asleep” drive. I arrived alone for my first visit. Before I knew it, I was chatting my way through coffee hour. My family joined me the next week. And the next. And the next...

That first impression of a beautiful building pales in comparison to the beautiful people within. I am awed by the generosity and grace I’ve witnessed. Each week, my kids are celebrated and encouraged by their teachers while my husband and I are inspired and challenged by our clergy. I’ve attended the Spiritual Autobiography series, where God’s presence was electric. I’ve celebrated Advent by Candlelight, where the beauty of singing “Silent Night” moved me to tears. I’ve sent my kids to VBS, where they prayed and played. I’ve sipped Coffee with Kate, where we enjoyed parent-focused conversation.

Best of all, I’ve served in our Sunday School. There is no place more vibrant than this. Like the children, I meet Jesus through our weekly lessons, noticing and wondering my way through the miracles of our faith. I also meet Jesus through the little ones themselves: their earnest enthusiasm is contagious.

This is an exciting time for our growing congregation, and it would be a privilege to serve on the Vestry. I would be honored to play a role in promoting, sharing, and enacting our fourfold vision.



MICHAEL ROCHE

Teacher/ Administrator Cranbrook Schools

I have been a member of CCC for 32 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Ski trip chaperone; member of Children and Youth Committee; volunteer at Crossroads and Baldwin Center; help with Grow Detroit each spring; Greeter and Reader; tutoring volunteer at Bound Together

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Chair of Children and Youth Committee

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Currently Co-Chair of Cranbrook Schools ISACS accreditation
- Chair of several Head of School search committees at Cranbrook
- Member of Admissions Committee
- Other committees at Cranbrook as part of my role as Dean of Students

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

So many moments come to mind when thinking about our vision – too many to count – that have influenced me over the years. The recent Friday evening of jazz captures them all. Serving as a greeter, welcoming hundreds of people to our beautiful church, provided an opportunity to share all that we offer as a congregation. So many of the visitors commented on the building, and to share the history of the Booth's vision brought me great pride and joy. The music and singing left the audience, and me, in awe. The God given talent of the musicians and vocalists served as a reminder of what gifts each of us bring to our church and our families every day.

I felt blessed to play a small part in this joyous evening. To see the hard work of our clergy, staff, and volunteers come together reminded me that God's hand is present in all we do each day. Yet one night of music is just a snapshot of what CCC means to me and my family. Here we have found a home filled with friends and love. Christ Church has given so much to me, and I look for ways to give back. George Booth had it right, "The only way to have is to give, the only way to keep is to share, and the only thing worth finding is opportunity." Giving, sharing, opportunity...that's what we are called to do, and as a member of the Vestry I feel I could play a part in helping Christ Church continue to fulfill our vision.



JENNIFER UMPHRESS

Agricultural Scientist

I have been a member of CCC for 3 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Christ Church Choir member; Micah 6 liaison to the Mission and Outreach Committee; Music at Christ Church Cranbrook standing committee member; Sanctum House mulcher ; SOS/Lighthouse overnight host; Capital Campaign Leadership Team member

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- High School Sunday School Leader at St. Paul's UMC in University Park, PA
- Disciple Bible Study Co-Leader at McMannen UMC in Durham, NC
- Lay Delegate to Annual Conference at Mt. Zion UMC in St. Louis, MO
- Women's Book Club Leader at DuPont Community Presbyterian Church in DuPont, WA
- Mother's Day Fashion Show Coordinator at St. James Lutheran Church in Sumter, SC

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

Christ Church Cranbrook has ministered to me in ways that I can never return, and I will always be grateful to God, to CCC, to its clergy and its people for walking with me through the darkest of times. This is an amazing place, and I have been blessed by our many opportunities for ministry. I eat it up. I love singing in the choir. The beauty of the music carries me through my days, and gives me the perfect venue to invite people to join us in in worship. We are singing cool things. We are doing cool things. We are not a "normal" church, and I love that about us. We are radical in our inclusion and in our outreach. I am proud that we are the hands and feet of Jesus in our community, and humbled by the opportunity to be a small part of that story. One of my favorite things is that I help to connect Pontiac's Micah 6 Community, the little ministry with big vision, to our huge church. I show up. I smile, and I help by doing what I can. I am excited to be a part of CCC's story in whatever shape that takes, and to see what God has planned for us together in the coming years.



DONALD WARWICK

Attorney, Partner and Member of the Board of Directors at Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C., located in Troy, MI.

I have been a member of CCC for 15 years.

Christ Church Cranbrook Involvement:

Served as greeters prior to Sunday morning services; served as host following Saturday evening services; prepared and delivered meals for numerous events; volunteered at Ferndale Pride 2019, on behalf of the Church.

What previous experience do you have in Parish Leadership?

- Member of Capital Campaign Committee

What professional and/or volunteer experience with you bring to the Vestry?

- Fundraiser for Special Olympics of Michigan
- Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish International, Make-A-Wish Michigan and Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area
- Denise and I have been longtime World Vision sponsors of children in Kenya, Sri Lanka and the Philippines
- I served as a Deacon, in the Presbyterian Church, prior to joining Christ Church Cranbrook

Using 250 words or less please reflect on how your work on Christ Church Cranbrook's committees and ministries has been influenced by our fourfold vision: meeting Jesus, finding Joy, sharing Beauty and serving Others.

Denise and I have been members of Christ Church Cranbrook, since 2005. Previously, I was a longtime Presbyterian and Denise was a lifetime Catholic. Together, we searched for a denomination and a church, in which to raise our six children. We immediately fell in love with CCC. It is stunningly beautiful, diverse and loving. Its leaders seek to unite, not divide.

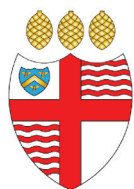
Our now-adult children were raised in the Church. Most of our children return with us to CCC, for special events, ranging from Christmas, to Holy Week and lovely jazz performances.

We have met wonderful friends, at the Church. We have heard awe-inspiring sermons and listened to beautiful music. Like so many, we have laughed and we have cried, in the pews of the Church.

Our oldest son was married, in the Church. Recently, Fr. Bill led a beautiful memorial service for my parents, in the chancel. Christ Church Cranbrook means the world to us.

We meet Jesus, find Joy, share Beauty, and serve Others, each and every time we walk into Christ Church Cranbrook, share in the Eucharist and support its ministries.

If elected to serve on the Vestry, it would be my great privilege to support Christ Church Cranbrook and its wonderful leaders.



CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

✠MEETING **JESUS** ✠FINDING **JOY** ✠SHARING **BEAUTY** ✠SERVING **OTHERS**

(248) 644-5210 ✠ 470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 ✠ www.christchurchcranbrook.org