



# ***THE ENLIGHTENER***

## ***Christ Church Pittsford***

***January 2022  
Election Issue***

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The Christ Church Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the slate for the upcoming Annual Meeting election that will be held on Sunday, January 23 at 12:00 pm on Zoom. (See below for Zoom information.) This meeting elects a Warden, three Vestry members, a Delegate to Diocesan Convention and Alternate Delegate. It also provides an opportunity to hear how things are going at Christ Church, shares information regarding the plans for the future and gives thanks to our retiring Vestry members and committee leaders. Voting will be live on Zoom and Proxy Ballots will be sent out to all eligible voters. Proxy ballots can be mailed or put in the locked mailbox off the rectory driveway at the back door. Ballots must be received by January 23 at noon. Floor nominations can be submitted in addition to the slate.

We continue to use the process known as a single slate. The Vestry adopted this process in July of 2009 after a 3-year trial. Even with a single slate of candidates, your vote is needed: It is your way of endorsing our Wardens, Vestry and Diocesan Delegates. Each of the nominees has committed him or herself to serving our parish for terms that range from as much as 3 years for a Vestry Member or Diocesan Delegate, to a single year for the Alternate Diocesan Delegate. They will be making decisions that affect all members of our parish and knowing that they have your support is important.

### **Qualifications to Vote at Parish Meetings**

“Persons of eighteen years of age or more, belonging to the parish, who have been baptized and are regular attendants of its worship and contributors of its support for at least twelve months prior to such annual or parish meeting or since the establishment of such parish, shall be qualified voters at such annual or special meeting unless the Charter of By-Laws shall specify otherwise.”

Diocesan Canon 17, Section 2(c)

### **Nominations from the Floor**

Should any member of the parish wish to nominate further members for the parish of any of these positions, nominations from the floor can be submitted up to and including the opening of the Annual Meeting on January 23.

The process for making a nomination from the floor is as follows: a person who has been a member of the parish for at least one year and actively supports the parish may make a nomination. The nominee must meet the requirements for the office (criteria may be obtained from Thom Fogg, Chair of the Nominating Committee or through the church office) and the nominee must agree to stand for election. Five additional members of the parish (in attendance for at least one year and actively supporting the parish) must second the nomination. Anyone planning to make a nomination from the floor is encouraged to do so early in order that the additional nominee(s) can be included in the proxy ballots.

**Meet the Candidates**, Sunday, January 16 at noon on Zoom. A link will be sent in the Thursday Mailchimp (January 13).

### **Zoom (for the annual meeting)**

A Zoom link will be sent out on Friday, January 21 for the Annual Meeting. If you wish to join by telephone please dial:1-929-205-6099 and follow the prompts with 848 6006 2078# 329332#.



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**Hilary Guthrie: Candidate for Warden (2 year term)**

My roots in the Episcopal Church are deep, with a father who was an Episcopal minister and two uncles and a grandfather who were priests with the Church of England. My husband, Doug Wegman, and I have been members of Christ Church for about 25 years and Doug has served on the vestry and as a warden. We joined Christ Church because it offered a strong Sunday School program for our daughter, clergy who are fully engaged on a personal level, and a service rich in music. We treasure our warm and inviting parish community and the renewal we feel after the Sunday service. I work at the law firm of Harris Beach as their Chief Business Development Officer, overseeing the strategic planning and business development for the firm statewide. I hope to support the current good work of the parish, assist in identifying new opportunities that can enhance our collective spiritual growth and help develop solutions to our challenges.



**Patty Sampson-Bouchard: Candidate for Vestry (3 year term)**

Patty Sampson-Bouchard has been a member of Christ Church since 2018 and has served on the Outreach, Stewardship and Nominating committees as well as assisted in worship as a Lector and Communion Assistant. Patty's background is in finance spending most of her career in Corporate and /or Personal Finance roles retiring in 2018 as a Financial Advisor at TIAA. She has also served on the boards of the Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley, and was Council President at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Patty is currently a Trustee of the Victor-Farmington Library serving on the finance and personnel committees. Patty enjoys spending as much time as possible out-of-doors and also participates in the Rochester Garden Club and their Conservation Committee. Patty and her husband, John, reside in Victor and have 3 adult children.



**Jeremy Brown:for Vestry (3 year term)**

Jeremy Brown has been a member of Christ Church Pittsford since 2008. During this time, he has served as a youth group leader (staying awake for many lock-ins) and been an usher for the 10am services. Jeremy's background is in Computer Science. He spent 12 years working at Thomson Reuters (West Group) before taking a teaching position in the Rochester Institute of Technology Computer Science department. During his downtime, Jeremy coaches youth baseball, advises the RIT ham radio club, volunteers with the Rochester Amateur Radio club for public service events and works on restoring classic cars. He also enjoys table top games with his friends and son, Kyler (7). They reside in Henrietta.



## ELECTION

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### **Natalie Mai-Dixon: Candidate for Vestry ( 3 year term)**



Natalie and her family (Wes, Jake and Helena Dixon) moved to Fairport in 2010, and found their way to Christ Church in 2017. Both Natalie and Wes grew up Lutheran and appreciate worshipping in the liturgical tradition. They have attended both Lutheran and Episcopalian churches; Jake was baptized Episcopalian and Helena baptized Lutheran, both in Tucson, Arizona. The family was originally attracted to Christ Church by the music, traditional worship, youth programs, and

welcoming congregation and clergy - and has grown to appreciate the scope of parish programs and the opportunity to become involved in worship and other activities. Natalie has participated in the Christ Church Choir, the Annual Giving Committee, the Organ Committee and the Nominating Committee.

Natalie grew up in Seward, Alaska and received her AB from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges. After college, she worked in arts administration in Boston, MA, health care in Oakland, CA, and HIV/AIDS education in Nairobi, Kenya, and obtained MAs from the University of Sussex in England and Teachers College in New York. Since 2000, she has worked in research administration, first at the Columbia University School of Social Work, then at the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona in Tucson, and now at the Department of Psychiatry at Strong/University of Rochester.

In addition to working and keeping up with her family, Natalie enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, and spending time with friends and family. She also likes to travel, road trips both local and further afield, and visiting the family farm in southwestern Kansas.



### **Megan Vaules: Candidate for Delegate to Diocesan Convention (3 year term)**

My husband William and I have been members of Christ Church for over twenty years. We moved back to this area in 1999, and looked for a church with interesting sermons, beautiful music, and an active congregation. We found all of that here and more. All three of our children went through Pittsford public schools and were raised at Christ Church, singing in the youth choir and acolyting. We have sung in the choir for the last twenty years (minus time off for covid), and love learning the rich harmonies, working and socializing with other choir members and of course the directors. I also participated in a search committee for rector, as well as served on the vestry for three years. I work as an OB/Gyn physician at Rochester Regional Health. As Diocesan Delegate I hope to represent our church well in the wider Rochester area Episcopal fellowship and participate in and report back on the conventions.



### **Mary Ellen Stockham: Candidate for Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention (1 year term)**

My husband Edward and I have been members of Christ Church Pittsford since 1980. We have two adult sons, a daughter-in-law and a set of twin grandchildren. During the past 40 years I have, at various times, been a reader, a member of Altar Guild, an alternate delegate and then a delegate to Diocesan Convention. I also served as president of both the Women of Christ Church and St. Ann's Guild, both of which are now defunct. Currently I am co-Chair of the Library Committee and the Parish Coordinator for Family Promise of Greater Rochester (FPGROC), representing that organization on the Outreach Committee, of which I am a past chairperson. Retired for almost 15 years, I have two master's degrees, one in chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania and one in applied statistics from RIT. I look forward to serving Christ Church again as Alternate Delegate to the Diocesan Convention.