

Meet Your Vestry Nominees

The following individuals have been nominated as candidates for the St. Andrew's vestry, and will stand for election November 13.

PJ Arendt-Ford



I am a cradle Episcopalian, born and raised in Fair Haven, New Jersey on the Jersey Shore. After graduating from The University of Tampa, with a BS degree, I taught school for two years. Early on I realized that teaching high school kids was very disconcerting to me. Doing a complete 180, I became a master barber and had licenses in both Florida and Texas. In 1984, I became a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. I transferred stations in 1988 to Memorial Park, where I met my future wife Cheryl.

Five years later, our daughter Cody Elizabeth was born (on her mother's birthday 10/14). When Cody was two years old, she pointed to St. Andrew's and said she wanted to go to church there. Father Binford baptized both Cheryl and Cody. He also confirmed Cheryl. And I was received back into the Episcopal Church. In 2007 the Rev. Barbara Lewis confirmed Cody, and Barbara also baptized Cody's son Jackson Tyler in 2012. (Jackson, keeping with family tradition, was born on 10/14). On December 5, 2015, the Rev. Jimmy Grace married Cheryl and me at St. Andrew's.

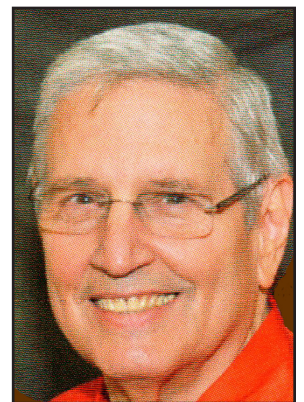
I carried mail for 14 years and then became a supervisor for the Katy post office. For the next seven years, I spent most of that time as the finance manager for Katy. After retiring from the post office, I went into real estate and rehabbed and flipped houses. After 10 years, I retired, but am always looking for a good deal. By accident, I have been manager of Memorial Mini Storage for several years. Soon I will to be retired from everything!

With that being said, I have been at St. Andrew's for 20 years. I served on the vestry for fundraising, events and as junior warden. I have served as financial chair of the Celtic festival and been involved in many committees throughout the years. My favorite ministry was being a lay Eucharistic minister, along with serving as an usher, alms counter, choir member, and on the property and newcomers committees to name a few. Being asked to serve again on the vestry is an honor.

Michael Bosch

I was born in Salina, Kansas and grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma where I attended Trinity Methodist Church. After a year in college, I joined the U.S. Army where I served as a military policeman and was on active duty in the states, Viet Nam and Panama. Upon my return from the service, I attended college part time and worked part time and eventually was hired by the Earle M. Jorgensen Company (EMJ) in 1974, a distributor of steel and aluminum, who moved my family to Houston in 1979. I held many positions with EMJ and retired on June 30, 2016 as technical director.

In 1999 my wife DeAnna and I moved into the Old Sixth Ward very near to downtown Houston. In May 2000 I became an Episcopalian, and DeAnna and I became members of Trinity Church Houston where we first met Jimmy Grace who was the youth director. At Trinity Church I was on the vestry twice and served as senior warden for one year. I was also involved with the following ministries: annual animal blessing, Bering House committee, cash counting team, El Salvador mission trips, finance committee, greeter team, Jazz Fest committee, junior warden committee, sandwich makers and usher team.



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In 2014 DeAnna and I were looking for a new church home and had visited St. Andrew's. When we learned that Jimmy Grace had accepted the position of rector at St. Andrew's we knew our search was over. Since joining St. Andrew's I have been involved with the newcomers committee, greeters, animal blessing, semi-annual bazaars and making name tags as needed. I bring experience and skills in dealing with people, problems and budgets. I believe that St. Andrew's must keep a balanced budget and monitor our expenses. I also believe St. Andrew's has the ability to grow, expand our ministries and keep our family atmosphere, which is very important to me.

Steve Oprea

I have been a member of St. Andrew's since 2013 and an Episcopalian since 1995. I am a member of our fine communications and usher teams and have also served as a LEM/server and thurifer on occasion.

Baptized in the Eastern Orthodox church and growing up as a member of Lutheran, Mennonite Baptist and Congregational churches, I appreciate our Episcopal blend of ancient rituals and American Protestantism.

Born in Detroit, I attended Michigan State University where I majored in Liberal Arts and was able to study a semester abroad in France. I have lived in Texas since 1995 and currently work in the energy industry. I married my husband Jamie Guidry in July 2014 in Chicago, and we celebrated our blessing at St. Andrew's that October.

In our free time, Jamie and I enjoy home projects, building furniture out of reclaimed wood and taking care of our two rescue dogs. When not debating the merits of Protestant Reformation with anyone who will listen, I am passionate about college and professional football.



Collin Ricklefs



I live in Katy with Chad Meyer, my partner of 20 years who also attends St. Andrew's, and with our two pugs Penny and Cooper. I am a senior buyer for Academy Sports + Outdoors and work at the corporate office in Katy. Chad is a math teacher at Seven Lakes High School in Katy ISD. We have both rejoined St. Andrew's after moving back to Houston from Omaha, Nebraska.

We enjoy spending time at home with family and friends. I enjoy time in the kitchen experimenting on the weekends and swimming in the back yard. Our pugs are our kids so they get a lot of attention and are super spoiled as every dog should be!

Chad and I attend the 8:30 am service, where I am active with liturgy and Chad serves as a LEM and acolyte. I also served on the rector search committee following the Rev. Barbara Lewis' retirement.

