

# Vestry Nominations Class of 2023



Saint John's  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## 1. Stephen Brown



**Participation in Church Ministry:** Youth Group, Sunday School Teacher, Property Committee, Finance Committee, Evangelism Committee, Outreach Committee, Acolyte, Usher, Stewardship Committee, Vestry, Junior Warden and Senior Warden.

**Length of membership:** Lifetime

**Personal Interests:** Fishing, hunting and golf

**Family:** Terry Kimbrough Brown Robertson, mother; Jim Brown, son; Meredith Brown, daughter; Kim Mullins, sister.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** Feeling God's love when I walk into the door. Feeling God's love among my parish family.

## 2. Dorothy Burke



**Participation in Church Ministry:** Meals on Wheels delivery for MIFA, Medical Guild, Bell Ringer for Salvation Army, St. John's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration committee, past Crawfish Boil Chair, Thank You Committee for Father Dean, Robinhood Apartments volunteer Neighborhood Christian Center, VBS volunteer for 7 years, Welcoming Committee Father Jay.

**Length of Membership:** Lifelong; baptized 1980, confirmed 1994, married 2006

**Personal Interests:** I enjoy spending time with my family, cooking and entertaining. I also value my job as an ICU Nurse at LeBonheur Children's Hospital. You will often find me distracted by our 2 Boston Terriers-Arlo and Junebug, as well as our latest addition Stormy Cat.

**Family:** My husband Pat Burke joined St. John's and was received by the Episcopal Church in 2007. Our son Patrick (14) is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at MUS and christened in 2007. Our daughter Sims (13) is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Hutchinson and christened in 2008.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** For one, I love the unparalleled beauty of the sanctuary; I may be a little bit biased! I appreciate the welcoming yet longstanding history of the parish. In fact, many of my dear friends attend church here and are not native Memphians. I certainly admire the leadership, as well as our unbelievable community outreach. And last, but certainly not least, I cherish the numerous memories I have at St. John; as a child, adolescent and adult. My family has been part of this church for as long as I can remember. My parents and both siblings were married in this sanctuary. My Grandmother Gillespie married Wallace Pennepacker, "Penny" who led St. John's parish for many years and continued as Emeritus Rector after his retirement in 1983.

## 3. Philip Freeburg



**Participation in Church Ministry:** Vestry member under Noland Pipes and John Sewell. Property Committee Chair, Head Usher-Team #2 and Education for Ministry.

**Length of Membership:** I have been a lifelong member of St. John's.

**Personal Interests:** I have always enjoyed participating and watching sports in general. An ideal Saturday night would involve dining on pizza from Pete & Sam's while watching a SEC college football matchup on ESPN. I just might throw in a glass or two of wine as well. I very much like to workout, which would include running, improving my scores on the Peloton and trying my best on the various elliptical machines.

**Family:** My wife Debi and I were married at St. John's in 1991 and have two children. Our daughter Elise is 26 and works for a health care firm based in New York. Our son Philip is 23 and living in Atlanta working for EY (Ernst & Young)

**Favorite Thing About St. Johns:** Having spent my entire life at St. John's, I have too many special memories to share. However, my entire religious foundation was begun and molded by my mother. As simple as the Sunday morning wakeup for church each Sunday to the requirement of serving as an acolyte throughout my high school years, she shaped my spiritual life at St. John's. In my humble opinion, the best part of worshipping at St. John's is the sound of our intense and beautiful organ. It just might be taken for granted within our parish, but I am always getting such positive reactions from friends who visit. From Richard White to Dr. Campbell, the choirmasters and musical directors have all done an outstanding job of providing the ideal musical setting for our worship services.

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## 4. Dan Keel



**Participation in Church Ministry:** Evangelism Committee, several years was instrumental in organization and cooking for Father's Day Bingo, Mardi Gras Celebration, and the Crawfish Frenzy. Currently active in the St. Hubert's Guild.

**Length of Membership:** Confirmed in 2007, although have been active in the Parish since 1992.

**Personal Interests:** Spending time with family and attending sons' events. Enjoy all outdoor activities, avid hunter and fisherman as well as exercise and music.

**Family:** Married to the former Lauren Bailey. Have 3 sons; Tal, 25, Henry, 22, and Bailey, 20 who are fourth generation St. John's Members.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** The Parish itself as we have and have made great friends at St. John's. Additionally, the Parish continues to thrive under fresh leadership and growth through young adults and families. We also enjoy the small and intimate setting as regular attendees of the 5:30 service in the chapel. On a more personal level, my real introduction to the Episcopal Church came with our marriage there. There remains a certain reminder each time I enter of the lengthy conversations with Jim Coleman who was still Rector at the time. I also feel that it will always be home to Lauren and me as well as our sons.

## 5. Veazey Krausnick



**Participation in Church Ministry:** I have enjoyed the privilege of being involved in the Flower Festival, Bible Studies, Alter Guild, Stewardship campaigns, teaching Sunday School classes and serving as a past Vestry member. Currently I am on the Parents' Day Out Advisory Board. I helped start the program through the Junior League of Memphis.

**Length of Membership:** I have been a member since my early childhood, over 55 years.

**Family:** We have a deep family connection with St. John's and look forward to our grandchildren having the same experiences as my husband Collie and I have had.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** It is a place that I can share with my grandchildren and they will have a wonderful time being here.

## 6. Terry Robertson



**Participation in Church Ministry:** St. John's Board of Trustees and Usher. Previous church ministry includes Finance Committee and Chairman, Capital Campaign Committee, Sunday School teacher and Youth Sports coach.

**Length of Membership:** Active member since 2013

**Personal Interests:** Spending time with family and friends; boating, fishing and related activities at Pickwick Lake; attending and coaching youth sports; following and attending college sports.

**Family:** Wife – Martha and children, Hunt (6) and Campbell (5).

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** One of my favorite things about St. John's is the children's ministry, specifically the commitment of the church and numerous lay people to the nurturing and spiritual development of our children.

## 7. Caroline Smith



**Participation in Church Ministry:** I've volunteered with tutoring NCC – Adventures in Reading and have helped over the years with the Children's Ministry and VBS.

**Length of Membership:** Joined St. John's when we moved back from NYC in 2010. I have been a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church. I was a member of All Saints in Atlanta (where I grew up) and St. James in NYC.

**Personal Interests:** Interior Design, running, skiing and being with my family.

**Family:** I am married to McCown Smith who has been a member of St. John's since birth! We have two kids Mac (10) and Taylor (7) who were both baptized at St. John's and are active members of children's chapel, etc.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** I love the intimate size of St. John's. It is such a special community. I love all the relationships I have formed with parishioners of all ages. We are so lucky to have Father Jay, Mother Miranda and Allison leading our church. Even during a pandemic there is lots of exciting momentum and we are in a great spot for even more growth!

## 8. Maryl Smith



**Participation in Church Ministry:** Taught Children's Chapel and Sunday School, VBS volunteer teacher and decorations, sack lunches for Constance Abbey, Bell Ringer for Salvation Army, Junior Acolyte Coordinator, volunteer room parent at Aspire Hanley Elementary School

**Length of Membership:** I believe it is about 13 years, although I'm not 100% sure!!

**Personal interests:** Knitting, painting, volunteer tutoring, kayaking or anything at Shelby Farms.

**Family:** Husband, Joel "E", married 17 years; son, Alex, 13 years old; daughter, Kaki, 11 years old.

**Favorite thing about Saint John's:** My current favorite thing about St. John's is the enthusiasm of the clergy and staff, their willingness to think outside the box, and to meet people where they are in their faith journey. I love how we are able to keep and honor tradition while welcoming new ideas. The genuine warmth and excitement are contagious!