

## **St. Paul's Cathedral**

### **2023 VESTRY/WARDEN NOMINEES**

**Michael Bonilla** – I was received into the Episcopal church in the cathedral in January of 1966. Ever Since this has been my spiritual home. Over the years I have been involved in many aspects of life in this church, including, singing in the choir, serving as an acolyte, serving on the Properties and music committees, and chair several Stewardship campaigns. Over the course of the years, I have served on three different vestries, and have been elected warden twice. I believe my past experience in church leadership is the most valuable thing that I will bring to the next vestry. During this time of transition for the cathedral, strong effective lay leadership is very important as we prepare to enter the search process to call a permanent dean for St. Paul's. I am confident in the leadership abilities of those who will be considered for vestry at our annual meeting, as well as those who will continue to serve on the vestry.

**Judy Elliott** – I wish to serve on the Vestry again, as a member of the Cathedral. I have served for two terms (6 years) previously, and would like to serve again. I recently served as leader of the Altar Guild and I am currently the co-leader of Pastoral Care and co-leader of the Garden of Love, and member of the Stewardship Committee. I have a vast amount of knowledge of the church and the diocese, as I have served on many committees over the years. I have a background in church finances as I served as Treasurer of my former parish of St. Simon's for seven years. I believe I could make many contributions and help the Vestry make wise decisions on behalf of the Cathedral. I would like to see the Vestry become more active in outreach to the neighborhood around the Cathedral. There is work to be done, and I believe I can be helpful.

**Kim Goodman** – The vestry's leadership role must be responsive to the new realities of American economic life and today's society. I believe I have a skill set of imagination, flexibility, and execution follow thru. I have dug in the gardens as a member of the Garden committee, climbed on the roof to fix gutters as a member of the Properties committee and hosted receptions with the Ushers Committee. I was delighted to represent St. Paul's by completing the "Home Again" project for the Buffalo Refugee Program for the Social Justice Action Team. My family and myself

have been active members of St. Paul's for over 70 years. I was baptized, confirmed and married at St. Paul's. I believe in and am committed to the future mission of St. Paul's within the Buffalo Community.

**Susan (Su) M Hadden** – I am currently serving a (Covid) extended one-year unexpired Vestry term and so put my name in consideration to continue to serve on your Vestry for a full 3-year term. A cradle member of the Church of England, and a member of the Episcopal Church since arriving in Buffalo 30 years ago, I have been a member of the Cathedral since soon after my arrival. I've served regularly as a Lector and an occasional usher and coffee host. Most recently I chaired the Dean's search committee and currently serve on the Music Ministry taskforce as we work to re-envision and revitalize the historically wonderful music here at St Paul's. In my "day job," I serve on the Presiding Bishop's staff at the Church Center in New York as the Operations Manager and Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer. As I said in my letter to the congregation during pledge season: "Whilst the last several years have presented us all with many challenges, I feel hopeful that we can begin to look ahead to a new season of renaissance for St. Paul's". Join us in the journey.

**Evelyn Smigelsky** – My involvement with St. Paul's Cathedral began in 1951 when my parents took my sister and me there for the first time. My sister was four years old, and I was three years old. Now 72 years later, I am still a member of the Cathedral because, quite simply, it is my spiritual home. Whether as a young child or a grown woman, I have always found comfort in the beauty and majesty of the Cathedral. Moreover, Saint Paul's is where many important events in my life including my confirmation and my marriage have taken place. In other words, the Cathedral has been a fundamental part of my life's journey. At this point in time, I believe that it is important for me to give back to the Cathedral through more active involvement in the life of the church. For that reason, I am seeking to be part of the cathedral vestry. It is my hope that the experiences in skills I have derived from my lifetime in education – for 16 years as a middle school teacher and 25 years as a Ph.D.-level licensed school psychologist and family counselor – will serve me well in this new endeavor.