Vestry Candidates 2026



Ross Scarborough

It is an honor to be nominated for the vestry. I am an attorney with the firm of Saxton & Stump, LLC, in their probate and real estate litigation division. I began attending St. Michael's with my family in 1993. I grew up in the St. Michael's children's choir and was active with youth ministry. I regularly attend the 11 o'clock service, where I sing tenor in the choir. I am a member of the K2 Men's Bible Study, the Four Corners Bible Study, and host the James Island life group. I recently attended Cursillo #198. My father is former senior warden the Hon. Mikell Scarborough and my mother, Mary Scarborough, is active with the flower guild. I have a dog, Daisy, whose favorite service is the Blessing of the Animals.



Jane Thornhill Schachte

Jane Lucas Thornhill has been a lifelong member of St. Michael's Church, having been baptized, confirmed and married here. She is a graduate of the College of Charleston, spent 12 years in banking then 23 in retail with Talbots, retiring as a store manager in 2009. She then became a license tour with the city of Charleston and a licensed real estate agent with the Schachte Company. In 2018 she joined the Board of The Confederate Home and College as their recording secretary. In 2019 she also took on the position of insurance chairman for the Confederate Home. Jane currently serves on the tour commission for the city. She is a member of The Mission Task Force for the Holy City at St. Michael's. Jane is a member of The Preservation Society, The Colonial Dames, The Ladies Benevolent, The Charleston Tour Association, and a past member of The Junior League. Throughout her life she has volunteered with The Preservation Society and Historic Charleston Foundation. 1974-1975 she taught 6 th grade Sunday school at St. Michael's. She has completed the Alpha and Beta courses at St. Michael's. She then was a volunteer for Alpha. She has completed 4 levels of healing prayer and attended many healing prayer days. She served as a Greeter and a Reader at the 6 pm Sunday services prior to Covid. She currently attends 3 Bibles studies. Jane is currently married to Joseph Wallace Schachte since 1991.

Ella Richardson



Ella Walton Richardson grew up in Columbia, SC as the youngest of five children with 2 sisters and 2 brothers. She was born to William (Bill) and Christine Richardson. The family attended Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. She graduated in1975 from Hammond Academy. She was active in many sports as well as the girl scouts. Graduating from USC with BA degrees in Political Science and Psychology. Ella moved to Charleston in 1984. In 1998 she joined St. Michael's Church. She has been a member in good standing since then. Attending and assisting with the Alpha Course, engaged in bible study courses and attends the super Wednesday dinners, currently on the Mission Task Force, serving with the Global Mission Outreach Group. Ella participated on 2 mission trips to Burundi, Africa with other St. Michaelites. She continues to be a supporter of GLO, Great Lakes Outreach and several of their mission partners in Burundi. From 2000-2010 Ella served on the board of directors for the Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center and was a past president of the same. In 2001 she opened Ella Walton Richardson Fine Art located at 58 Broad Street and will be celebrating its 25 th anniversary in November. She enjoys family, photography, travel, golf, sailing,

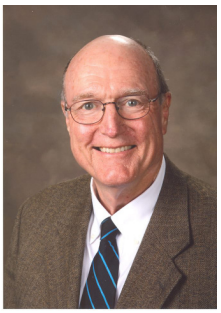
Warden Candidates 2026



Robert Burnett - Senior Warden

I hold a BA in English Literature from Bowdoin College in Maine and an MBA from Columbia University School of Business in New York. My work allows me to work remotely, so my wife Susan and I were able to move to Charleston twenty three years ago to raise our two daughters, Emily and Elizabeth in a healthier, welcoming and Christian community. We live a short walk from St. Michaels. St. Michaels is the center of our spiritual life in Charleston. I have been honored to serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, Reader, Usher, Bell-Ringer, Tour Guide, Task Force and Vestry member. I am grateful for the opportunity to further serve the Lord and my fellow church members.

Dr. Lee Cox - Junior Warden



I am a graduate of Wake Forest University and hold MA and PhD degrees in English from the University of South Carolina. My wife Jo and I have been members of St. Michael's since moving to Charleston in 2010. I have been actively involved in men's ministry activities, particularly at MacDougall state prison where I volunteer in educational programs for inmates, which I approach from a Christian world-view perspective. Additionally,I have assisted with the Alpha program, have led a life group and am currently a member of the Life group led by my wife Jo. Much of my career has been devoted to Christian education. I served as headmaster at Christ Church Episcopal School in Greenville for ten years and, since leaving Greenville, have consulted and served as interim head at Christian schools in Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas. I have previously served on Vestry and as both a Junior and Senior Warden.

CONVENTION DELEGATE CANDIDATES 2026

Robert Burnett



My business,which conceives, markets and sells real estate at luxury resorts around the world, allows me to work remotely so my wife Susan and I were able to move from New York to Charleston twenty years ago to raise our two daughters, Emily and Elizabeth in a healthier, welcoming and Christian community. We live a short walk from St. Michaels. St. Michaels has been, and remains, at the center of our life in Charleston: I have been honored to serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister bringing communion to house-bound members of the church, as a Reader, Usher, bell-ringer and task force member. I am grateful for the opportunity to further serve the Lord and my fellow church members.

Logan Bryan



In 2015 my wife, Belinda, and I were first introduced to St. Michael's Church when we were searching for a church in which to get married. This started our journey with St. Michael's and helped renew my faith in Jesus Christ. After completing "I Like Mike" my wife and I reaffirmed our faith and became members. I feel an intense calling from God and an internal desire to serve Him in His Church. St. Michael's has been and continues to be the most influential part of my life, helping me grow in my relationship with Christ. I wish to share that with others and bring more people into meaningful relationships with Jesus.

Martha Dougherty



I have been a member of St. Michael's since the Fall of 1998. My husband Park and I have had the blessing of raising our three children here. I came to know Jesus Christ as I read the Bible with my children and attended a women's Biblically oriented Bible Study (BSF) where we read many books of the Bible. I discovered the joy of hearing God speak to me through his voice in the words of scripture. That changed my life. I continue to keep the Bible as my primary guide for every problem, event, and situation that comes along. I also continue to be involved in Women's Bible studies at St. Michael's. I have had the honor of serving on the Vestry and I look forward to continuing to serve on the Missions Task Force Committee. I have also taught many years of Sunday School, been on mission twice to Burundi, served at the TriCounty Family Ministries, the hot dog ministry, and sing in the choir. I am so thankful to be part of a Biblically grounded, inspiring church like St. Michael's.

Jennifer Polon



Jennifer Polon is native to South Carolina. She moved to Charleston for Nursing school in 2000. She met Dan Polon and they courted often at the evening service at St. Michael's. The Polon's have two children, Maddelle and Adam ages 17 and 15. Jennifer has served throughout the years at coffee hour, shawl guild and the Security team. Jennifer has been a cardiac nurse for 22 years at Roper Hospital. On her days off, she enjoys cooking, hiking, gardening and tending to her chickens.

Anne Schaffer



Having grown up in Charleston, St. Michael's has been a source of healing and spiritual growth for me since my teenage years when I attended youth group with "Peter and Rossi." It became my home church in 2020 where I've had the joy to serve in various roles, including usher, VBS and Sunday School volunteer, Mission Task Force member, and prayer minister. In addition, I had a staff position the past two years where I assisted with audio-visual. Vocationally, I've served in a variety of roles locally and abroad, especially teaching and now coaching language learners. I am grateful to belong to a vibrant church with a holistic view of mission whose vision is to see the hearts of all–near and far–trans-formed through Jesus Christ. I believe in our vision of hearts being transformed through Jesus Christ and am grateful for our church's holistic view of mission: to bring the Good News of Jesus' transforming power to our Homes, Holy City, Hurt-ing Coast, and Hungering World. I pray that the Lord would give us the courage and grace to live this out!

David Reese



Christen and I came to St. Michaels from Atlanta GA. I came to Charleston as a college student and I graduated from The Citadel. Christen while not a Charleston native, spent the first two years of her life growing up on Meeting Street. St. Michaels has been a foundation for our marriage and we have been blessed by its many servant leaders who are dedicated to serving others. I have had the opportunity to serve with the ALPHA teams and see first hand the blessings of this ministry on people. This opportunity inspired me to working with different men's ministries, recognizing that many are eager to talk about Christ but they were seeking someone that would hold that meaningful and mutually respectful conversation. Christen and I were the co chairs of the Hurting Coast ministry that builds relationships all over the northeast. Following in the footsteps of others, we have seen where the Lord is calling us into service with ministries and churches to challenge us with the ministry of mission. We are currently serving as the Chairs of the Mission Task Force.

Chris Sosnowski



My life at St. Michael's began longer ago than I want to believe - suffice to say I was about 6 years old at the time! I attended Sunday School religiously, so to speak, sang in the children's choir, and served as an acolyte and crucifer. I enjoyed being a member of youth groups and weekend retreats for young people. As an adult, I have gone through Cursillo and been on team several times, attended Alpha and other programs, served as usher and now am on the Safety Team. When, as a teenager, I was given a choice, I turned away from regular church attendance, and grappled with questions of faith. Having children brought my attendance up, as I wanted my daughters to experience church so that they could make educated decisions of their own. Eventually, I had a lightning strike experience at a Men's Conference at Camp St. Christopher, and have been walking with my Savior ever since!

Mikell Scarborough



St. Michael's Member since 1993, Usher Chairman (1995-2007), Lay Eucharistic Minister since 2006, Vestry Member, 1998-2001, Senior Warden, 2016-2018, Alpha, Financial Peace University, Cursillo #139, Cursillo #151 Team Member, Kanuga Parish Weekend coordinator with Mary in 2010, Small Group Member, Men's Ski Trip, VBS Mission Trip with Ross to Dominican Republic in 2007, Participant in St. Michael's Christmas Pageant. Married to Mary LeMacks Scarborough since 1986, Three Children: Ross, Elizabeth & Thomas, Charleston County Master in Equity since 2003.

VESTRY 2025-2026

2023-2026
Robert Burnett
Reiley Jacobs
Martha Dougherty

2024-2027
Pat McKinney
Caroline Riley
Anne Schaffer

2025-2028
Clayton Taylor
Jennifer Polon
John McElroy