

# ALL SAINTS'

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## 2020 VESTRY CANDIDATES

Our candidates were asked to submit a brief biography. Suggested (not required) talking points included: personal background, the ministries they feel passionate about, their hopes/wishes/dreams for All Saints', or why they are running for vestry. Candidates were given the freedom to respond to any of the points they chose. There are five vacancies: vote for your candidates at the Annual Meeting, Feb. 8 at 9 a.m.

The candidates are presented in alphabetical order. Their responses were very lightly edited for spelling and grammar only—their submissions reflect their differing styles and personalities. Those elected will join the currently-serving Vestry members:

Executive Team: Mark Gibson, Cathy Guzauskas, Marie Greenbank, Jeanne Lawrence, Tina Butcher

Class of 2021: Caroline Cole, Linda Miller, Don Orcutt, Linda Procter

Class of 2022: Jody Deveney, Trevor Ellis, Darryn Naylin, *One vacancy*

Class of 2023: *Four vacancies*

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## JILL BROWNING

I'm honored to be considered for vestry at ASEC and offer you the following information for consideration.

God has graciously given me gifts of leadership and organization, listening, and adapting. I spent my career managing technology projects, providing me with great opportunities to plan, learn, organize, listen, adapt, and govern change. I have readily applied these gifts serving and participating in All Saints' parish activities over the years in the following capacities: discernment committee member for Angela Furlong and Tommy Turbyville as they consider their call to do God's work; search committee member, resulting in the vestry's call for our parish



rector Mother Adrien; president and secretary for the InSpired Chapter of the Daughters of the King; Mourner's Path; Christian formation teacher; DOCC; pastoral care; eucharistic visitor; Great Hall and Historic Church choirs; finance committee; acolyte coordinator; leadership training planning committee; and lector at 8, 9, and 11 a.m. services.

## BROWNING CONTINUED

I've never served as a member of the vestry, and I believe I am fully ready to serve in this leadership capacity. I'm excited about the continuing changes that keep us vibrant, growing, and discerning. I believe there are so many possibilities for us as a parish family to nurture each other and the larger Frederick community through our work led by God. I also offer some history and perspectives that I believe can help our parish grow our community and spirit. If elected, I would do my best to listen to God and our congregation to actively contribute to the future of our church.

The community of All Saints' nourishes my faith journey in vast and various ways. I've been an active member at ASEC for most of my life; I was baptized and confirmed at All Saints', and my grandfather was a former rector. For me it's about the ever-changing presence of God and the Holy Spirit moving through the various ministries, the liturgy, the music, the sermons, and the sharing of laughter and tears. My faith family has supported and nourished me my entire life as I strive to listen to the Holy Spirit calling me to be present and serve Christ through love and commitment. The people of All Saints' love God, each other, and me! It's such an amazing place to grow and serve the Lord. All Saints' is my family, and I'd be honored to serve. Thank you for your consideration.

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## NIKOLE BRUNDICK

Hello. My name is Nikole Brundick.

I am grateful for the opportunity to share about my faith journey here at All Saints', how I have served in the past, and what gift I might bring to the governance of the church.

All Saints' commitment to embracing transition and cultivating resiliency has been very important in my faith journey as I have experienced several big changes since finding All Saints': I married, I became a parent, and I changed careers.

All Saints' has been a constant source of spiritual nourishment for my family and myself. The opportunities for spiritual formation, service, and fellowship at All Saints' have brought us great joy.

I currently serve in the flower guild and children's formation ministries at All Saints'. I have served in the choir and assisted with fellowship events at other parishes.



## BRUNDICK CONTINUED

If I am chosen to serve, I will bring my professional experience, my perspective as a parent of young children, and a deep appreciation for the All Saints' community. I hope that my efforts would be useful as the church continues to strengthen and nourish us all.

I am honored to be considered as a candidate for the vestry.

Thank you.

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## STEPHEN "STEVE" CRUM

I am humbled and honored to be asked to stand for election to the Vestry of All Saints' parish. I believe that All Saints' has "turned a corner" and is once again in a position to be a beacon to the greater Frederick community. Our physical presence in a "downtown" location, one of the "clustered spires," makes All Saints' an obvious place to seek refuge and solace in the modern world. Much more than a place, however, the people of All Saints' reach out into the community sharing God's love. I am firm believer in the laity; I believe that the majority of the work of the parish rests with the laity, the laity inspired by the clergy. I will work with the other members of the Vestry to provide a physical place and the resources that the people of All Saints' parish need "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."



I began attending All Saints' approximately nine years ago after briefly attending Transfiguration parish in Braddock Heights. I sought out the Episcopal Church after having been raised and spending most of my church life in the Methodist Church; I find the use of the Book of Common Prayer, the reliance on scripture, reason, and tradition to interpret God's calling to be very important to my understanding of my purpose in life. I was confirmed here at All Saints' in 2013. I have served as a lector and chalice bearer primarily at the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services in the Historic Church. I have found these opportunities of service to be very fulfilling, however I believe that God is calling me to participate more fully in the life of the parish by serving on the Vestry.

## CRUM CONTINUED

Professionally, I am a civil engineer in private practice at a 35+ person engineering, land surveying, and landscape architecture firm located in Montgomery Village, Maryland. I am most satisfied by our work assisting religious, educational, and not-for-profit organizations with projects related to improving and expanding their buildings, facilities, and campuses.

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## DAN HUEBNER

It is an honor to be nominated for the All Saints Vestry!

All Saints' has many facets which sustain and build the community including the personal warmth of the members, the beautiful architecture, religious Formation training, and Ministries that are engaging, but it is the Sunday Services that are most central for me. They have left me by turns feeling connected, inspired, sometimes challenged but always renewed. It is no one thing but it all comes together each week and I truly appreciate it.

That experience, which is so freely offered, has moved me to participate in the Men's Group which I have been helping to coordinate each month for about the last year. My involvement with the Men's Group naturally led into participation on the Parish Hall Project.

Under the able guidance of Rev. Jess I have co-led the newly formed Invite Team; first with Rebecca Couture and now with Angie Richards. We have been working to establish a regular practice of participation in key Frederick Community events which we can repeat each year fairly easily and efficiently (with slight modifications) with the goal of supporting the community and keeping All Saints' out front and at the top of resident's minds when they are seeking a faith home.

I have also participated in the All Saints' Visioning process by conducting One to One and Group interviews. Then most recently, I assisted in coordinating the Historic Houses of Worship (Christmas Church Tours) event.

Based on my experience so far at All Saints', as well as my work experience which combines Sales and Project Management in nearly equal degrees, I think I can work



HUEBNER CONTINUED

with others to identify critical projects, helping to build and work on teams to complete them. As they used to say on the old Red Green Show –“if you can’t be handsome, you better be handy.” That motto has worked for me on the farm I grew up on, in my career and in maintaining my marriage of 33 years.

Best regards,  
Dan Huebner

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## JOANNA HUGHES

My journey to All Saints’ is a unique story. I was not raised religious. Rather, the spirituality that was brought into my childhood home was closer to neopaganism. Christianity was something I understood existed, but for the better part of three decades it was not something I wished to engage. You see, from the 1980s through the early 2000s, my exposure to Christianity was particularly negative.

Then, in 2008 I met my wife, who was a practicing Catholic, and it was important to her that we participate in a church as a family. I didn’t oppose this, but I did insist that the church be progressive and excepting of homosexuality. My wife found a list of accepting churches and wanted to investigate the Episcopal church. I was skeptical, but in the summer of 2011, we attended our first service at All Saints’. The words of the sermon were fiery, but not in the hateful or fearful way I had come to associate with Christianity. They were about social change, acceptance, and (actually) loving thy neighbor. The service that day was particularly diverse, and people of different ages and races were so kind. I felt included.

In April 2013, Fr. Earl and Rev. Jess baptized me and two babies. Since that time, All Saints’ has provided me comfort when the world seems terrible, whether it was a sermon addressing an event (Sandy Hook) or the church openly supporting a cause I believe in (Women’s march). The services in between provide me a weekly reminder, that I’ve made mistakes, but so has my neighbor, and forgiveness and love is the key.

Since my baptism, I’ve held various roles in Youth Formation, the Pride committee, and, most recently, Pre-Marriage Workshop. Of these events, Pride means the most to



## HUGHES CONTINUED

me and is an area where I believe All Saints' can expand its efforts. I think many individuals are afraid to enter (or re-enter) the space of a church because of the negativity directed toward them or others in the past<sup>1,2</sup>. This was my story, and I know it is the story of others.

In addition to my advocacy of social justice causes, I can also offer All Saints' an assortment of other skills. I am highly organized, logical, and have experience writing technically. These are also the same skills I use professionally (currently, I am a Biomedical Scientist with Leidos). Outside of my role as a scientist, I also enjoy creative writing, which I could apply to the church's needs as well.

If you feel the vestry needs a Generation X lesbian who likes to make charts and lists, please vote for me.

1. <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/When-Christianity-and-homosexuality-collide%3A-the-Subhi-Geelan/dea8b17f698fa77fbff85a9f0c39420faadcc018>

2. There are many other scholarly articles, but they're behind a pay wall.

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## LORRAINE KITURI

Hello All Saints' family!

I have been a member of All Saints' since I moved to Frederick in early 2007. I am a cradle Episcopalian and regularly attend the 11 o'clock service (sometimes with my husband Peter :-)). Our daughter, Eli, was baptized here in 2011 by Reverend Jess.

It was around that time I started volunteering in the nursery and later moved to the Pre-K classroom as a doorkeeper and then storyteller where I have continued to serve to this day. For the last four summers I have had the pleasure of being able to volunteer for our Vacation Bible School camp. I have always had a passion for children and I believe it our sacred responsibility to support and guide them in their Christian journeys. Even as far back as high school and into college I would assist with the Sunday school program.



## KITURI CONTINUED

I began serving on the Altar Guild in 2016. Last summer I became a Daughter of the King and a member of Pastoral Care Team 4. What blessing all these experiences have been!

Professionally, I have been a Human Resources Consultant for the last 18 years. In my free time I enjoy reading (I like historical fiction), cooking, and working with children. I have been Cookie Mom for Eli's girl scout troop for the last 2 years. One of my favorite quotes lately is by Nelson Mandela, which says "it always seems impossible until it's done." I find I have been reflecting on this more and more especially when taking any leaps of faith.

I am very honored to have been included in the nomination roster for Vestry. I believe All Saints' is one of the few places that can be all things to all people. It has been for my family who all have different needs. My goal if I am elected will be to work in partnership with the ASEC family to ensure others are able to experience the sense of family, community, and spiritual fulfillment I have been blessed to receive and give back/pass forward what this church has given to me.

Thank you for your consideration.

For His Sake,

Lorraine

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## ROSIE RUSSO

I am not sure what my name is. Among friends and family I am called either Ro, Rosie, Roseann, or Rowdy. Regardless, I do know God's name and it seems that would be most important in terms of serving in the vestry. I am named after my maternal grandmother, an honor, to say the least. All of my grandparents immigrated to the United States from Sicily. The courage and vision to do that is beyond my comprehension. What I learned from them was determination, hard work, and a fierce love of family and friends.

My grandmother, in particular, encouraged me in my education. I obtained a couple of degrees as a result and worked as a mental health therapist for the first part of my working career. I believed



RUSSO CONTINUED

this helped me learn how to listen and to do it in an open-minded, non-judgmental manner, as much as this is possible. The second part of my adult life was spent working as a nurse, primarily in public health, from which I retired recently. This experience provided me an opportunity to become more familiar with our community and with the adversity folks, especially the disadvantaged, deal with in their daily lives.

I have three brothers, all good, decent men, who we have my mother, especially, to thank for that. What we learned from mom is not quite easy to describe, but simply put, it is that love is what matters most. She was a devout Catholic who lived a Christ-like existence, doing good and loving others in a way that made her name, Angela, a perfect one for her. Our father, who can be quite a character at times, taught us the value of humor, which comes in handy when we are taking certain situations or ourselves too seriously.

It is through grieving my mother's death and the consequent spiritual search that I found All Saints' Episcopal Church. If ever there was a Mother Adrien or Rev. Jess sermon that was borne out, it was when this happened—a journey through darkness beyond the threshold and into the light. Within this church and among its parishioners, I felt that I could hear God's heartbeat. I was astounded, to say the least, and have strived to follow the beat as I relate to others and go about my daily life. I have a better understanding of how churches can play an integral part in uniting us, advocating for justice, and creating a way of life based on love.

In considering the blessings of finding All Saints' and of having a wonderful family and many dear friends, I try never to take them for granted. My gratitude provides the impetus to do what I can to contribute to this sacred place, whether as a vestry member or in the ways I have served in ushering, pastoral care, and outreach. My passions include tending to the disadvantaged and spiritually embattled folks in our community and to our critically ill planet. My friends think that one quality that I would bring to the table as a vestry member is "level-headedness." This description came as quite a surprise to me and goes to show you that, just like in accomplishing our personal and communal mission and goals, describing oneself "takes a village." I appreciate the honor of being selected as a vestry nominee.

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