

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025, 10 AM, ALL SAINTS' HALL

The Annual Meeting is the one time during the year we gather to hear “the state of Christ Church.” It is a time to reflect on 2025 and acknowledge the mission and ministry that took place during the past year, and to look ahead to 2026 and all the promise it holds for our spiritual home. We will hear reports from the Rector, the Vestry, and other parish leaders.

During the Annual Meeting, the parish will elect five new members of the Vestry for the 2028 class that will serve for the next three years. The Vestry Nominating Committee has worked faithfully to present a slate of five nominees that assures our Vestry has the skills it needs to lead our parish, rounding out the experience of continuing Vestry members. Those skills include holding leadership positions in one of the Church’s many ministries, understanding the governance and traditions of our Church, and the ability to see the big picture as decisions are made. The committee also considered the need to ensure a balance of genders and ages on the Vestry.

Please take the time to read about these very capable and willing candidates and be ready to vote at the Annual Meeting on their tenure. Their pictures and biographical information are on the facing page.

Under our Bylaws as adopted by the parish in 2020, any additional nominations must be duly made and received in writing by the Rector no later than twelve days prior to the Annual Meeting (that is, by November 25), at which time the nominations are closed. As of the date of this notice (November 19), no such additional nominations had been received. If any additional nominations are duly made and received within the time permitted by the Bylaws, information about the additional nominee(s) will be provided on the Christ Church website and at the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, December 7.

Chip

Chip Edens, Rector
edensc@christchurchcharlotte.org
704-333-0378

Carl

Carl Showalter, Senior Warden



1412 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28207-2543

Please join us for the Christ Church Annual Meeting Sunday, December 7 at 10 am

This annual event is an opportunity to celebrate the generosity and faithfulness of our parish, to elect new officers, and to look ahead to the coming year in ministry together. We are grateful for all who make possible our mission to love God, care for each other, and serve the world in the name of Christ.



Christ Church Charlotte
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Michael Baker



Joe Kenny



Merrill Mills



Wayne Ballard



Carol Lorenz



VESTRY NOMINEES

The election of the Class of 2028 Vestry will be held at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 7 at 10 am in All Saints' Hall. Five people will be elected to the 15-member Vestry. The following slate of parishioners has been nominated:

Michael Baker joined Christ Church in 2016 and since then has served as an usher (2019 – present), served on the Stewardship Commission (2019 – 2020), served on the Cultivating Generosity Task Force (2020), served on the Generosity Commission (2022 – present, Chair 2024 - 2025), and serves as a Stewardship Ambassador (2022 – present). He is also involved in the Children and Family Ministry, attending the Kanuga Family Weekend in 2024 and 2025.

Michael grew up in Hickory, NC, and was confirmed at Church of the Ascension (Episcopal). An Investment Banker at Wells Fargo, he is married to Elizabeth and has three daughters: Campbell (9), Raney (7), and Oakley (5).

Wayne Ballard was confirmed at Christ Church in 2020. On Sunday mornings, he frequently can be found at Christ Church reading as a lector, serving as a Chalice Bearer for one of the 8:45 am worship services, and/or teaching the Sunday morning Weekly Word Bible Study. For the past three years he has served on the Adult Spiritual Formation Commission, including two years as chair. Wayne enjoys attending the Men's Breakfasts, and recently fulfilled a 25-year dream of hiking to Mount LeConte and spending the night in the lodge. The Well continues to be his favorite worship experience at Christ Church.

Wayne has served as a professor, full time and interim pastor, and international lecturer. Wayne earned his first Ph.D. in Hebrew Language/Old Testament Studies from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and his second PhD in Higher Education Administration from the University of Tennessee. Wayne has taught university-level classes on every continent except Antarctica, and he has not given up on that dream!

Wayne is also a Regional Vice President with Primerica Advisors and has worked in Financial Services for the past nine years. He serves as an Investment Advisor Representative and enjoys helping families and small business with personal investment strategies. Wayne and wife Kim have two adult sons, two daughters-in-law, and three amazing grandchildren.

Joe Kenny is a native Charlottean, having joined Christ Church in 1994 when he moved back to Charlotte after completing graduate school in Philadelphia. Joe's passions at Christ Church include teaching fifth grade Sunday School, serving as a Lector, Chalice Bearer and Usher, and

enjoying the liturgy, especially the music at the Contemporary Service. Joe is also an active member of the Men's Ministry Group. He has served on the Stewardship Commission, served on and chaired the Outreach Commission, and currently serves on and in January will be chairing the Liturgical Commission.

Joe also enjoys volunteering outside of Christ Church. He is a longtime adult leader in Scouts BSA, delivers groceries for Nourish Up, and has served on and chaired multiple non-profit boards in the local community. Joe had a 25+ year career in investment banking in New York and Charlotte. Joe has three adult children who were baptized at Christ Church: Frank, Mary Louise, and Boyd.

Carol Lorenz has been an active member since moving to Charlotte in 2009. Carol has previously served on the Vestry, served on the Hospitality Committee as an active member for 15 years, and has a strong commitment to Hospitality and Connection. She is a graduate of Education for Ministry and the Christ Church Core program. She is also a volunteer at the GoodNews Shop, which she loves.

Carol has been active on other committees: Leap of Faith Implementation, Co-chair of the 75th Anniversary, Renewing our Vision subcommittee which established Priorities, Co-chair of the 2020 Annual Stewardship Campaign, Co-chair of Transforming Hearts subcommittee, and several search committees.

Carol and husband Bill have two adult children who also live in Charlotte. She is passionate about Christ Church and excited about all the opportunities we have to increase connection and wellness in our parish and in the community.

Merrill Mills is a lifelong Episcopalian and has been a member of Christ Church since 2014. She and husband William have three children John (8), Liddy (6), and Monnie (3), all of whom were baptized at Christ Church and attended CCK. Merrill's professional background is in development and fundraising, and she has worked at organizations including hospitals, a community foundation, and most recently an independent school.

Merrill has served in a wide variety of roles at Christ Church. She is currently chairing the CCK Board, serving on the ECW Commission, and volunteering with the Discovery Service Altar Guild. She and her husband William co-chaired the 2025 Annual Stewardship Campaign. She has served on the VBS Steering Committee, the Nursery Committee, the Young Adult Task Force, and the Parish Life Commission with Hot Dog Sundays. She has enjoyed participating in CCWBS and WEBS. Merrill is grateful that she and her family have Christ Church as their spiritual home.