

Gerri Batchelor



What do you like best about St. Paul's?

I love:

- the community that I worship with. (Sorry about the placement of that preposition!) I have often found honesty and vulnerability in awe-inspiring ways.
- the acceptance of ethnicities, beliefs, and differences of all types.
- the variety—and content—of adult formation opportunities.
- our support of children and, particularly, the youth.
- the flexibility, openness, and dedication of our clergy.
- our relationship with the Muslim community.
- the wide variety of ministries we support.
- that, when an event involves food, I know I will eat often and well!

What are some of your current and past parish ministry involvement and leadership positions at St. Paul's?

I sang with the Folk Choir and have served as a chalice bearer, lay Eucharistic minister, and lay reader. During my early years at St. Paul's I was a youth group advisor. Most recently I have served as part of the Senior Ministry committee and have recently joined the Adult Formation committee. I have co-mentored a Wednesday evening offering with Cathy Deats and during the past summer hosted most of the Sunday morning NOOMA series and the Wednesday evening DVD offerings. This October, Joe Ryan and I will be mentoring 5 sessions focusing on the Sermon on the Mount.

I was a regular contributor to the Lenten Meditations edited by Mary Hemperly. I was also blessed to spend 8 years in EFM. I facilitated two Go Speak sessions.

What are some of your past ministry involvement and leadership positions at your former church or parish?

I love to sing and often sang in choirs. I also served as a chalice bearer. I was a youth group advisor in Athens, GA. This expanded into work with Happening, Vocare, and Cursillo. I was also a member of the vestry in Monroe, GA. I have served as a Stephen Minister.

See a pattern yet?

What would you most like to see accomplished during your three years of service on the Vestry?

1. Needed infrastructure improvements to St. Paul's buildings and campus.
2. Continued empowerment of parishioners to actively minister and use their gifts and strengths.
3. Properly compensate our clergy and staff.
4. Outreach to become a 10%-line item of the budget.
5. Clean the windows behind the altar.

Vestry Candidates – Class of 2018 - 2020

What community groups and events are you involved in?

I served with Reading for the Blind in Georgia and was treasurer for the NC Correctional Institution for Women (NCCIW) Community Resource Council for 6 years. However, most of my involvement has been with the ecumenical prison ministry, Kairos. I was active at NCCIW for 23 years. During those years, in addition to regular ministry meetings inside NCCIW, I served 15 years on the NCCIW Advisory Council, 6 of those years as Council Chair. I also served 6 years as Kairos State Advisory Council Chair. I continue to visit monthly the minimum-security unit of NCCIW to lead Kairos Prayer and Share. More recently I have focused my activities around St. Paul's.

Nicole Gatchalian



What do you like best about St. Paul's?

The thing I like best about St. Paul's is that it allows me to build God's kingdom within my community, and it allows me to serve others in variety of capacities.

What are some of your current and past parish ministry involvement and leadership positions at St. Paul's?

- Since attending St. Paul's beginning in 2009, both my husband and I have consistently been involved with the Youth Ministry. I have taught both Middle and High School Sunday School classes for eight years. I have also volunteered occasionally with youth events and EYC.
 - I have been a lector for seven years, and I have enjoyed being a part of special readings. I appreciate any opportunity to be able to pray or share scripture with others.
 - I am an active member of Care and Share Ministry. I specifically reach out to new parents to determine if the church can assist them through meals or services in adjusting to their new family situations.
 - I have aided in Stewardship campaigns. My involvement has included providing video testimony, writing letters, and reaching out to parishioners.
 - I dabbled in the choir, more specifically, choirs supporting the 9:00 am service. Currently, my son, Alex sings with the Advent/Epiphany Choir.
 - For a short time, I participated in Prayer Stitchers.
 - I have baked bread for the Newcomer's Ministry.
 - I have also participated in fellowship events and adult formation, such as Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS). I have been a participant and a co-leader of MOMS, as well as a prayer partner to participants.
 - Currently, I am an active member of Outreach, and serve in several capacities for the Outreach Ministry:
 - Recently, several of the ministries involved in supporting active service men and women, their families, and veterans have consolidated, creating the new Veterans and Military Outreach Ministry. For several years, I was the co-chair for the USO Outreach, and because of that role, I have assumed a leadership role in the Veterans and Military Outreach Ministry.
-

Vestry Candidates – Class of 2018 - 2020

- My family, friends, and I have participated in Stop Hunger Now. I appreciate that children can serve and understand that small acts of local volunteerism can have positive effects globally.
- Supporting and participating in sorting and bagging items for the St. Nicholas Ministry is one of my favorite holiday traditions. For me, it embodies the true spirit of Christmas.

What are some of your past ministry involvement and leadership positions at your former church or parish?

Prior to St. Paul's, Oliver and I attended the Acts 29 church, Vintage, in downtown Raleigh. We were both very involved with the youth and community service projects. However, when the lead pastor challenged us to serve our community through our church, Oliver and I had to reassess what we considered our community to be. As Cary residents, we did not feel particularly connected to downtown Raleigh as our community. When we were searching for a new church home that would allow us to serve our church and our community, we found that St. Paul's was the best fit for our family.

What would you most like to see accomplished during your three years of service on the Vestry?

I want St. Paul's to continue to be a welcoming place to worship and gather. I would like to focus my efforts on building our Youth program and building fellowship inter-generationally. I am passionate about Outreach and would like to continue to help our Ministries work together and build strong relationships within our community. Most importantly, I would like to stress the importance of Christ's presence in all activities, in order to build strong foundations rooted in God's word and love.

What community groups and events are you involved in?

Oliver, Alex, and I are a certified NC foster family. We have been fostering children who are in difficult situations for 3 years. It is our family's passion to try to change the world by helping one child at a time.

We live in Kildaire Farms and are members of Scottish Hills Swim Club; we are very involved in our neighborhood community.

Additionally, we are a soccer family (both NCFC and XL Sports). We enjoy running and participating in charitable road races (and have completed The Carying Place Race for Home 5k/10k the last two years, thanks to St. Paul's!). We are active NC State Wolfpack fans!

Rob Johnson



What do you like best about St. Paul's?

I most like that we are a community and a family. The Johnsons are no different than any other family. We have had some wonderful ups and some vexing downs in the past years. No secret here that we relied on our fellow parishioners to celebrate the ups and help us through the downs. St. Paul's, you excel at this!

There is a sign over the front door that says, "All are Welcome." We mean it.

We have something to offer everyone.

Vestry Candidates – Class of 2018 - 2020

What are some of your current and past parish ministry involvement and leadership positions at St. Paul's?

Lobster Fest. I have worked on this since its inception. In the last few years my wife and I have organized the “inside” part. This is a big deal and results in a lot of parish participation and lot of attention from the outside community. And every year St. Paul's does it better. A big thanks to all who made it happen!

Men's Group. I have been in this ministry since we started coming to St. Paul's. Included in this is active participation in:

Coffee Hours, Church Picnic, Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner and Men's Beach week

Fellowship Committee. Coffee hours, special events such as Mediterranean Evening and Italian Evening

Funeral Ministry. I have assisted this ministry on numerous occasions.

ASP Spaghetti Dinner. ASP Spaghetti Dinner: I have assisted with this for many years under the direction of Bill Fierke. Since Bill has stepped down, I have made the food part happen with a lot of help.

What are some of your past ministry involvement and leadership positions at your former church or parish?

I am a Cradle Episcopalian and have been at St. Paul's for 22 years. Vickie and I did spend 14 months living in Northern Ireland. We attended The Parish of Ballymore, Church of Ireland (Anglican). I participated in their men's group. They made us feel at home and welcomed us.

What would you most like to see accomplished during your three years of service on the Vestry?

There is much we do and do right. Let's keep on this course. We have some aging infrastructure that at some point is going to need to be addressed. This may include the Parish Hall and the Kitchen. Activities that we have done are getting bigger and more successful i.e. Lobster Fest. Can we continue to grow these using existing facilities? These are problems of being successful.

What community groups and events are you involved in?

I was a volunteer at Colonial Baptist Church Job Seekers for over three years. These folks do an excellent job of assisting folks reenter the job market. One of those folks was myself.

I was a Boy Scout leader with troop 232.

YMCA Guides. I was active with this fine organization with my then young sons.

WVU Alumni groups

Vestry Candidates – Class of 2018 - 2020

Mary Kintz



What do you like best about St. Paul's?

The liturgy is my starting point at St. Paul's, the source of my strength and spirituality. The people of St. Paul's are my comfort and my inspiration. This is the best community I have ever been a part of, and it is the richest part of my life. I am continually learning and challenged to be a better human being here.

What are some of your current and past parish ministry involvement and leadership positions at St. Paul's?

Currently, I lead the Eucharistic Ministers, and I also participate in Julian Gathering, Merton Study Group, Ministry Leaders Resource Committee, and ASP. Over the past 25 years, I have been on staff at the Preschool, handled communications for Prayer Day, Capital Campaigns, a Rector Search, and Lobster Fest. I've been a Church School teacher for all age groups through high school, worked at VBS, and started the Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS) with Jennifer Shy in 2002. I was also on the Board of Directors for the Center for Hope and Healing for 6 years.

What are some of your past ministry involvement and leadership positions at your former church or parish?

I was employed as a youth minister at Immaculate Conception Church in Durham 1987-88.

What would you most like to see accomplished during your three years of service on the Vestry?

It is part of my nature and my profession to analyze systems that may be damaged and either fix them or develop strategies to compensate for weaknesses to keep moving toward a goal. I would like to see this type of analysis brought to the ministries and facilities at St. Paul's, to raise the questions "What are we doing?" and "Why?" If we have weaknesses, we should not ignore them but rather, collaborate to become stronger.

What community groups and events are you involved in?

I have been a sports photographer at Middle Creek High School and a youth basketball coach.

Kristen Walker



What do you like best about St. Paul's?

I love the simple statement that George often uses when addressing the congregation: “Brothers and Sisters...”. It is a reminder that although each person’s faith journey is deeply personal, we are all walking on this journey together as a church family. One of the aspects of the church that allows me to grow in my faith is the Adult Formation program. I have enjoyed attending Adult Formation on Sunday mornings as well as other weekday seminars that have been offered. Similarly, our Youth Education program offers this same opportunity for growth for my children, and for that I am so grateful.

Besides attending services and adult and youth formation, there are so many different ways to grow our faith at St. Paul’s through outreach opportunities for our adults and youth. My son has been a part of both Pre-EYC and EYC and my daughter is just starting Pre-EYC. I love that outreach is a large component of this program because it fosters the sense of giving back and the message to “go do.” Instilling this message in our youth is a gift that I believe they will keep on giving throughout their lifetime and will hopefully be passed on to the next generation.

What are some of your current and past parish ministry involvement and leadership positions at St. Paul's?

This is our 4th year as members of St. Paul’s and during that time I have volunteered for Stop Hunger Now and Note in the Pocket with my husband, Glenn, and my children, Hayden and Meredith. Through donations we have supported the Refuge for Refugee ministry, St. Nicholas Sunday, Hermano Day, the Little Red Wagon, Episcopal Farmworker Day, Heifer Project, and Dorcas Ministry. I have participated in several EYC events with my son and provided food as needed for various events.

What are some of your past ministry involvement and leadership positions at your former church or parish?

I grew up attending both church and preschool through seventh grade at St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral in Shreveport, Louisiana. I am proud to say I was the first female acolyte at that church (and my son is following in my acolyting footsteps at the 11:15 service!). Growing up, I sang in the Youth Choir and was a member of the Junior Altar Guild. My husband and I were married at St. Mark’s in Shreveport and our son Hayden was baptized there. When we moved to the Triangle 13 years ago, we became members of Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Raleigh. While there I was a member of one of the Episcopal Church Women’s groups and was the Secretary for the leadership team of “Raising Spirits,” which was a weekend-long women’s retreat. The invited speaker was Dr. Lauren Winner, author and faculty member of Duke Divinity School. I was an active member of the “Wine and the Word” Bible Study group and several dinner groups. I volunteered with what was then WIHN and is now known as Family Promise. I also volunteered with the Kairos prison ministry, Stop Hunger Now, and in the children’s nursery.

What would you most like to see accomplished during your three years of service on the Vestry?

This is an exciting time to be a member of the Vestry as our church family is gearing up for the Capital Campaign and possible renovation and/or expansion of our church property. I would like to see the prayerful consideration of these changes and ensure that the improvements proposed would benefit all

Vestry Candidates – Class of 2018 - 2020

members of the church for the long-term. I would also love to see support for the continuation of our current outreach opportunities and explore new ways of helping others in our local community and in the world in general. Most importantly, I would want to foster engaging conversation about any issues that come before the Vestry and welcome all ideas and opinions and discuss issues in a respectful way.

What community groups and events are you involved in?

I am currently a Sustainer with the Junior League of Raleigh. During my tenure with the League, I served as both Assistant Captain and later Co-Captain of the Cookbook Team and was awarded the Legacy Award for outstanding work in a Fundraising placement. I also served on the Junior League of Raleigh Leadership Council and Finance Committee. I served as the PTA President at Briarcliff Elementary, and during my children's time at Briarcliff, I was chairperson of our inaugural Bulldog Bolt Fun Run, which raised over \$12,000 for the school. I also served as the PTA Vice-President, Membership Chair, Hospitality Chair, Bingo Night Chair, Website and Yahoo Group moderator, and was a classroom and library volunteer, enrichment volunteer, and tutor. I was the parent representative for the School Improvement Team, and for the Board Advisory Council. I am a recent member of the Taylor Family YMCA in Cary and volunteered at their Santa's Workshop event last December. I am currently a room parent for my daughter's 4th grade class.
