



# Annual Meeting

January 22, 2023 — 10:00AM

The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on January 22, 2023 beginning with the Holy Eucharist at 10:00AM.

Following our by-law changes, two active members of the church will be elected to the Vestry, reducing the total number from nine to six.

The Vestry will nominate Heather Gagnon and Zan Milner for the open seats. Information about the candidates are published later in this article.

The Vestry also nominates the following members to serve as delegates and one alternate to the Joint-Diocesan Convention in October.

They are:  
TaMara Oertel  
Carole Davis  
Dr. Tom Shriver  
Patrice Shriver  
Edythe Peake

Four will be elected as delegates, the person receiving the least votes will be elected as an alternate.

Reports will be presented by Maggie Hart, the parish Treasurer, our Wardens Barbara Mannor and Becky Bennett. Most of the reports will only be posted on our website, while the Wardens, Rector and Financial reports will be printed and available at the meeting. Ministry group reports will be posted only online.

[www.stpaulschurchflint.com](http://www.stpaulschurchflint.com)

Greetings, my name is Heather Meyer-Gagnon. I have been a member of St. Pauls Episcopal church since 2005. I'm involved in Common



Heather Meyer-Gagnon

Threads ministry and am interested in Outreach. I was born and raised in Flint Michigan. My parents still live in the house I grew up in off of Balenger Highway. I have been a licensed nail technician for 28 years. I currently work at Pure Bliss Salon and Spa in Flint. I live in Fenton with my husband of 10 years Robert and my 15-year-old son Sean. I also have 2 fur-babies, Dog, Ruby and Cat, Nemo. My 32 year old daughter from another mother, Ashley, her wife Mandy and grandson, Beckett, live in Traverse City, Michigan. I'm honored to accept the nomination for member of the vestry.

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## Holly's Notes

My brother, Guy, died Christmas Eve at 4:25 pm of 2022. I have never talked about him much to many of you because he cut everyone off in Michigan in 2000. He called me in April of 2022, and we talked a lot this summer, reconnected and were planning to celebrate his retirement in July of 2023.

Guy was born, March 25, 1967, Good Friday when I was 2 years and 4 months old. I stayed with my paternal grandmother when he was born and both of us spent many happy weeks and weekends with my paternal grandparents for all our childhood. They are our happiest memories, weeks spent every summer at their Upper Peninsula cabin on Caribou Lake, fishing, swimming, rowing, exploring my grandfather's gravel pit and 55 acres of forest. Free! Eating silver dollar pancakes, walking around the lake, laughing, and playing until we fell down. We were very close as children, an alliance against our parents, we never betrayed one another for any reason. This closeness resumed when he called me in April.

Guy was gay and was married to the love of his life, until Joe died of bladder cancer. Our parents are evangelical and would have never accepted Guy for who he was. It was easier for Guy to cut everyone off in Michigan and live his true life. I understand. You as my church family are probably wondering why I am explaining this to you?

This is why: the Episcopal Church, and its acceptance of all people, is so important to me. Therefore, I have fully supported gay rights and think it is important for us to have the Trans-remembrance service in November. It is important to me that all people learn of the love of Christ and that He will take them as they are, for who they are.

"They will know we are Christians by our Love" is a song I learned in my teens, written by a Catholic Priest. The church I came from, only

loved you if you followed their man-made rules. May we really love all people from all places.

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
And we pray that our unity will one day be re-stored

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love  
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side  
by side

We will work with each other, we will work side  
by side

And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each  
one's pride

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love

Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

<https://youtu.be/cfg5VTyDkyA>

Holly Richardson, Director of Music

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From Fr. Don

Annual Meetings are important even if they are not a great deal of fun. You may wonder why I like to include the Annual Meeting as part of the Sunday service? I will give you both a one word answer and a slightly longer one. The one word answer is "unity."

It should be obvious that a church is not a business, our product is the love and grace of Jesus Christ given by a vibrant group of committed Christian people. A Christian community that prides itself on how much love we can give away with out ever questioning if that person receiving Christ's grace is worthy.

The mega churches providing an exception, most churches would be terrible businesses, as we are always about giving away the greatest things we have to give: our love, our compassion, our grace, our caring and kindness and on it goes.

We are in the business of giving everything away free.



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Your Vestry:**

**(all at [stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:stpaulschurchflint.com))**

**Barbara Mannor**, Senior Warden  
([seniorwarden@](mailto:seniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Becky Bennett**, Junior Warden  
(*Building and Grounds*)([juniorwarden@](mailto:juniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Maggie Hart**, Treasurer (*Finance*)  
([treasurer@](mailto:treasurer@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Jan Bugbee**, Clerk of the Vestry  
([clerk@](mailto:clerk@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Walter Peake** (Stewardship)  
Parish Archivist  
([walt@](mailto:walt@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Dr. Elizabeth Jordan** (Diversity)  
(*Member of Diocesan Council*)  
([Elizabeth@](mailto:Elizabeth@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Joel Arnold** (*Intersection 150*)  
([joel@](mailto:joel@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Tina Morrison** (*Worship*)  
([tina@](mailto:tina@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Celeste Lord** (*Outreach*)  
([celeste@](mailto:celeste@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Staff:**

**The Reverend Dr. Don Davidson**, Priest-in-charge ([rector@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:rector@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Fr. Don's cell phone:  
810 836 8727

(Member of Diocesan Standing Committee)

**The Reverend Deacon Donna Kusky**  
(retired)

([donna@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:donna@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**George Gibson**,  
Director of Finance ([directoroffinance@](mailto:directoroffinance@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Holly Richardson**,

Director of Music ([directorofmusic@](mailto:directorofmusic@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Rafael McDaniel**, Gospel Choir Director  
([gospel@](mailto:gospel@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Ed Arter**, Organist ([organist@](mailto:organist@stpaulschurchflint.com))

**Terrance Whitehead**, Sexton

**Edythe Peake**, Web Editor  
([webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com))

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Born and raised in Flint, Michigan, I attended Flint Public schools and graduated from Flint Southwestern. I went on to attend Mott Community and studied Art History. In my younger years my Uncle Dennis Younger encouraged me to attend St. Paul's where I was a member of the choir and attended the youth group.

Following my interests in art design, I moved to Houston and went to work in an interior design firm. Years later, after a successful career in Design I moved to Europe, primarily the Mediterranean, working in several venues. It was there I developed my culinary skills. Relocating to Houston I began working with the Texas Chef Association. I moved to Galveston Island where I opened my first restaurant and catering company. Later I was asked to move to San Francisco where I continued to work cooking and serving an elite public.

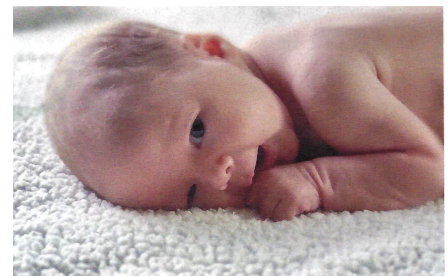


Zan Milner

Returning to Galveston Island, I accepted employment at the Victorian Hotel and Conference Center as their food and beverage director. Later I worked as a consultant in renovating and restoring historic homes in such a way to keep their integrity. This resulted in being published in a number of journals.

As my family circumstances were changing, I moved back to Flint, Michigan to be with my extended family. In 2016 I reconnected with St. Paul's Episcopal Church where I enjoy being a part of a welcoming and nurturing community. St. Paul's always held a special place in my heart.

The family of John (Jack) Phillip Cherry invites you to celebrate his baptism following the service on January 8, 2023 \*Baptism of our Lord Sunday, at 10:00 AM.



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

At the Annual Meeting the Treasurer will present a report to show how we ended the year financially. Our pledge drive was much less than we expected with a deficit of 25% from the year before. We are having to rely more and more on our savings to keep our doors open, and while we are deeply thankful, we all know that this cannot continue forever.

I am truly thankful that Zan and Heather answered the call of the Vestry to serve as Vestry members for the next three-years. Thank you both. Five of our folks have accepted nomination to serve as a delegate to the joint convention, thank you. Of course a huge thank you to Barbara and Becky our Wardens for two years, Maggie our Treasurer for three-years and Elizabeth who has served on the Vestry for three years. I am indebted to them for their support for my time here.

Unity, also means that when the service is over we do not begin to be something else. We are always in "church" as the church is not a building

or a location, but the people and whenever the people gather, the church is present. The church as the Sunday School hymn says "is a people."

Unity demands that every member of the community is aware of what the vestry and staff have been up to over the last year. Not to supervise or investigate, rather that they are aware and supportive.

Unity in Christ that we do not do what we do because it makes us look good, but because we are disciples of Christ. We want to be the Christ to others, to share the love Christ has given us in such a way that we inspire others. We want to do everything we can to see St. Paul's grow in the months and years to come, and the most effective single method of church growth is person to person.

One Lord, One Faith and One Baptism, a unity based in the Holy Trinity and the Common Unity or community. That is why our Annual Meeting is within worship.

Don+



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
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