

## **Vestry Bios 2026**

### **Jake Barker**

My name is Jake Barker, and I grew up in the Anglican (formerly Episcopal) church. I was baptized at Trinity Church Edisto and confirmed by Bishop Lawrence at Old St. Andrew's Parish Church in West Ashley. I graduated from the Citadel in 2017 where I served on St. Alban's Chapel vestry for three years; as Senior Warden for one of those. I am a project manager on the 787 program for Boeing, where I've worked for almost seven years. My beautiful wife, Emily, our children and I have been members of St. Johns for just over two years now. I have been fortunate to watch Emily, Samson, Matthias, Ellie Beth, and Wells all be baptized by Fr. Jeremy into our church. St. Johns has become our family. Having the privilege to serve our family, especially during such a pivotal time in building our church, is a great honor.

### **Robert Stanvarne LaRoche, Jr. (Stan)**

I was born in the city of Charleston and raised on Johns Island. I am a lifelong member of St. John's Parish Church, being confirmed in 1962. I graduated from Carlisle Military School in Bamberg, SC, was drafted in 1972, and joined the United States Coast Guard and served my country for six years. I am now retired from the Charleston County School District.

At St. John's, I have served as a flag bearer, crucifer, and server. In the early 1980's I served on the vestry. My wife and I currently serve on the Usher Team for church services. I am also a member of the Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study group and assist Perry Gervais cooking breakfast for the men every Thursday morning.

I continue to live on Johns Island. I have been married to my wife, Mary for the last 33 years.

### **Katherine Monroe**

I have been an active member of the Anglican—previously Episcopal—Church all my life.

My past church involvement in the Diocese of South Carolina includes both Diocesan and Parish level ministries. On the Diocesan level, I served on the Diocesan Council and was a board member of St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center for three years. I organized and led Cursillo Secretariat retreats and have been of service on many weekends to make Cursillo possible. I served as a Cursillo Lay Rector, as well as trained others to be Lay Rectors for Cursillo weekends.

On the parish level, I have served at Holy Comforter in Sumter as a Lay Eucharistic Minister/Chalice Bearer, a Lay Reader, and Acolyte Master. I was a member of Church Women, serving as the president for two years. I am a Daughter of the Holy Cross and currently am the vice president of St. Anna Chapter of St. John's Parish Church.

While living in Virginia, Bucky, my husband, and I attended All Saints Anglican Church where I served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister/Chalice Bearer, a Lay Reader, and Acolyte Master. I also served on the vestry at All Saints, serving one year as Senior Warden.

Bucky and I have been active members of St. John's Parish Church for two years. We have enjoyed getting involved in and meeting our new church family.

I work in sales at Sew Suite Studio in Summerville. Bucky and I have been married 37 years, and have two adult daughters.

*(From Lindsey, eldest child):* "Katherine has always been deeply passionate about the church and her faith in Jesus Christ. She is a dedicated member of any church she is a part of and represents the best of her community."

**Becky Nisoff**

Hi, my name is Becky Nisoff, and I am grateful and honored to be nominated for vestry.

Currently, I'm employed at Bishop Gadsden Episcopal Retirement Community as the Payroll Operations Manager.

My family and I have attended St. John's Parish Church for close to 20 years. My husband, Chris, and I were confirmed in May of 2010, and our son, Josh, was confirmed in 2017. St. John's Parish Church is our home.

I have served in many capacities, including helping with kid's club, altar guild, weekly breakfast preparation (at the old location), the nursery when needed, and serving on the vestry from 2022 to 2025.

I hope to use my gifts to represent the congregation and continue supporting the St. John's Parish Church community as it continues its journey in faith.

**James (Jay) Withington**

I've attended St. John's Parish Church since my family moved to Johns Island in 1961. I joined the church the same year and made many wonderful childhood memories, especially while serving as an acolyte for Rev. Guerry. Then Uncle Sam called, and I served two years of active duty and six years in the reserves for the US Navy. Then I transferred to the SC Army National Guard and served for 17 years, totaling in 25 years of military service. During that time, I also worked for Berkeley Electric Cooperative for 38 years before retiring from both.

I thought I had all the answers for a great life until I realized I was leaving God out of my life. What I needed was a personal relationship with Christ, and in 1999, with help and guidance from Fr. Walton and Fr. Greg, I made that commitment.

I am blessed to have been married to my lovely wife, Paulette, for 25 years. With her encouragement, I became active in serving Christ and the Church. Since then, I have been a reader and a Lay Eucharistic Minister (L.E.M.), which allowed me the privilege of taking Communion to our homebound church members. Presently, I'm involved with a men's weekly Bible study on Wednesday mornings.

I have served on the vestry twice and served as Junior Warden both times. It would be an honor for me to serve the parish again if elected.