

# 2026 Election Nominees

## Senior Warden (one-year term)

### James Steiner

James has been a member of St. Mark's since 2023 and is in his third year as a vestry member. For over twenty years, he combined teaching design at UW-Madison with working as a landscape architect in both Madison and Milwaukee. He is currently employed as a senior landscape architect with LANDCO2, a Milwaukee firm specializing in ecological design.

James is currently chair of the Landscape Design Committee with the Garden Club of Greater Milwaukee, and while he has retired from teaching, he stays involved in community outreach projects with the Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture as a professor emeritus. He has helped with planning the native garden in front of the church parish hall and will be assisting with designs for a new cloister garden for the historic courtyard.



James lives in Wauwatosa with his partner Steve Gerard and their two dogs. He enjoys spending time with his daughter Elizabeth and her husband Matt Carroll, who also live in Milwaukee.

## Junior Warden (one-year term)

### Leslie McCormick

I've been an active member of St. Mark's since 1996. Last year, I was junior warden to a brand new building. It was chaotic, at times, but fulfilling as we made great progress this past year. My best attributes are living very close and being mostly available to run over to the church. I have gained an intimate knowledge of both buildings.

Prior to that, in the construction, I acted as the backup volunteer sexton to Vince Katter, running over to lock up, meet workpeople, manage floods, or whatever was



needed. I am a member of the building committee and am part of the tellering group. In the past three years, I've taken over as the 4th pumpkin chairperson. I also ran the flower sale for many years. I'm single and have two dogs, Maisie, who will be 17 in May, and Mirakel, who was my 59th foster. I live on Terrace and Bellevue, and I have MS, so I no longer work at a full-time job. I ran the web technology group at Manpower North America for ten years after working for Arthur Andersen for many years. My undergraduate degree was in accounting, and my MBA had a concentration in taxation and management information systems.

## Vestry Members (three-year terms)

### Gary Brunk

Gary Brunk has been attending St. Mark's with Joey Sprague for the past 3 years. What drew him to St. Mark's was the welcoming spirit of its members, the thoughtful and inspiring sermons, the quality of the music, and the commitment to Jesus' radical vision of justice and equality. Prior to his retirement, he directed several nonprofit advocacy organizations. His longest time was at Kansas Action for Children, an organization that does research, grassroots organizing, and lobbying at the state and federal level to implement policies that improve the lives of vulnerable children. Now he enjoys cooking, spending time with grandchildren, gardening, traveling, learning to play the keyboard, and being in nature.



### Linda Cram



I've been a member since 2022. We arrived on Palm Sunday to find a donkey by the church! So many people talked to us and made us feel welcome, we had to come back to see if this was "normal." Well, almost four years later, it is most truly normal, and now we are part of a congregation that continues to welcome all newcomers! I'm a retired high school science teacher with an undergrad and master's degrees from Alverno College. I've been married to John for 53 years, with seven children and soon-to-be seven grandchildren (Thanks to Milwaukee County foster-to-adopt program). I love being part of the choir, reading on Sunday mornings, and being involved in outreach. I became a full member of the Episcopal community in 2025.

## Laurie McCullough-Benner

Laurie has been a member of St. Mark's since the fall of 2022. She has attended both services, recently enjoying the 8 a.m. service and the monthly fellowship breakfasts following that service. Widowed in 2020, Laurie moved from Michigan to Milwaukee in August 2022 to be near her son and daughter-in-law. Her eldest son lives in Munich, Germany, with his wife and four-year-old daughter, so regular visits are a must. She retired in 2024 after working for over 30 years in Skilled Nursing Facility Operations. Currently, she has a short-term vacation rental in the lower level of her home. Laurie enjoys tennis and reading, participating in the St. Mark's Women's Book Club. She also facilitates the Downer Ave Book Club held monthly at the Café Hollander. She started volunteering at the Kinship Community Food Center during the summer of service in 2024 and continues to serve on Tuesdays with distribution. She has also volunteered doing literacy tutoring and with the Milwaukee Diaper Mission. Laurie is currently training for her second year with the Fight For Air Climb.



## Vestry Member (one-year term)

### Sandra McLellan

Sandra McLellan has attended St. Mark's since 2011 and became a member with her husband, Tom, and son, Owen (now 17) in 2015. She has been at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for 27 years and is currently a Professor in the School of Freshwater Sciences, studying sources of pollution in water and the effects of climate change. She has served on the building committee for the past few years and is currently assisting with grant writing for the new parish hall and historic building. In her free time, she enjoys baseball, gardening, and biking.



Sandra values the sense of community at St. Mark's and the genuine service to others that so many parishioners offer to the greater Milwaukee Community. She and her family feel connected to St. Mark's and look forward to finding ways to contribute to the parish's mission.

## **Diocesan Convention Deputies**

Marilyn Hamilton

Veronica Zahn

Matt Norby

## **Alternate Deputies**

Judith Miller

Randy Miller

Leslie McCormick