

2023 Vestry Candidates



Paul Abdullah

Paul is a third generation member of Christ Church Detroit who was baptized and confirmed here. In his teens he sang in the boys' and later men's choir at Christ Church Grosse Pointe. After a number of years out of state, he returned to Michigan in 2019 and had the great gift to rediscover Christ Church as an adult. He can be found most Sundays volunteering in the choir.

Trained as a pianist and musicologist, Paul spent nearly two decades as a professional musician and has worked as a pastoral musician in a wide range of contexts. More recently, he has applied his teaching skills to the world of corporate Learning and Development.



Mary Brown

Mary Brown comes from a long line of pastors, musicians, and educators, and became an Episcopalian in 1992. She found her way to Christ Church when a friend brought her here for Evensong, and she knew then that CCD was where she wanted to worship. She has found this parish to be populated with warm, broad-minded people of goodwill, and values this unique community whose members are eager to work for the common good. Most Sundays you can find Mary in the choir loft, as she is an active member of the choir.

Mary has lived and taught in Indiana, Tennessee, and Germany prior to moving here. Mary has two daughters, Katie, a middle school orchestra director, and Allie, a transplant social worker.



Mary Herring

Mary has been a member of Christ Church Detroit since 2017. She especially appreciates the outreach work of the parish and currently co-chairs the committee to resettle an Afghan refugee family. At her previous parish, she was active in many areas of ministry including rector and personnel searches and vestry.

Mary and her husband, Tim Bledsoe, have one daughter who lives and works in Washington DC. They are both professors in political science at Wayne State University, and even though they love their work there, they look forward to retirement in May 2024.



Hope Hoffman

Hope has been an Episcopalian since she joined a church choir at 10. Christ Church Grosse Pointe was Hope's church community since her early 20's . While active there, she was on the Vestry twice, on a Search Committee, taught Sunday school for seven years, and was active in many other committees and activities.

In her professional life, Hope worked for 27 years in corporations leading and managing teams in organizational development and training to design and deliver large scale corporate efforts. Currently, she has a garden business with a small team, and she helps people organize, downsize, and work through moving tasks. Hope is excited to be at Christ Church Detroit the last few years and looks forward to serving here.



Josephine Powell

Josephine has been a member of Christ Church Detroit for more than three decades. Currently she serves as a member of the Outreach Committee, the Building and Grounds Committee, and is the co-chair of the Altar Guild. She has previously served as a member of the Vestry, the breakfast teams and the hospitality committee and as a LEM and a Diocesan Convention delegate.

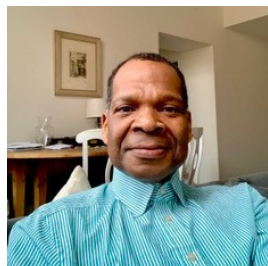
She is currently employed by the City of Detroit in the Office of the City Clerk.

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Ruth Boeder



Anthony Mitchell



Jim Treece

