

Meet your Candidates here ...

*and at the
Parish Forum
Sunday, May 16
10:30 am
Satterlee Hall*

On June 6, 2010, at the St. Alban's Annual Meeting, the election for vestry and diocesan delegates will be held. Below are the candidates for these offices. At the Annual Meeting four (4) vestry members and two officers will be elected. The vestry members will be elected for a full three year term.

These nominees were selected by the Nomination Committee appointed at the January 19 vestry meeting and were approved at the April 20 vestry meeting. This year the nomination committee consisted of Bill Edgar, Danette (Dani) Kauffman, Keith Jones, Adrian Lofton, and Cay Hartley. The Rector and the Wardens can appoint other members to the committee, if desired. This was not done this year.

The elections on June 6 will choose the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and four new Vestry members. The following Vestry members will continue in office: Ruth Cline, Andrea Farr, Chuck Holmes, Jennifer Thorson Martin, Eric Melby, Richard Parkins, Ann Ramsey-Moor, and Eve Zartman-Ball. Nathalie Bramson, Bill Edgar, Keith Jones, and Danette (Dani) Kauffman are completing their terms on the Vestry. Kate Bouvé, Senior Warden, and Jim Sottile, Junior Warden, will be completing their terms as officers. Jim Tate, Secretary will also rotate off.

Voting

Voting on June 6 will begin at 8 am and close when the Annual Meeting begins. There will be no voting while worship services are in progress.

Vestry

Four candidates will be elected to the Vestry. The four top vote-getters will be elected for full three year terms.

Julie Clements



I am a licensed attorney, with a Master's in public policy, who directs legislative affairs for a national professional group of licensed mental health providers. Baptized and confirmed as a Methodist, I grew up in the Texas Hill Country. In November, I was received into the Episcopal Church, formally becoming a member of St. Alban's Parish. I remind myself that John Wesley was a lifelong Anglican.

It was a warm Sunday in June 2009, when I first arrived at St. Alban's. I was on an espionage "hospitality" mission for my Methodist pastor, seeking to create radical hospitality within his congregation. In search of the elusive "radical" ingredient, I set out to inspect nearby churches' hospitality. With one serendipitous first stop, I found the most "radical" of hospitality at St. Alban's. Here, I was personally greeted by three rectors, four laypeople, and invited to a Newcomer's dinner- within one hour.

Since July, I have immersed myself in a myriad

of ministries throughout St. Alban's, including active participation on the Forum Committee, WIN team, St. Alban's Green Team, and St. Alban's 20s-30s Group, as a hostess and attendee of a vibrant Foyer's Group, and as a volunteer to St. Alban's annual Christmas dinner and the Cross Roads Shelter. With these experiences, I have been blessed with friendships throughout the Parish.

I stand for the Vestry wishing to ensure St. Alban's remains an enriching "final stop." As a vestrywoman, I will better integrate the Parish's individual ministries, devise new opportunities for the Parish, and offer a fresh perspective. I am an affable visionary with vibrant ideas and endless energy. A contribution I've made thus far resulted in the rescue of a dwindling 20-30's Group. By suggesting the 20-30's Group meet after the 11:15 service, 20-30's Group participation has multiplied. Additionally, the new time has integrated the Green Team and 20-30's Group.

A few previous leadership experiences include: managing a freshman honors community, being executive to my law school student body, leading a French immersion program for teens, directing programs for Emory's Wesley Foundation, heading a congressional candidate's policy team, and serving as a resident advisor.

Russell Eckel



I'm Russell Gibson Eckel and I've been a member of St. Alban's since 1983. When my husband and I came to Washington, we were looking for a church that was close to our home and where we would feel comfortable. Admittedly, it was Frank Wade's sermons and Norman Scribner's music that drew us in, but we soon found ourselves surrounded by a warm and welcoming community. Our children have been baptized here, and my husband was buried from here. Over the years I have served the church in a variety of roles from Sunday school teacher to wait staff and clean-up crew for numerous dinners. I have been a member of WSA for many years and have served both as vice-president and president. In that role I acted as 'expert liaison from WSA,' helping the Transitional Grants Committee establish the guidelines and format for grants at the church. I continue to serve as an active member of WSA.

If you are not able to vote on June 6 ...

Stop by the Parish Office weekdays between 8:30 and 4:30 pm for an absentee ballot. Results of the election will be announced during the Annual Meeting and posted on our website by 9 am, Monday, June 7.

My focus at this time is the St. Alban's Opportunity Shop. I am currently President of the Op Shop but I consider myself more a 'majordomo' for a group of wonderful volunteers and clients. I also consider myself an everyday parishioner of St. Alban's. We all are actively involved in practicing our faith in our communities. We lead by example, thought, and consideration of the rights of others. If elected to vestry, I would bring my experience of moving discussion forward by listening to and analyzing what has been said, as well as my long history at our church, to represent the wishes of our church home.

Ann Nix



When my husband Jim and I first began dating in 1996, we came to St. Alban's in search of a spiritual center to anchor our new relationship. I was shy about joining a church—I hadn't been a church-goer

for over 30 years. Within 6 months, we felt thoroughly welcomed. Within a year, we had begun Inquirers' Classes, and were confirmed in '98. We married here six months later.

My involvement in the St. A's community has steadily increased. I joined an 11:15 usher team early on, and it has been a wonderful way to get to know fellow parishioners. In early 2003, I was part of a pilot program for Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC) at St. Alban's, a 12-week theological study group that inspired me to begin EfM (Education for Ministry), the four-year lay theological study program developed by Sewanee, from which I graduated in 2008. My reflections in EfM led me to join the Stephen Ministry here in 2009.

With parish and diocesan support, I was among the organizers of a new parish ministry, Hope for Recovery, an outreach begun in 2007 to offer support to parishioners who are struggling with addiction and those who love them.

Along the way, I became an acolyte at 11:15, a cook for our Christ House feeding ministry, a student of Centering Prayer, a book-group organizer and student—in short, an active member of this vitally ac-

tive parish.

Professionally, I have worked for over 7 years with DC Central Kitchen, a local non-profit that provides thousands of meals a day for area social service agencies, trains chronically unemployed adults for culinary careers and offers hope through empowerment and sustainable partnerships. St. Alban's has supported the Kitchen through two Transformation Fund grants for training and food recovery.

I am standing for the vestry to become more involved in the organization and perpetuation of the parish and ministries I have come to love so much, and to return the many blessings that St. Alban's has given me.

Bob Pettit



In the nearly 15 years I've attended St. Alban's, I've been blessed to serve in the vibrant life of this parish in a variety of ways. I co-chaired the Every Member Pledge campaign in 2008, was an

EMP committee member in 2007 and earlier served on the advanced gifts committee of the Transformed for Ministry campaign. In 2007-08, I served as a member of the Stewardship Commission that prepared recommendations to the Vestry regarding the expansion and revitalization of various stewardship activities, including the Endowment, Phoebe Nurse Society, and annual giving. In fact, my law firm and I served as pro bono counsel in developing governance rules for the Endowment. I continue to serve on the Stewardship Commission.

Off and on for nearly 10 years, I've sung in the Parish and Canterbury Choirs (now with my wife, Sandy Wilson). It's been a tremendous worship experience for us – just as the 2008 choir pilgrimage to Italy was and this summer's Central European pilgrimage undoubtedly will be.

Professionally, I'm a partner at a large DC law firm (and chair the firm's finance committee). Private practice has been punctuated with public service, including service as Associate Deputy Secretary of Transportation and General Counsel of the FCC. I'm also the outgoing president of the Federal Communications Bar Association, was

a founding trustee of the association's Foundation and served on the board of the Washington Chamber Symphony.

I came to St. Alban's at a difficult time in my life, and my participation in the life of the church has been rewarded time and again with tremendous spiritual and emotional strength that I rely on every day. So, I'm honored to be nominated to run for the Vestry. I'm mindful, too, of the challenges and opportunities that the parish and the Vestry face: calling a new Rector, adjusting to a very difficult economy while maintaining our support for God's ministries (and the breadth and depth of those ministries), and the evolving relationship with our Cathedral neighbors. If elected, I pledge to you to do everything I can to be a faithful steward of this wonderful parish.

Wendy Reaves



I joined St. Alban's parish with my husband, John Daniel Reaves, around 1984, shortly after we were married, and both our children, Paul and Caroline, were baptized here. St. Alban's has

been a solid foundation for our family life and a nurturing community. Early on, I served on the lay committees for two of our seminarians. Sharing the spiritual journeys of those two very different but equally committed young people was truly inspiring.

Professionally, I am a curator at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. Over the years I have worked to inventory and catalogue some of St. Alban's own collection of art, including paintings, watercolors and prints. I am presently serving on the Art and Memorials committee. While John Daniel's experiences as St. Alban's Junior Warden, Senior Warden, and Search Committee chair have kept me well informed about vestry activities and the process of a search, my recent focus has been primarily on singing in the choir which I have enjoyed for almost fifteen years. However, I would welcome a chance to broaden my involvement, and would be honored, if elected, to serve on the vestry.

I treasure the spiritual home my family has found here. As we face a new transition journey, we can maintain St. Alban's great traditions of music, outreach, educa-

tion, and community while working to adapt fresh initiatives and encourage our wonderfully energetic parish staff and clergy and our growing, evolving congregation.

Glen Sutcliffe



One Sunday over 13 years ago, I visited St. Alban's for the first time. Like most newcomers, I kept to myself and listened intently to the Rector. I guess I was here to find some pearls

of wisdom to somehow make life easier, though I have no idea what was difficult. After that Sunday, there's really no succinct way to explain how I became drawn to St. Alban's every Sunday. This is just one of the many hopes I have for every visitor to St. Alban's Parish.

After attending Adult Inquirer's Class, I was confirmed. What I'd experienced from fellow parishioners in the classes was a tremendous sense of community and belonging. Since then, my commitment to St. Alban's had never waned. After I witnessed the many programs St. Alban's offers, I became more interested in being involved. As my own life has evolved, I began bringing my then-fiancée, Marie to St. Alban's and eventually we were married. Our children, Tucker (9 y.o.) and Ava (6 y.o.), were baptized here and they have enjoyed St. Alban's.

Leading Children's Chapel has been truly enjoyable and a challenge at the same time. I have also been involved with the Catechumenal Group, which prepares families for baptism. This is a group where you meet and learn from families their hopes for their child. It is always an inspiring experience.

Upon graduation from the Ohio State University with a B.A. in Political Science, I came back to Washington, where I was raised. I first worked with a public relations firm and then in the United States Senate. It was on the Hill that I had perhaps one of the greatest experiences of my life working as the assistant to the staff director who crafted the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), along with other important pieces of legislation affecting people with disabilities. Because my own parents are Deaf, I had a very vested inter-

est in getting the ADA passed. Working with the coalitions of disability groups along with all sides of the political spectrum gave me the kind of training that you could not possibly get in a lecture hall. After working on the Hill, I served on political campaigns and then became an advocate-lobbyist for attorneys who represent people with disabilities on a pro bono basis. Today, and for over 10 years now, I am a Realtor with W.C. & A.N. Miller, A Long & Foster Company.

St. Alban's has so many opportunities to serve. I am very honored to be asked to stand for the Vestry.

Jim Tate



The tag line I use after my signature on emails and other correspondence is "Still Learning." I learned some of life's lessons in the fields and streams of Northern Illinois and Wisconsin. As

an only child I hunted, fished, and roamed alone with my dog for a daily companion. My church background includes the Lutheran Church of my mother's family, the Southern Baptist Church of my father's family, and the Episcopal Church in which I was baptized and confirmed as a child. With this as my background, I try to follow Christ's teachings and share the blessings I have been given. My work career as a wildlife biologist has been in the natural sciences, philosophy, and education. Philosophically, I strive to continue to learn, and grow as a person. And, perhaps most importantly for the Vestry responsibilities, I have experience in managing public facilities, budgets, and people. I want to bring those talents to bear to help serve St. Alban's as it continues to grow into this new century with its many challenges. My wife, Lin, and I came to St. Alban's about ten years ago. We have become part of this church community in many ways, including ushering at the 11:15 service, participating in the church's feeding programs and fundraising activities, in its educational activities, in Foyers, in the Faith and Everyday Leadership program, in the Parish Planning workshops, and by initiating the BlueBag program—a ministry which helps travelers carry with them a big blue duffle bag containing clothing, medicines or school supplies to be distributed to the

needy in the countries they visit. I intend to continue in my service to others through the Millennium Goals and the programs of the St. Alban's community, because, to paraphrase a recent sermon, *St. Alban's is not the church I go to, it is the church I am from.*

Jo Turner



Rich and I joined St. Alban's twenty years ago--the best decision we ever made. It's been a busy twenty years, and I've been blessed to participate in many aspects of our parish life. I'm a fortunate

alto in our flourishing choir program. Along with David Johnson, I was a founding leader of St. Alban's Stephen Ministry; I'm very proud of this ministry and the church's commitment to it.

Previously elected to vestry seven years ago, I co-chaired our pledge campaigns for two years and was an active participant in vestry decisions during an issue-packed period. Before that, I held the post of diocesan delegate. I've both served and learned from being part of the healing ministry, lay readers, sesquicentennial committee, lay Eucharistic ministry, and inquirers' class leadership. I've been able to draw on my personal and professional experience to plan and lead workshops on faithful healing, care-giving, divorce and dying. It was a gift to be an active part of our parish dialogue on sexuality.

This history is less important than what I'm passionate about. I believe we're called to excel in caring for each other, bearing witness to a loving, healing God. *A church that embodies the embrace of Christian caring draws and retains members.* When we are cared for, we're also empowered to be God's reconciling hands in a hurting world. My hope is that St. Alban's will be known as the "caring congregation."

For many of us, St. Alban's worship services are where God's presence is palpable. They are the party for our joy, the classroom for our questioning and the steady beacon in our times of darkness. Worship, music and liturgy are treasures to be enriched and nurtured.

And I take seriously the scriptural mandate

to be “doers of the word, not hearers only.” Not a membership club but a church, St. Alban’s calls us to wade in, get our hands dirty and accept the burdens, along with the blessings, of being God’s people. That means being sacrificial with our talents and our money. We try to do that at our house.

As a former hospice administrator and a now semi-retired nonprofit management consultant, I’m a writer by craft and a grandma by grace. I’d be honored to work hard on your vestry.

Sr. Warden

Jim Sottile



I came to St. Alban’s in 1986 when my wife Noell and I were married here. The people of St. Alban’s welcomed me and drew me into our village in the city. Our sons Jimmie and David have

grown up here nurtured by the youth programs.

I have been called to serve in a number of ministries – lay reading, leading youth groups and serving as a Eucharistic Visitor.

In addition, I was a member of the last Search Committee, and it was a transforming experience. I heard the voice of the Spirit speaking through my fellow Committee members and knew that God was with us in our work.

For the last three years, I have served as Junior Warden, coming to know all too well the fine points of boilers, budgets and the business side of the parish.

I have witnessed the people of this parish hearing and responding to God’s call to love and serve God and one another day after day and year after year. I am humbled by, and struggle to live up to, the examples you set of how to live a Christian life. I would be honored to serve as Senior Warden – but more importantly I am honored to walk the way of Jesus with you.

CALL FOR ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 6. So it is time to get your reports written and emailed to me to be included in the Annual Report to the Parish. Reports are due to me no later than Friday, May 7. —Eric Gustafson

Jr. Warden

Nathalie Bramson



After college, tired of studying and interested in business, I went to Wall Street, a disconnect from most of my peers.

I wrote research reports and was hired away by Macmillan, Inc.,

one of the Fortune 500 companies about which I wrote. My 14 years there were spent largely in finance and communications, and -- in utility infielder mode -- in other areas where middle management help was needed, including major personnel and legal assignments. After several years, I was elected an assistant vice president, the youngest corporate officer ever, and later, the first female vice president.

I moved to Washington, remarried and, late to motherhood, had my wonderful son, becoming a full time mother, school volunteer and part-time stock market analyst. My loyalties to my educational institutions and those of my son have given me many volunteer experiences, including four years of the Beauvoir Auction, ten years as Chair of the Landon Symphonette, many years on the Board of Governors of St. Timothy’s School, and five years as treasurer of DC Stoddard Soccer.

I was confirmed into St. Alban’s in the mid-90’s and found my first real spiritual home. The years since have been full of exploring many service and ministry opportunities. Several years ago I served as Vestry Secretary, and am just completing a full three-year term on the Vestry. I have served on the Stewardship Commission and, for two years, as co-chair of the Every Member Pledge campaign. I currently serve on the Hospitality Commission, help facilitate the Career Transition Group, and for a little over a year or so have been chief usher. Tim Boggs and I are spearheading the Communications initiative, a special passion of mine. Most recently, I helped organize the Spring Gala.

But the most important experience I offer you as a candidate is that I have served since their inception on the two committees overseen by the Junior Warden – the Finance/Investment Committee, established almost ten years ago, and the more

recently constituted Property Committee.

If elected, one of the efforts I hope to pursue is to increase the planning and staffing for major volunteer positions, including the development of job descriptions, so people have a better sense of what is involved. In all, I will work hard to try to emulate the exceptional standard set for us by Jim Sottile.

Deborah Potter



St. Alban’s is more than a church to me, more than a place where I spend my Sundays. It is the center of my life, a spiritual framework for everything I do, and it has been for almost 30 years.

My husband Bob and I were married here in 1982. Our two sons were baptized and confirmed here. They’re wonderful young adults now, thanks in part to the grounding they received at this church.

Over the years, I’ve been involved in many ministries at St. Alban’s: as a member of the Vestry and choir, lay reader and Sunday school teacher. I’ve participated in Foyers and committees, getting to know people who attend all of our services. I’ve baked casseroles and brought meals to the Crossroads Shelter. But I have to confess that my appetite for active involvement had faded in recent years.

Then, last December, I helped organize the annual Christmas dinner. In a scant two weeks, more than 100 fellow parishioners responded with a generosity of spirit that reminded me once again what a remarkable community this is. That’s one reason I said yes when asked to stand for Junior Warden. Here’s another: I believe my professional background as a journalist and educator makes me a good listener and communicator. In a time of transition, everyone needs to know as much as possible about where we’re going and why.

If elected, my goal is to help the parish discern the mission God is drawing us toward, while exercising good stewardship of our resources and facilities. I’m humbled and honored by the prospect of representing you. As the hymn says, “I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.”

Annual Meeting Election Insert