

St. Paul's Church  
Wickford, RI

55 Main St. North Kingstown, RI 02852  
phone 401-294-4357 • fax 401-294-9437

# Officer/Vestry/ Delegate

# Nomination Packet

Nominations must be received by  
December 8, 2011

## St. Paul's Officer Nominating Form

The officers of the parish corporation are the senior and junior wardens, the clerk, the treasurer and twelve other vestry members. At the 2012 annual meeting the corporation of St. Paul's parish will be called upon to elect four vestry members and a clerk. The nominating committee will present all qualified candidates to a vote of the annual meeting. **Candidates for election may self-nominate or be nominated by another qualified voting member of the parish corporation.** Please review the attached document "**Those qualified for election as Officers of St. Paul's**" to determine that the candidate is eligible for election as an officer of the corporation. We must have all requested information in order for the Nominating Committee to review your eligibility for service on the Vestry. *Nominations will be accepted at the office, by mail or fax until **December 8, 2011.***

### **Instructions:**

Section I must be completed by the nominee. Section II must be filled out by the person seeking election. Section III and IV must be completed by the person making the nomination. Section V must include the signatures of both the nominee and the person making the nomination (unless the candidate is self-nominated).

**Please print neatly or type.**

### **SECTION I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE NOMINEE**

Nominee's name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Number of years a member of the parish:

Is the nominee qualified for election to an office of the corporation? (see attached "Those qualified for election as Officers of St. Paul's" for clarification): \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Brief description of involvement in ministries at st. Paul's:

Has the nominee been a member of the vestry? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If yes, what was the term of service, and what position did the nominee hold?

**SECTION II. INFORMATION FROM THE NOMINEE**

Can you commit to a minimum of eight hours per month of Vestry work?

Yes  No

Will you be able to attend Vestry meetings held the third Tuesday of the month?

Yes  No

Will you commit to attending periodic vestry retreats?  Yes  No

**Why do you want to serve on the vestry?**

**Indicate which position you are seeking. All are for three year terms.**

**Vestry (4 positions available)**

**Clerk (1 position available)**

**Elected Vestry members need to serve as vestry liaison on one of the following teams: Fellowship, Liturgy, Property and Christian Outreach.**

**Please describe your vision for St. Paul's in the next five years, and how you believe the vestry can participate in that vision? (*attach another sheet if necessary*):**

**SECTION III. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON MAKING THE NOMINATION**

Is this a self-nomination?  Yes  No

**If yes, please go to Section V. If no, please complete the information below.**

Name of person making the nomination:

Email:

Phone:

Are you a member in good standing of St. Paul's?

Yes  No

**NOTE:** We will only consider nominations from qualified voting members of St. Paul's. (Please review the attached document "Those qualified for election as Officers of St. Paul's" for clarification)

**SECTION IV. CANDIDATES FOR DELEGATES TO DIOCEAN CONVENTION**

The Delegates of the parish corporation are representatives of the parish who attend the Diocesan Annual Convention or any Special Diocesan Convention that might be called. At the 2012 annual meeting the corporation of St. Paul's parish will be called upon to elect four delegates and two alternates. The nominating committee will present all qualified candidates to a vote at the annual meeting. **Candidates for election may self-nominate.** We must have all requested information in order for the Nominating Committee to review your eligibility for service as a Delegate. Please review the attached document "voting members of St. Paul's" to determine that the candidate is eligible for election as a Delegate of the corporation. *Nominations should be returned to the parish office and will be accepted until **December 8, 2011.***

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE NOMINEE**

Nominee's Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

(Same qualifications as Vestry apply.)

Can you commit to attend the Annual Diocesan Convention for a full day as designated by the Diocese?

Yes  No

Why do you want to serve as a delegate to convention?

**SECTION V. SIGNATURES**

Signature of nominee

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of person making the nomination (leave blank for self-nominations)

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

***Completed forms are to be sent to the attention of the nominating committee by mail, by fax to the church office at 401-294-9437, or delivered to the parish office at 55 Main Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852. Receipt will be confirmed by a member of the Nominating Committee.***

*Nominations will be accepted until **December 8, 2011.***

The Nominating Committee is available to answer any questions

Richard Lewis

Ann Waring

Mark Cranston

Cheryl Suglia

Leslie Kershaw

## **Those qualified for election as Officers of St. Paul's.**

### **Who are qualified for nomination for or election to an office of the corporation of St. Paul's Church?**

#### **The Bylaws of St. Paul's Church. Article VI, Section 2**

All persons nominated for or elected to any parish office (except clergy) shall be members of the parish corporation celebrating and keeping the Lord's Day by regular participation in the public worship of the Church, by hearing the Word of God read and taught, and by other acts of devotion and works of charity, using all godly and sober conversation ([The General Convention of the Episcopal Church] Title II, Canon 1).

## **Those qualified as voting members of the Corporation.**

### **Who are the voting members of the Corporation of St. Paul's Church?**

#### **Bylaws of St. Paul's Church, Article IV**

All **communicants in good standing** ([The General Convention of the Episcopal Church] Title I, Canon 17, Section 3 cited above) duly enrolled in St. Paul's Church, contributing regularly to the support of this Church, and who have attained legal voting age, are members of the parish corporation and may attend and vote at all parish corporation meetings.

### **Who are "communicants in good standing" ?**

#### **The General Convention of the Episcopal Church Title I, Canon 17, Sec. 3.**

All **communicants** of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.

### **Who are "communicants" of St. Paul's Church?**

#### **The General Convention of the Episcopal Church Title I, Canon 17, Sec. 2**

(a) **All members** of this Church who have received *Holy* Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year are to be considered communicants of this Church.

(b) For the purposes of statistical consistency throughout the Church, communicants sixteen years of age and over are to be considered adult communicants.

## **Membership at St. Paul's Church**

### **Who are members of St. Paul's Church?**

#### **Diocese of RI, Canon 10, Sec. 10.14. Membership .**

. All persons who have received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and whose baptism has been duly recorded in the parish register and all persons confirmed or received in The Episcopal Church whose confirmation or reception is duly recorded in the parish register are members of the parish.

# **Vestry Roles, Responsibilities and Visibility**

## **What is the Role of the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?**

**As in all Episcopal parishes, the Vestry is the elected governing body of the parish. In addition to the Rector, the Vestry is composed of the Officers (the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Clerk and the Treasurer) and twelve others, each of whom has been qualified as a member of the parish corporation of St. Paul's and elected at the annual meeting of the corporation. The goal of the Vestry is the following:**

- To discern, embrace and communicate the vision toward which God is drawing St. Paul's Church;
- Encourage the structures, organizations and activities within the parish that support and uphold the realization of this vision.

To that end, and so that the mission and ministry of St. Paul's may proceed in peace and with vigor, the Vestry has canonically specified responsibilities for the stewardship of church money and property and for working with the rector on personnel management and program development and oversight. The Vestry is a team ministry within St. Paul's, and members of the Vestry each accept particular duties and responsibilities that provide active guidance and support of the overall life of the Parish.

Upon the departure of a rector, the Vestry is also responsible for calling an interim, and for the election of a new rector, each with the assent of the bishop.

Members of the Vestry are elected at the Annual Parish Meeting, which is held "on the last Sunday in January of each year."

## **Vestry Responsibilities and Visibility**

Be open and willing to share your faith journey with others and to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in your life.

- Attend church services regularly.
- Prepare for, attend, and participate in monthly Vestry meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 :00 p.m. and attend occasional special Vestry meetings and retreats as scheduled. Speak up on issues of importance.
- Support stewardship to the fullest extent possible, working toward the tithe, pledging to the church, and participating as fully as possible in all other fundraising projects.
- Serve as a canvasser in the Every Member Canvass.
- Serve in leadership positions and undertake special assignments willingly and enthusiastically when asked.
- Serve as the Vestry liaison as an active member of a team ministry at St. Paul's.
- Be available to help greet and welcome newcomers to the church community, and support coffee hour and special parish life activities as fully as possible and wear specially marked Vestry nametags at these events to increase Vestry visibility.

***Annual Diocesan Convention***  
***Opportunity to Participate in Diocesan Government***

The RI Episcopal Diocese Annual Convention is held each year in late October or early November on a Saturday. It is a gathering of all canonically resident clergy and representatives from each parish to discuss important issues occurring in the Diocese, discuss and approve the Diocesan budget, and approve/reject resolutions presented to the assembly. It includes an address by the Bishop.

Elections are also held for positions on the key Diocesan committees such as Standing Committee and Diocesan Council. Other positions on various committees such as Finance are also elected, as well as Secretary to the Convention and Treasurer.

St. Paul's is eligible to send four delegates to attend the Annual Diocesan Convention. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in the larger Church and to connect with other RI Episcopalians, and to network and interact with leadership of the diocese who are perceived to be distant from local parishes.