

# 2024 TRINITY CATHEDRAL VESTRY NOMINEES

## Greg Albert



I am humbled to be nominated to the vestry and would be honored to serve if elected. I was raised an Episcopalian in the Diocese of Connecticut. I reconnected with the Episcopal faith when my family and I moved to Little Rock in 2011. Since that time, my wife Denise, our children, Cameron (age 15) and Grace (age 12), and I have been members of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Parish. Denise and I both completed the Education for Ministry program (EfM). This year, I took on the role of co-mentor of the Trinity EfM group. I also led Friday evening prayer on a regular basis during the COVID-19 pandemic (virtually of course). More recently, I have been appointed as the chair of the parish Pastoral Care Committee. In addition to growing the pastoral care program, I would like to see further growth of the parish adult education program, including more opportunities for pilgrimage trips. I am also dismayed at the way claims of faith are used to oppress others and would like to see our parish take an active role in the community and our diocese in supporting marginalized groups. Outside of Trinity, I am a pediatric neurosurgeon at Arkansas Children's Hospital.

My family and I are regular attendees at the 10:30 Sunday service, where our children are frequent acolytes. I am also often found at the 5:30 Wednesday service.

## Sarah Bennings



My passion for Trinity surrounds growing a vibrant and diverse parish community, as well as being a good steward to our historic facilities. For several years I was involved in the Family and Children's Committee and the ECEP board, where we worked with clergy to plan fellowship events for families and children. I co-chaired Trinity Trunk or Treat with the goal of bringing our parish families together in fellowship with our ECEP families. I am a trained Level 1 Catechist, and for three years taught children in the Catechesis of the Good Shepard Atrium. Beyond serving our families, I served on the Dean Search Committee to bring our amazing Dean Meaux to the Cathedral! Under her direction, and with input from a building committee the many groups here at the Cathedral, I lead the design of our new Trinity Master Plan in 2021. (I am an architect by profession which gives me great perspective into the long-term maintenance needs of our cathedral and grounds.) My hope is that through the innovative leadership of our Vestry, Trinity can continue into the future with loyalty to its history and an open heart for creativity, acceptance and growth.

## Eliza Borné



I am a fifth-generation member of Trinity Cathedral; I was baptized at the Cathedral in 1987. The church community played a foundational role in my childhood as I sang in the Girls' Choir, participated in youth group, attended Camp Mitchell, and served as an acolyte.

My husband, John Williams, and I were married at the Cathedral in 2013. Our children, Madeleine (5) and Alex (1),

were baptized at Trinity. Before having kids, I enjoyed co-leading a series of book discussions at Trinity and serving as a discussion leader in the Dean's class. These days our family is most engaged in church through the Children's Ministry. We occasionally volunteer to help with Level 1 Children's Formation, and we've been regulars at the Wednesday night Koinonia services since they started in 2022.

By day, I am Director of Development of the Central Arkansas Library System. I am passionate about supporting and helping improve the most critical institutions of our city's social infrastructure - especially "third places" such as public libraries and places of worship. I would bring to the Vestry my experience in nonprofit management, grantwriting/fundraising, strategic planning, and developing partnerships.

Both of our children have attended the LRSD's Rockefeller Early Childhood Center, so we frequently drive up 17th Street. When we pass by the Cathedral, Madeleine often delightfully exclaims, "That's my church!" That she feels such a strong sense of welcome and ownership at Trinity has been a wonderful gift to our family. As a member of the Vestry, I would hope to support policies and programs that make everyone feel welcome at our "house of prayer for all people" - to explore faith, to come closer to God, and to join and strengthen our church community.

## Josie Felton



Daniel and I joined Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in 2005. Our children Josephine (18) and Mary Eleanor (16) attended Sunday School, served as Acolytes, and sang in the Children's Choir. I served on the Vestry as a member of the Executive Committee in 2017-2020. I have volunteered for our Bliss

fundraisers and was a Co-Chair for Bliss 2022. My favorite aspect of our church is the relationships I have with our members and the wonderful church staff. I love the way I feel at home here.

## Debbie Kincaid



Hello, I'm Debbie, and I'm honored to stand for vestry here at the Cathedral. As a lifelong member, I have participated in and have happy memories from, The Cathedral School, Matin Choir, EYC, and Camp Mitchell.

I was also fortunate to have served on the vestry under Dean Hudson. At that time my focus was on youth ministries, as my two sons were also involved at Trinity.

Professionally, I spent twenty years in the real estate business and the last twenty years in nursing. Currently, I am an activity director for a couple of amazing women, who generously share their wisdom and humor.

This year I am completing my third year of Education for Ministry (EfM), a wonderful four year program that gives one the guidance and tools to delve deeper into their own spiritual journey, and is administered by Sewanee.

Trinity Cathedral is truly ingrained into my heart and soul. If chosen to lead, I would love to give back to my beloved church home.

## Richard Moore



I have attended Trinity Cathedral since 2017 and was confirmed and received into membership in 2018. During that time I have served as an usher, greeter, lector and intercessor. I also assist with the broadcasting of services on YouTube.

I find Trinity to be a warm, welcoming environment and look forward to worshipping each week at the Cathedral. Hearing the word proclaimed, the insightful sermons and the wonderful music in the Anglican tradition is a highlight of my week. I believe our future is bright, and would consider it an honor to serve as a member of the vestry. I have experience serving on church boards, including many years on the session at the First Presbyterian Church in Camden, AR, where I was head of the property and finance committees at various times. I am employed as the general manager of Aramark Uniform Services on S. Woodrow in Little Rock and reside downtown.

## Ben Utter



I had a friend on the vestry of the church we attended in St. Paul, MN who used to gripe that he had a long list of parishioners he could call at 2 a.m. if the need suddenly arose for the writing of an emergency poem, but no one who would be of much use if anything happened to the boiler. I'm afraid my

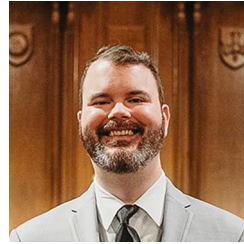
expertise with boilers and HVAC systems hasn't improved much since then, but such as I have I have tried to give freely here at Trinity.

It was in Christ Church that Brandy and I, recovering evangelicals both, came to know and love the Episcopal church and at whose altar we were married, and we were confirmed as Episcopalians at the parish church of St. Paul's, in Winston Salem, NC. But upon our return to Little Rock after nearly a decade away, it didn't take long for Trinity's music program under Victoria Harden to draw us here to the Cathedral. I have been a volunteer member of the cathedral choir since 2017, and though the pandemic and the need for a pesky vocal surgery compelled me to take a glum sabbatical, it was wonderfully restorative to find that there remained room for me among the tenors under Dr. MacKnight's direction.

I have served additionally as a member of a clerical vocation discernment committee and a lay member of Pastoral Care Ministry team. Surely the congregation will agree, however, that my most significant contribution to the life of the Cathedral was the very small role I played in aiding the search committee secure the presence of our own splendid Celina Kobetitsch as assistant music director!

While I don't know what future forms my participation and service, and that of my family, may take as members of Trinity, we are grateful for the many ways it nourishes our faith, hearts, minds, and creativity.

## Josiah Wheeler



I started coming to Trinity in May 2016 when I was asked to sing in the choir. Just a few short months later I was also employed at the Cathedral full time, first as the Communications Officer, then as Director of Operations for the Early Childhood Education Program, as

well as helping with the Summer Children's Theater Camp when I could. Even when I went back to teaching in the Little Rock School District, I still helped with streaming services and the children's choirs.

The more I came to the Cathedral and saw the ins and outs of the parish, the more I felt like I wanted to be a part of it more officially. I was confirmed in 2019 and have never felt more at home. I love the worship, the building, the music, the people, and I was honored to be asked if I would consider a term on the Vestry. I can't count how many services I have been a part of since 2016 (I honestly thought I'd been coming for much longer than 7 years!), but I wouldn't trade my parish family for anything, and I would love to help shape the future and continuing mission of our Cathedral.

## VOTING FOR VESTRY NOMINEES

The Annual Meeting for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral will open on Sunday, January 22 during the 8:30 a.m. service. The nominees for Vestry will be introduced at this and all subsequent services. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the 8 a.m. service only.

Voting will begin after this service and continue through the 4 p.m. Choral Evensong service. We will have an electronic voting option on January 23. You will receive a link to vote through REALM.

Those eligible to vote are as follows according to Canon 24, Section 4:

*"All worshipers of not less than 16 years of age, being communicants in good standing and regular contributors of record, or members of family groups which are regular contributors of record, for the support of the parish, and who shall have been canonically connected with the parish for thirty days prior to the date on which the parish meeting is held. This provision as to financial support shall not apply to those communicants who are unable to contribute. Those voters so qualified and being present at the parish meeting shall constitute a quorum."*