

VESTRY

Vestry members have both fiduciary as well as parish leadership roles. The Vestry shall constitute the board of directors of the Parish. The fiduciary duties of the Vestry are: to manage the prudential affairs and to care for the property of the Parish; to provide for all things necessary for the celebration of public worship; to supervise the investment of funds of the parish; to supervise and to direct the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Clerk in the discharge of their duties. A full term for a member of the Vestry is four years.

The following qualities and expectations are deemed important for future Vestry members.

1. As an existing member of the parish:
 - a. Be faithful and steadily present in Sunday worship.
 - b. Reflect a deep commitment to the Christian faith and to the Church's ministry.
 - c. Be a proportional, pledging member of the parish.
 - d. In most cases, manifest leadership abilities and commitment within the parish and/or diocese.
2. As a Vestry member, give himself or herself to the demands of being a leader in the parish:
 - a. Be steadily present at gatherings of the congregation including coffee hour and parish-wide events.
 - b. Attend all monthly Vestry meetings and go on weekend conferences with the Vestry, at least twice a year, for occasions of planning and spiritual reflection.
 - c. Understand that much of Vestry "business" is finance, facilities, and long range planning.
 - d. Serve on other lay committees that support programmatic ministries and administrative functions of the parish.
 - e. Be a willing volunteer to meet ad hoc needs of the Parish.
 - f. Reflect seriously with the Vestry on the Christian call to stewardship of our resources of wealth and talent and serve as a leader of the congregation in this regard.
 - g. Assist the Stewardship Committee in fundraising.
 - h. Take seriously a course of personal growth in the traditions of the Christian faith and be intentional about one's personal growth in the faith.
 - i. Bring distinctive and valuable skills and abilities to the Vestry's work.
 - j. Be committed to a discipline of careful listening and open dialogue.
 - k. Be willing to consider a wide range of points of view.

Finally, the Vestry should endeavor to represent in its members the breadth and heterogeneity of the parish membership. The slate of nominees should be drawn from a broad spectrum of parish life.

Term: 4 years

VESTRY OFFICERS:

In addition to the qualifications for Vestry members listed above, Officers must be at least eighteen years of age, and will have been a pledging member of the Parish for at least one year.

Senior Warden:

(Adapted with permission from the Diocese of Washington)

The primary role of the Senior Warden is to serve as the lay partner of the Rector in articulating the mission and vision of the parish, managing its day-to-day operations, identifying and nurturing leaders, and empowering members of the congregation to live out the Gospel in their daily lives.

“Warden” means “steward” or “guardian,” and wardens are the chief stewards and servants of their congregations. Wardens have a special and public ministry, and must lead by example as faithful churchgoers and visible donors of time, talent and treasure. They must be willing to listen, able to delegate, and, above all, able to engender trust in relationships with the rector and the congregation.

Wardens have four types of responsibilities:

- legal responsibilities with regard to
 - property and contracts
 - fiduciary responsibilities
- as well as responsibilities to:
 - the congregation
 - the Rector (and other clergy)

As a part of Vestry leadership responsibilities, the Senior Warden is expected to serve on the Budget, Investment, Audit, and Nominating Committees, and other ad hoc committees established from time to time.

Term: 4 years