

## VESTRY CANDIDATES

# The Messenger



Christ Church 320 Pollock Street New Bern, North Carolina  
www.christchurchnewbern.com Facebook.com/christchurchnewbern (252) 633-2109

Dear Friends,

Sunday, **November 24** will be our annual meeting, the once-a-year gathering to conduct the business of the Church. We will hear reports from our Treasurer, the Christ Church Trust, the Endowment Committee and the Senior and Junior Wardens. We will also continue our tradition of honoring one of our own as an Outstanding Servant Leader in our midst. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 am, in the Nave of the Church.

We will elect four new members of the Vestry. Voting for new members will occur during each time of worship. Ballots will be collected at the Offertory by members of the Vestry. You must be present to vote. You must vote for four (4) nominees. Any more or less will invalidate the ballot. To be eligible to vote, "One must be an enrolled, baptized, confirmed communicant in good standing of Christ Church which is sixteen (16) years old or older" (*Christ Church bylaws, Section 5.1*).

Information on the vestry candidates is contained in this mailer, as well as on our website (<https://christchurchnewbern.com/news/>).

Our candidates are:

- Carl Huddle
- Rick Miller
- Wayne Rowe
- David Spence
- Keith Thompson
- Geoff Wood

I am grateful to these great parishioners for their willingness to stand for election. I hope you will be prayerfully discerning who God is calling you to vote for to lead Christ Church for the next three years. If you have any questions, between now and then, please do not hesitate to be in touch with either or both of us.

Blessings,

The Rev. Paul Canady

Rector

paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com

Jean Reichenbach

Senior Warden

seniorwarden@christchurchnewbern.com

## Vestry Candidate Carl Huddle

**Family Life:** I've lived in New Bern, NC, since 1965 and grew up attending church and supporting the New Bern Bears. I have a beautiful and thoughtful wife, Kim, and two children, Campbell and Jack. Kim stays busy taking care of our family and participating in various community activities. Campbell graduated from the University of Mississippi and is getting married next February to a lucky man named Josh. Jack is attending the University of Mississippi and doing well. Kim and I are very proud parents. We thank God, every day, that our children are happy and healthy.



**Professional Background:** After attaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1986) and a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University (1990), I became a NC-licensed Professional Engineer. My general experience and expertise includes project management, constructability review, design/build engineering, civil engineering, geotechnical engineering, environmental permitting and personnel management and development.

I'm president of Trader Construction Company and Carolina Engineers, PA. Both companies are based in New Bern and provide heavy civil construction services and multi-faceted engineering services to local, state and federal governments, industrial clients and commercial and residential developers in North Carolina and Florida. It is through a well-intentioned, competent workforce and respectful long-time business relationships, Trader and Carolina Engineers are successful. Their success affords us the ability to support many regional civic organizations with direct and in-kind contributions.

My current and past leadership positions include:

- Member, New Bern Rotary Club
- Board of Trustees Member, Arendell Parrott Academy
- Board Member, New Bern Historical Society
- Advisory Board member, Boys & Girls Club of Coastal Carolina

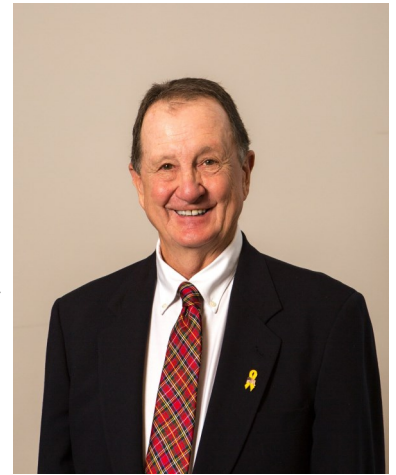
**How I've been involved in Christ Church:** My family has participated and supported Christ Church for many years. Personally, I've been privileged and spiritually fortunate to serve Christ Church as Junior Warden. While performing in the capacity of Junior Warden is rewarding, my most notable contribution was helping to create a Maintenance and Service Manual that anticipates, records and documents details of the many service maintenance items performed at Christ Church. This manual continues to serve us well by providing best management practices and the forms necessary to systemically organize, monitor and maintain the essential records needed to effectively and safely manage the physical assets of Christ Church. I appreciate all the assistance provided by other parishioners in its implementation and improvement.

**Personal Interests:** Family, friends, church, social community, business community, area history, hunting and fishing.

**Why I am willing to serve on the vestry:** I'm hoping to serve as a vestry member because I believe my knowledge of Christ Church operations, governance, programs and people... coupled with my determination to make good things happen will result in a sincere, meaningful difference in the spiritual lives of fellow parishioners and in the long-term care of Church buildings and grounds.

## Vestry Candidate Rick Miller

I was born in Catskill, New York, and, as a child, we moved throughout the country because my father was a career Naval Chief Petty Officer. My family moved to Hagerstown, Maryland, where I graduated from high school. In June, following my high school graduation, I enlisted in the Navy and served for three years. Serving on a destroyer, I traveled to Vietnam and throughout the Mediterranean. After leaving the Navy, I studied at the University of Maryland, obtaining undergraduate and graduate degrees in science education. During my last year in graduate school Pam and I married as we began our respective careers. Professionally I taught a variety of science courses in both junior high school and high school. I retired from the public school system after 30 years of teaching. Following public school, I became science department chairperson at Good Counsel High School for 11 years. During the last three years, at Good Counsel, I was a consultant for the development and implementation of a STEM engineering program.



For 26 years Pam and I lived in Olney, Maryland; and were members of St. John's Episcopal Church. While worshipping at St. John's I served on the Vestry, was the usher coordinator, and coordinated the Pumpkin Patch under the same organization as Christ Church. During several summers I traveled as a youth group chaperone on Work Camp projects in West Virginia, New York, and Pennsylvania.

In 2015 I fully retired, and Pam and I moved to New Bern. I can honestly say that Christ Church is one of the reasons we decided to retire in New Bern. For years we have visited the area and, whenever possible, would attend Christ Church on Sundays. We were immediately captured by the church's beauty, history, the welcoming nature of the entire parish community. Now that we are settled in Farifield Harbour, I serve on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Carolina Navy League, stand on the Board of Directors of the Crystal Coast Water Keepers, President of the Vietnam Veterans of America New Bern Chapter, and cook monthly RCS dinners for the homeless residents. At Christ Church I am actively involved as an usher, greeter, docent, pumpkin patch coordinator, and Eucharistic minister once a month at the hospital. In my spare time, I love to play golf, take my motor boat out on the Neuse (trying to catch fish), and sit and relax while watching the majestic New Bern sunsets.

In all that I do, I love working with others as a team, to develop and accomplish goals. Seeing smiles on the faces of RCS residents as we serve dinners, the excitement of children when they first see our pumpkin patch, and the reactions of visitors who visit our VVA's Field of Flags, makes the work and effort all worthwhile. I would love the opportunity to serve, as a vestry member, for this wonderful Christ Church Community.

## Vestry Candidate Wayne Rowe

**Family Life:** I was born and raised in Staunton, Virginia in 1956. In 1976 I married my high school sweetheart, Kelly Holstein Rowe. Due to a medical emergency she went to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in 2014.

**Professional Background:** In 1973 I enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. I was stationed in Beaufort, South Carolina, Cherry Point, North Carolina, Iwakuni, Japan, Agana, Guam, and I served in the Gulf War. I retired from the Marine Corp in 1994. Following retirement from the USMC, I worked at the Fleet Readiness Center, East Cherry Point, until retiring in late 2017.

**How I Have Been Involved in Christ Church:** I am currently a Docent, Eucharistic Minister, member of Friends of Christ Church, and a member of the Christ Church RCS breakfast team. Since being confirmed in our church, I thoroughly enjoy participating in church activities such as MumFest, Greening of the Church and helping John Hagar and Mackie McDaniel in the churchyard, as well as times when the clergy puts out a call for many hands making light work.

**Personal Interests:** I am an avid golfer, who also loves to hunt and fish. I enjoy family time with my sisters here in New Bern. At the beginning and ending of a day, I spend time reading in my study of the Bible.

**What do I Bring to the Vestry:** As a retired individual, I now have the time and am committed to full participation in helping our Vestry team continue to keep Christ Church the beacon of light to so many in our community. I believe Proverbs 16:9, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."



### Prayers Before a Parish Annual Meeting

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be one of heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in the annual meeting of Christ Church for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## Vestry Candidate David Spence

**Family:** My family roots go back to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, where I was born in 1959. After graduating from Virginia Tech in 1985, I moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In 1995, I moved to New Bern, which I have come to think of as home. Although my parents have passed on, I am close to my brother's family and to my cousins and their children, most of whom continue to live in the mountains of Southwest Virginia.

**Professional Background:** Since 1995, I have taught English at New Bern High School. I also worked for eight years as a land surveyor in the region around Winston-Salem. I enjoyed land surveying and appreciate all I gained from the profession, but my heart has been with education.

**Church Life:** I was raised in the Methodist church, but like many younger adults, as I grew older I became restless and disillusioned and left the church. Through the years, however, I felt the pull of the church's teachings, and in 1999, following my father's death, I was confirmed as an Episcopalian at St. Cyprian's. In the Episcopal church I felt that I had found a spiritual home where reason and faith could coexist, working together to help us discover God's will for us. In 2002, I joined Christ Church and have been a member ever since. In Christ Church, I have served for many years as a lector and intercessor at the 7:30 am service, and I have sung in the Parish Choir for eight years. I was active in the early years of the Farmworkers Ministry, and I have also been active with Camp Hope, serving two years as an adult leader during the summer camp and helping out with car washes whenever possible.

**Personal Interests:** For the past 13 years, I have been learning to play the fiddle, focusing on the old-time Appalachian tradition. I am also a writer and have won several awards for my poetry, which I am beginning to submit to small presses and literary journals. Finally, I love being active outdoors, especially kayaking, bicycling and hiking.

**What do I Bring to the Vestry:** First I bring my faith as a Christian and my strong belief in the mission of the church to share God's love with the people and the community around us. I have an open mind, an open heart, and I believe in the power of listening to others and respecting their opinions. The ministries at Christ Church have enriched my life immeasurably, and I want to help make sure that these ministries can continue to grow and enrich the lives of others. Through my career as a teacher, I have learned much about the community of New Bern, and I would like to help our church continue to be an integral and essential part of that community – serving people's needs in those places where we are called to bring healing and love.





## Vestry Candidate Keith Thompson

I met Margi during my freshman year of college. It was love at first sight. We married one month after my graduation, and two months before going on active duty in the military. During the last 39 years, we have moved 11 times and have seen many different parts of the world. Our son, Adam, lives in Raleigh with his wife and their 10 year old son. Our daughter, Megan, resides in Greenville with her husband and their two girls. We are very fortunate to have them living within relatively short distances. Our grandchildren give us great joy!

After earning my bachelors degree, I began my career in the US Marine Corps. My military education is centered on logistical support, so the first few years was spent on the movement of equipment and personnel in support of various military operations. One of my first duty stations was Cherry Point. After tours in Quantico, Virginia and Okinawa Japan, I attended the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey California, and earned a masters degree in government contracting and acquisition. My primary focus was to ensure that new equipment included the necessary logistical support items before they were distributed for operational use. After serving in support of a humanitarian relief mission in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, I was sent back to Cherry Point where I was fortunate to retire and start my next career in eastern North Carolina. One of my first jobs was at Trinity Conference Center, where I worked as the Operations Manager for several years. I loved every minute at Trinity and was lucky to meet hundreds of clergy and other dedicated church volunteers. I was then hired by a local residential home construction company and became a Construction Manager for the New Bern/Havelock/Vanceboro/Swansboro areas. I worked very closely with dozens of contractors, construction professionals and of course, potential home buyers. In 15 years, I was involved in the building of approximately 450 homes. As of September, I have retired and now volunteer on the local Military Officers Association Board of Directors.

As a life-long Episcopalian, I have served as an acolyte, youth representative at Diocesan Convention, usher, greeter, and vestry member at two other churches. Margi and I have participated in foyers, Cursillo and breakfast cooking teams. I am currently a member of the Architectural Committee for the Capital Campaign and help serve breakfast once a month at RCS.

My personal interests are fresh-water fishing, golf, and antique/classic cars.

As a vestry member I can offer my knowledge of construction, program management and physical care of the buildings. I am also interested in recognizing and supporting our military families and all veterans.



## Vestry Candidate Geoff Wood

I was born into an active Episcopal family, being baptized in Pittsburgh, PA. As an undergraduate, I met my wife, Rosalie (Rosie.) We have been married for 57 years and have two adult sons, a son-in-law, a daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

I have an AB (Lycoming College) and an MA (The Ohio University). I have taught secondary school in Pennsylvania and Thessaloniki, Greece (seven years.) Most of my professional career has been in international education in higher education, having directed international services offices at The Ohio University (seven years), The University of Detroit (seven years), and The University of Pittsburgh (17 years.)

In other parishes, I sang in a men and boys' choir, was an acolyte, was active in EYC, have served on Vestries (two times), as a Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister (40+ years), Lay Eucharistic Visitor, Co-coordinator of a 40-member Acolyte Corps, member of the Diocesan Council (President one-term), member of an Associate Rector Search Committee, and member of a Rector Search Committee.

At Christ Church, I have been a Lector-Lay Eucharistic Minister (previous coordinator), a stewardship caller, and member of the LGBT Support Ministry.

My personal interests include US history, politics, and government; travel, theater and, previously, power-boating and golf.

I am willing to serve on the Christ Church Vestry as a part of my stewardship. The Episcopal Church has been a staple part of my families' lives since my childhood and on into adulthood. I have benefited from an excellent Christian education program as a youth and the Church has always been supportive of our family in ways I could never have anticipated.

In the difficult time in which we find ourselves, the Church is uniquely positioned to bring people together with the grace of God, the love of Christ Jesus, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Church must continue to show us how to love each other as Christ loves us; to see Christ in all persons; to gather in the outcasts; and to bring the Gospel to the world outside.

My career in the student affairs area of higher education, especially working with students, teachers, and researchers from all over the earth has provided me with an appreciation for the variety of ways people organize themselves and live their lives, the values they cherish, and the ways their cultures act out these values. I have been told by many (my immediate family excepted) that I am a good and patient listener.

I have been responsible for managing a budget and personnel. I have been required to be imaginative and creative in meeting program objectives and administration.

I am willing to provide my experience, perspectives, insights, and faith to Christ Church.



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## NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

November 17	Thanksgiving Liturgy for Christ Church
November 24	Bishop's Visit, Confirmation and Annual Meeting
November 28	Thanksgiving Day Eucharist
December 1	Advent Wreath Making
December 8	St. Nicholas Sunday
December 14	Cookie Walk
December 15	Lessons and Carols
December 19	Community Carol Sing
December 21	Greening of the Church
Christmas Eve	3:00 pm, Pageant and Eucharist 7:00 pm, Eucharist 11:00 pm, Choral Eucharist
Christmas Day	10:00 am, Eucharist
December 29	8:00 & 10:00 am, Lessons and Carols 5:30 pm, Taizé