

# 2025 Vestry Nominees



MARK KROEGER

*Nominee for Vestry 2025-2028*

Mark Kroeger, and his wife Barbara Stephens, have been attending Church of the Redeemer since 2018 when they returned to Cincinnati after living nearly 10 years in Knoxville, Tenn. While in Knoxville, they were active members of the Episcopal Church of the Ascension At Church of the Redeemer, Mark has continued his service as a Stephen Minister and a Stephen Ministry leader that began during his time at Ascension. Mark also has been active in our Second Half of Life group as a member of the planning team

and has served on the Church of the Redeemer annual giving team as well. Mark and Barb have five children between them and seven grandchildren. Mark is a former newspaper journalist who transitioned to corporate communications roles during his career in the media industry. He enjoys reading presidential biographies, dabbles at piano, golfs, cycles, and is an automotive enthusiast. “My faith in God is central to my being. I consider it an act of love and devotion to serve when called upon to do so.”

KATY MALLON

*Nominee for Vestry 2025-2028*

Katy has been a parishioner at Church of the Redeemer since the fall of 2014 and was confirmed in May of 2015. She served with Godly Play and Cookie Guild for 3-4 years until 2020. Katy then joined the Altar Guild about five years ago and continues to serve in that ministry today.

Katy has been married to Danny for 17 years. They have three children, Owen (12), Cara (10) and Jay (7). Katy is a Physical Therapist and for the last nine years



has been employed part-time at Cincinnati Therapeutic Riding & Horsemanship, where she provides equine-assisted therapy. In her spare time she enjoys yoga, tennis and being outdoors.

Over the ten years that Katy and her family have been parishioners at Church of the Redeemer, she has always felt welcomed, cared for, and loved authentically by the community that our church cultivates. She has been blessed by the relationships she has created while serving alongside other parishioners. Katy believes that God has called her now to serve on the Vestry to give back what she has received, and to support the church in carrying out its vision of serving all with humility, compassion and faithfulness.



ELLEN REGISTER

*Nominee for Vestry 2025-2028*

Ellen has been a member of Church of the Redeemer since 2021. She is a Lay Reader, Lector and Lay Eucharistic Visitor. She is also part of the “new” Church of the Redeemer Book Group. Ellen regularly enjoys Thursday Morning Bible Study and Sunday Adult Forums.

Ellen and her husband John moved to Hyde Park after 40 years in Hamilton, Ohio where they raised their 2 daughters, Sarah and Anne. In their “retirement years”, she and John enjoy having the time to reacquaint themselves with the Cincinnati

area. Outside of church, Ellen’s main volunteer focus is Planned Parenthood, and she has been involved with that organization wherever she’s lived for the past 55 years. Currently, Ellen serves on the Planned Parenthood Cincinnati Region Foundation board. “I love visiting our grands, reading, Northern Michigan summers, Canasta, and traveling,” says Ellen.

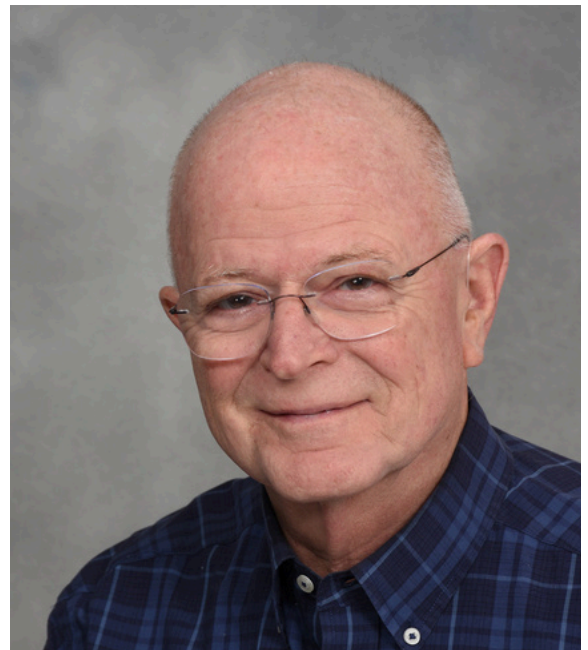
Ellen says that everything she has done at Church of the Redeemer has brought her joy. She believes God led her here to keep her close to a community of love. Accepting the call to stand for election to Vestry allows Ellen to honor God’s presence in her life - by serving and receiving with a grateful heart the blessing in that service.

BILL WEATHERS

*Nominee for Vestry 2025-2028*

Bill was confirmed in 1973 at Christ Episcopal Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky by Bishop Charles Marmion. He has been a parishioner at Church of the Redeemer for three years. Bill’s involvement has included music ministry, playing banjo and violin at The Banquet and at the Celtic Evening Service, as well as membership in the Second Half of Life ministry.

Bill and his wife Jackie have two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren. Bill is in the private practice of psychotherapy. When younger, Bill was a daily newspaper journalist on The Cincinnati Post and Kentucky Post for 21 years. He still writes. Bill has played piano since the age of 12.



“God is Love,” a conviction held by the writer of The First Epistle of John and by his mother, Bill loves Church of the Redeemer because we are a community focused on Love. When this community, following the God of Love, calls, he wants to say “yes.”

IVAN DELGADO-VELAZQUEZ

*Nominee for Vestry 2025-2028*

Ivan was born and raised in Puerto Rico, where he attended UPR - Mayaguez Campus, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He works for GE Aerospace in the design and development of exhaust systems for military programs.

Raised in a Pentecostal household, Ivan transitioned to the Episcopal Church five years ago and was confirmed at the Church of the Redeemer two years ago. He currently serves as part of the Altar Guild.

The celebration of the Eucharist drew Ivan to the

Episcopal Church, particularly the fact that all are welcome. Through his involvement with the Altar Guild, Ivan has learned to appreciate the Eucharist as Christ's invitation to the Church to partner with him and be the light to a world in need. Being part of the Vestry will allow him to make a tangible contribution to this endeavor.



EDWARD T. POLASKI

*Nominee for Member-at-large*

*Mission Funding Committee 2025-2027*

Edward T Polaski has been a member of Church of the Redeemer since ~ 2005/06 when he and Cheryl Fast were married by the Rev. Bruce Freeman. In the subsequent years, he has been involved with several ministries including Habitat for Humanity, Freestore Food Bank, People Working Cooperatively and the MEAC annual Christmas Dinner.

Ed retired in 2001 following 46 years in the specialty chemical business in both sales and general management roles. He is currently doing sales and

consultancy work on a part time basis with a Chicago based chemical distributor, as well as starting his 3rd year as a Tax Counselor for AARP TaxAide. Travel, golf, swimming, and spending time at their second home in Laguna Niguel, CA takes up most of the rest of his time. In what he calls their "Brady Bunch" family, he and Cheryl, combined, have 5 children, 7 grandchildren with number 8 due in May.

Ed knows that he is very blessed and has lived a very good life. It is important that others, especially those not as well off deserve, as Habitat for Humanity most aptly puts it, 'a hand up, not a hand out'. It is this motto that draws him to serve others.



MARIA COLE

*Nominee for Member-at-large*

*Mission Funding Committee 2025-2027*

Maria and her husband, Andrew, have been active members of Church of the Redeemer since 2018. Having grown up Catholic in Cincinnati, Maria is deeply connected to The Episcopal Church's values of justice, compassion, and inclusion. She has served Church of the Redeemer in the Young Adult group, by ushering and reading for the Banquet, facilitating Godly Play, and assisting with the toddler education class. She is grateful to have had Church

of the Redeemer's support as a newlywed, young adult, and now as a parent to a toddler, Henry (2).

Professionally, Maria is the Program Manager at Ellequate, a Cincinnati-based startup focused on building equitable workplaces. With a background in nonprofit work, she is passionate about dismantling systemic barriers and advocating for impactful policy changes. In her free time, Maria enjoys listening to podcasts, reading, cooking, and spending time with Andrew, Henry, and their dog, Dolly.

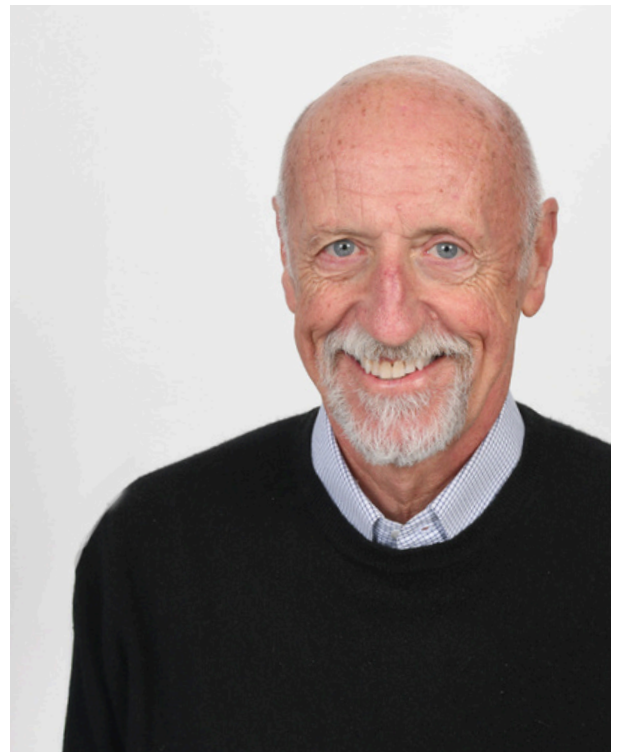
Her commitment to compassion, equity, and service aligns seamlessly with the Mission Funding Committee's purpose. She is excited to play a small role in granting money to valuable causes.

TOM KIRKWOOD

*Nominee for Trustee of the*

*Permanent Property Fund 2025-2026*

Tom joined Church of the Redeemer in 1980, serving in many ministries since. He was Warden and twice on Vestry, the first chair of Mission Board and of the Vestry Nominating Committee. He attended the College of Congregational Development, chaired the IHN / MEAC Mission Partnership Committee, served on Cornerstone and Enliven Our Vision capital campaign steering committees, the Cornerstone Building Project Team, and with Stewardship of God's House. He chaired Annual Giving and now chairs Planned Giving. He was a lector and now an usher, a sacristan, and a member of the Worship Team. He provided legal help for the Columbarium move, the IHN and MEAC/Eastminster acquisitions, COR/MEAC contractor disputes, clergy contracts, and more.



Before retiring, Tom was a partner at Thompson Hine and a construction claims mediator. He's been a trustee of Freestore Foodbank and on its finance, strategic, and development committees for 12 years. He was chair of finance and chair of the board of Cincinnati Nature Center and helped formulate its Endowment Investment Policy. He was a member of the ERS Affordable Living Board. Christine Andrew and Tom were married at Church of the Redeemer ten years ago.

Tom attended Indiana University's Lily Philanthropy Fundraising School with the Rev. Philip DeVaul. Upon completing 3/4th of the work towards a Certificate in Fund Raising Management, Tom then agreed to co-lead Church of the Redeemer's Planned Giving and now feels called to help see that those who make annual, capital, or planned gifts to Church of the Redeemer may be confident that our Permanent Property Fund continues to abide by the highest standards of endowment fund management.



TODD SCHWARTZ

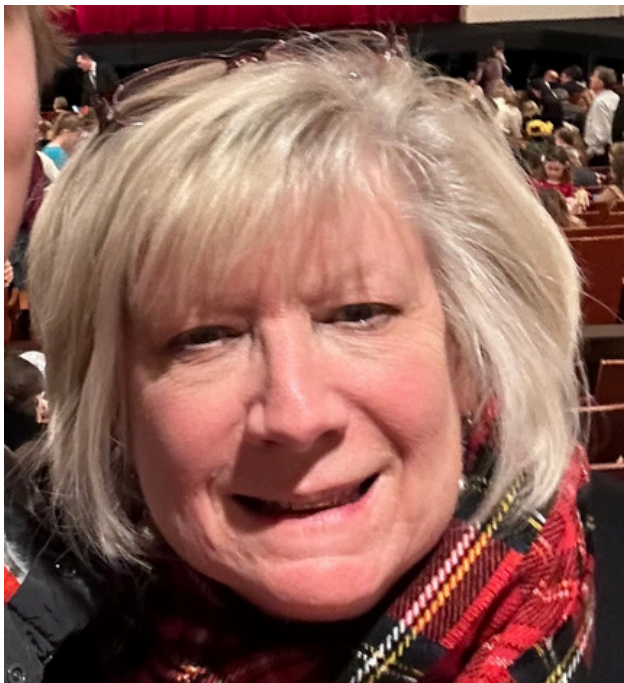
*Alternate to the 2025 Diocesan Convention and Delegate to the Conventions in 2026 and 2027*

Todd joined Church of the Redeemer in 2018 and was confirmed in 2022. He is a member of the Church of the Redeemer choir and also is working to coach our acolytes in their ministry. He was raised as a Southern Baptist, then was active in the Lutheran (ELCA) Church for many years before becoming involved in the Anglican and Episcopal Church.

A graduate of Miami University, Todd spent 28 years as a U.S. diplomat with the Department of State, including postings in Germany, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Qatar, the Philippines, Kuwait, Canada and Iraq. He retired from government service in 2015 and returned to his native Ohio with his wife Nancy.

Together, Nancy and Todd raised four children (three of whom also live in Cincinnati). He currently works as a consultant with Tapestry Networks.

The need for the Church to be active in proclaiming and living into God's vision of love and justice continues to grow – from the level of each member to each parish and diocese and the entire Anglican Communion, together with other communities of faith. Todd hopes that his experience in working with those of different faiths and nationalities under challenging circumstances may be valuable in forging the best paths forward for the Diocese of Southern Ohio.



APRIL CAIN

*Alternate to the 2025 Diocesan Convention and Delegate to the Conventions in 2026 and 2027*

A lifelong Episcopalian, April Cain has been a member of Church of the Redeemer for almost 3 years, serving as volunteer for Newcomer Events, a member of the Hospitality Team, member of the Second Half of Life Group, and is co-leader of the Church of the Redeemer Book Group. She serves as an Intercessor for the 11:00 a.m. service.

As an attorney and mediator, she worked in a law firm in Louisville, Kentucky, and served as Corporate Counsel/Chief Legal Officer for a medical malpractice insurance company. Additionally, she was on the electoral board for a large jurisdiction in her native Commonwealth of Virginia.

Currently retired, April enjoys family, traveling and volunteering for several charitable and social groups.

April has had deep emotional attachment to The Episcopal Church for her entire life. The Church has been a source of strength though life's challenges. Being of service to the Diocese of Southern Ohio would be an interesting and meaningful endeavor.

C.H. MAGUIRE

*Nominee for Trustee of the  
Permanent Property Fund 2025-2027*

*C.H. Maguire's Bio will be listed in the digital version of  
the Annual Report.*

