

ST. JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH
A CHURCH IN THE ANGLICAN TRADITION
Johns Island, SC

VESTRY CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

Revised 11-30-2023

Lay persons having been nominated, and agreeing, to become a candidate for St. John's Parish Church vestry, should meet and accept the following requirements:

1. Acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and your Lord and Savior
2. Must be at least 17 years of age
3. Must be confirmed adult communicants of St. John's Parish Church
4. Commit to trusting God with a pledge of your anticipated income, accepting the tithe as the baseline and generosity as the standard for giving
5. Commit to worship with your parish family regularly
6. Commit to participating in all meetings of the vestry, including the annual retreat
7. Become involved in some form of Christian ministry by which you give your time and talents to, or through your church
8. Be willing to support parish functions – social and spiritual- with your work and attendance, and to place parish activities high on your list of priorities
9. Believe in, and commit to the Vision of St. John's Parish Church (below)
10. Agree to abide by the Vestry Relational Covenant (on back)

Candidate:

(signature)

(print name)

Date: _____

Vision of St. John's Parish Church

St. John's Parish -- A Christian Family that:

- * DECLARES our love for God through Anglican worship
- * PREPARES Disciples of Jesus Christ for Global Ministry
- * SHARES the Healing Power of the Holy Spirit
- * CARES for the Community

RELATIONAL COVENANT FOR VESTRY LEADERSHIP

Passed at a Special Meeting of St. John's Parish Church Vestry, October 30, 2007

We understand ourselves as leaders who have been called by the Holy Spirit and elected by the congregation to exercise leadership for the support of the rector and the good of the parish. We understand that the rector and vestry members of St. John's Parish Church share in the spiritual leadership of the parish, with the rector charged with the vision and the vestry with the means, to prepare God's people for service, that the body of Christ might be built up.

Each Individual's Commitment:

1. I shall honor the trust that the parish and vestry have placed in me by attending all meetings of the vestry to the best of my ability.
2. I shall understand that my vestry service is one of servant leadership to my God, my rector, my fellow vestry members, and to my fellow parishioners.
3. I shall honor the trust that the parish and vestry have placed in me by tithing (or better) my income to the Lord's work.
4. I shall honor my role as a servant leader by equipping emerging leaders for positions of leadership within the various commissions, chapters, and organizations of the parish.
5. I shall participate in discussions and share my views -- not avoiding conflict -- in the making of decisions, remembering that consensus is achieved not because all agree, but because all have participated.
6. I shall represent the decisions of the vestry to the congregation with one voice, regardless of differing opinions I may have had.
7. I shall not participate in discussions about the clergy or fellow vestry members without them being present, understanding that secrets destroy the bonds of community and result in irresolvable conflict and damage to the pastor/vestry/parish relationship.
8. I shall not allow myself to participate, engender or become triangulated into conflicts within the parish, but shall seek reconciliation by encouraging face-to-face resolution by those involved.
9. I shall honor my baptismal covenant by seeking reconciliation with those whom I have offended, or whom I may feel injured by.
10. I shall seek intervention by the rector and shall submit to the authority of the rector when I am unable to reach reconciliation with fellow vestry members or parishioners.