



St. David's Episcopal Church & School Annual Meeting and Vestry Election 5/17/2026 Rules & Regulations

The St. David's **Nominating Committee** will conduct this Vestry Election in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Virginia 2025, Canon 11.

Vestry Vacancies and Nominating Committee:

At the Annual Meeting on May 17, 2026, St. David's parishioners will elect four new members to the Vestry to serve three 3-year full terms, and one 1-year partial term. These new members will replace Katherine Beckett-Goodwin, Bobbie Johnson, who are both completing their three-year full terms of service, H.L. Norwich who is completing a 1-year partial term vacated by Jim Tracy in 2025, as well as Sharon Easley who is resigning early with 1 year left on her term. Only H.L. is eligible to run for another consecutive term. Summary of open positions for 2026: Three 3-year full terms of service, and one 1-year term of service. The **Nominating Committee** consists of outgoing members of the Vestry listed above except for HL who recused themselves as they are running for another term. Continuing Vestry members will also support the Nominating Committee to identify qualified candidates. Members of the parish are encouraged to discern their interest in volunteering to be a Vestry candidate nominee, and along with Parish leadership, reach out to fellow parishioners to solicit qualified candidates.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Confirmed or Received (in the Episcopal Church) adult communicant (16 years or older) in good standing. (**Note:** This can be done when the Bishop comes in June, if needed.)
2. Attend services regularly.
3. Be known to the Treasurer by submitting a pledge form each year.
4. Complete the Diocese Safe Church Training within three months of being elected. Recertify in 3 years.
5. Subscribe to the Vestry Member declaration and promise:

"I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do yield my hearty assent and approbation to the doctrines, worship and discipline of The Episcopal Church; and I promise that I will faithfully execute the office of Vestry member of St David's Church, in the Northern Piedmont Region, in the County of Loudoun, according to my best knowledge and skill."

The **Nominating Committee** will vet each nominee against the second and third qualifications with the Church Office to determine their eligibility to stand for election, with agreement from each nominee to complete the first (if unable to complete by the Annual Meeting), fourth and fifth qualifications.

Candidate Biographies/Pictures:

All Vestry candidates are asked to provide a biography and a passport style photo for publication to the parish in advance of the Annual Meeting. Biographies: Please answer the following questions in no more than 2 pages:

- How has participation in this parish shaped your faith?
- Where do you sense God calling St. David's in the coming years?
- What gifts or experiences do you bring that might serve the vestry well?
- How should St. David's balance caring for members and serving the wider community?
- How will you balance the vestry requirements of time, prayer, and sometimes difficult decisions with your other obligations?

Process for Voting

The **Nominating Committee** will appoint ushers and tellers to assist with the balloting at the Annual Meeting. Ballots will be handed out to parishioners by the ushers as the Vestry Candidates are being introduced. Parishioners must be at least 16 years old to vote. The front of the ballot will have names of the Candidates, general voting instructions including details regarding terms, and appropriate references from the Canons.

Presentation slides with an overview of the Vestry Candidates and photos, voting rules and available terms, both full and partial, will be included in the Annual Meeting Presentation.

At the appropriate time in the Annual meeting, the Rector or Senior Warden will turn the podium over to the **Nominating Committee**, the Register or other duly named representative. The **Nominating Committee** will formally place each candidate into nomination as well as review the voting instructions and term details. **Nominations from the floor and write-in nominations are not permitted.** Once the nominations are completed, the Chair will call for the parishioners to mark their ballots (up to the number of open positions) after which the ushers will collect the ballots and pencils. The ushers will then turn the ballots over to the tellers for counting.

Please note from the canons "...The voting shall be by ballot in person and, unless otherwise provided by the meeting, a majority (at least 50% plus one) of the votes cast shall be necessary for each candidate. There shall be no voting by proxy... no election shall be valid unless the participating qualified votes number at least ten per cent of the number of active communicants qualified to vote reported for the previous year."

Vote Counting is the responsibility of the tellers. Ballots are separated into piles based on the number of tellers. Each teller counts a pile and records the results. Any ballot with more than the allowable number of candidates marked (equal to the number of open positions being voted on) is set aside for confirmation by another teller and is *not counted*. Tellers then switch to a different pile and record those results. If counts from the two tellers agree, the count for that pile is official. If there is a difference, a third teller will count that pile.

When all piles are confirmed to be accurate, the Head Teller adds up the individual piles into one master count that will be verified by another teller. Then the Head Teller takes a clean ballot, marks the three people elected to the full three-year terms, and signs it. This becomes the official record and is carried into the sanctuary and given to the Rector or Sr. Warden. The Rector will make the announcement of the elected Vestry members, and each person's elected term, at the appropriate time in the Annual Meeting and then give the signed ballot to the Register for recording in the minutes. The tellers will then immediately take the marked ballots to the church office and shred them.

updated 3/31/26