

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church

2019 Vestry Nominees (pick 4)

- Bob Bess
- DJ Mitchell
- Chris Mullaney
- Julie Sutton

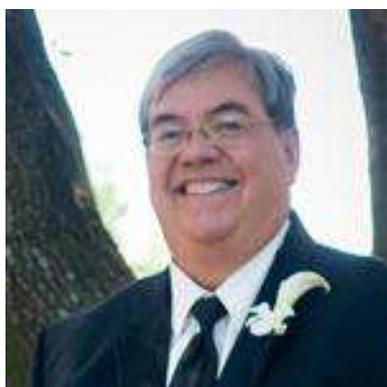
2019 Delegate Nominees (pick 5)

- Keen Haynes
- Ed McGlaston
- Becky Snell

Each year, St. Martin's seeks church members with energy and initiative or experience, plus passion for the mission of our church, to serve in leadership positions. This year we have asked each nominee to reflect and thoughtfully answer questions that relate to the needs of each leadership position; their responses are below.

Nominees from the floor of our annual meeting will be asked the same questions and will speak at a microphone.

Vestry nominees



Bob Bess

1. What personal initiative, energy, passions, or entrepreneurial spirit will you bring to our church and its Vestry? Please describe and give examples. I have a passion for the growth and expansion of our ministries. New ideas are what drive our spirit and help us develop better ways to reach out to all those who can benefit from the welcoming inclusive environment we have created at St. Martin's

2. What is your capacity for vision and change as our Vestry imagines our parish future together? I am open to a vision for St. Martin's growth and ministry development, to let more people know they have a safe haven to worship and grow in their faith.

3. How do you see a church like ours embracing and living into the changing cultural landscape for Christians? Because we are an inclusive and thinking parish, we are poised to serve a wonderful shifting cultural landscape. We are here to share our beliefs and discuss the tough questions life brings us so we can move forward in change.

4. What personal and professional qualities not identified above will allow you to manage the temporal matters of our church? As a teacher, former Vestry member and senior warden I bring an experienced perspective to the vestry to help with the decisions we will encounter at each Vestry meeting.

5. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields? Currently I am an usher and help with Service Sunday by delivering lunches we have prepared for the homeless to Union Gospel Mission. In the past I have been involved with several stewardship campaigns.



DJ Mitchell

1. What personal initiative, energy, passions, or entrepreneurial spirit will you bring to our church and its Vestry? Please describe and give examples. I run 5-7 miles a day at 70 years old, but this is an example of energy and passion that was probably not behind the question posed above. Personal responsibility and accountability are vital to the success of any organization. As treasurer at St. Martin-in-the-Fields I have taken, for example, as my responsibility to provide the Vestry at every meeting after the third month of a year an analysis of financial trends and a summary of upcoming issues that could, if not addressed, lead to difficulties. This kind of assistance in the Vestry's decision making process has not been provided for some time and it matches the leadership style I bring to my job at BNSF Railway – a style that is grounded in fact-based discussions and decision making.

2. What is your capacity for vision and change as our Vestry imagines our parish future together? Change is an opportunity to leave things better than you found them. Taking advantage of opportunities that arise means that one must be able to see things as they may not be seen by others. My capacity for creating a compelling vision, based on broad input from all interested people, drives the way I conduct business. Other ways ultimately fall short because no one has all of the answers. No one can visualize all of the unintended consequences of any collection of options. Inclusion in the decision making process is key to good results. Creating a compelling vision is the first step in taking action.

3. How do you see a church like ours embracing and living into the changing cultural landscape for Christians? As for the “changing cultural landscape” of life today, the Episcopal Church is our unifying bond regardless of whether one grew up in the North, or in Texas or California; whether you like TexMex or German brats; or whether you went to some big-time college or didn't go to college at all but now work as a craftsman in building homes. Where we came from and what our background is makes life interesting. How one lives one's life as an Episcopalian is something we can learn, put in practice, and build our community around.

4. What personal and professional qualities not identified above will allow you to manage the temporal matters of our church? I have served on numerous Vestries over the years, including at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. I have served as senior warden several times and have served as treasurer for several years. And as the senior officer in charge of moving almost 100,000 people a day over the BNSF Railway, I understand that it takes a team to be successful and it is carrying out a well thought-out, carefully crafted vision that is of utmost importance.

5. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields? I usher regularly and am the church treasurer, attend church almost without fail, and enjoy visiting other Episcopal churches while out of town.



Chris Mullaney

1. What personal initiative, energy, passions, or entrepreneurial spirit will you bring to our church and its Vestry? Please describe and give examples. As a part of the Holy Mowers ministry, I take pride in seeing how those who are a part of the team have transformed the fields into a well-manicured lawn. One of my visions is to see our church grow, flourish, and be more active in the Keller and Southlake areas and sharing about our church. I do not want to be a pest, but let others know who we are and what we do. I assisted in forming a men's Bible study group that is beginning in January.

2. What is your capacity for vision and change as our Vestry imagines our parish future together? I am not satisfied with the status quo and keeping things like the have always been or done. That to me is the talk of a dying business and someone or something that is stuck in neutral. As above, I want our church active and out in the community showing the citizens who we are and what we represent. We need to go out and show people that we not only talk about being Jesus Christ's heart, hands and feet to our neighbors no matter where they are on their journey of faith, but we show people our motto.

3. How do you see a church like ours embracing and living into the changing cultural landscape for Christians? I love that we strive to be a church that practices Radical Hospitality and we accept everyone...NO EXCEPTIONS! We embrace the LGBTQ community and accept people for who they are not for what they are. I do feel we need to do more for others outside our walls.

4. What personal and professional qualities not identified above will allow you to manage the temporal matters of our church? Coming from a background in law enforcement, I want to make sure our parishioners are safe when they come to worship. This does not mean I am advocating for our members to arm themselves or to hire off-duty officers, I want to make sure people who are greeters can identify a potential issue and handle it in the safest and effective way. I would never recommend someone place himself or herself in harm's way, only to keep an eye and ear out for any potential problems and know what to do if an issue presents itself. My personal and professional qualities are that I am straightforward and focused on action—talking an issue to death drives me crazy. You want to serve and find that the best way to connect to my students and to my children when volunteering together—I expect that volunteering together with parishioners will continue to build connections.

5. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields? I was "received" into The Episcopal Church in the spring of 2014 and was part of the Search Committee, as a part of the search for a new rector of St. Martin's, along with serving as a working with the Holy Mowers and making lunches for the Union Gospel Mission. I am also giving some prayerful consideration to join and possibly lead the Outreach Ministry. I am completing a term on the Vestry where someone resigned and I assisted in forming a men's Bible study group that is beginning in January.



Julie Sutton

1. What personal initiative, energy, passions, or entrepreneurial spirit will you bring to our church and its Vestry? Please describe and give examples. I am passionate about outreach and hospitality. I served on both types of committees at Methodist churches we attended in the 13 years prior to joining St. Martin's. Part of being a radically welcoming community, in my opinion, is hosting events and having conversations that leave the walls of St. Martin's and bring the communities near our church together, regardless of their faith, beliefs, or lifestyles. When we spend time with our neighbors we give ourselves the chance to love them, to know them, to pray for and with them, to understand them as the people that they are.

I also believe that you can't pitch an idea for something without having it in your heart to be part of the process implementing the suggestion. I am not afraid of doing the hard work necessary to take ideas and suggestions to the level where they are present in our Church. I also believe that before you can suggestion a program, committee, or other entity within an organization you should first understand what the body of the Church desires and how such a program would serve to support and enhance the Church's mission statement. I believe that this includes listening to those who would see an impact in their lives (physical or spiritual) due to changes in the Church.

2. What is your capacity for vision and change as our Vestry imagines our parish future together? I am passionate about outreach. There are needs within our community and I would like to see our Church become a leader in helping address those needs. Maybe this means getting our pants dirty by mowing someone's yard, maybe it means working with children at UGM, maybe it means listening to what KISD needs and trying to support them. Making sandwiches every month is amazing and we have a great group that does that; what are we missing out on that would allow us to show God's love to others as well?

3. How do you see a church like ours embracing and living into the changing cultural landscape for Christians? I envision a Church that reaches far beyond its walls; a Church that brings people together from all walks of life; a Church that starts and continues conversations with those of not just other denominations but other faiths as well. When the Pittsburgh Synagogue shooting occurred in November 2018, my heart broke. I prayed about how to 'help.' In reality, I believe that through dialogue and shared activities communities of faith can come to know and support one another as well walk through life, not just when tragedy strikes.

Maybe this means opening up our parish hall once a quarter to invite members of the Congregation Beth Israel and the Islamic Center of Southlake to come join us. Possibly, our congregation can join the Sisters of Abraham, an interfaith group of women who worship together in different churches, mosques, and synagogues around North Tarrant county. Inviting the Keller/Southlake/North Richland Hills citizens to join us as well all get to know one another will allow St. Martin's an opportunity to show some of the best things we have to offer: our true desire for inclusivity.

4. What personal and professional qualities not identified above will allow you to manage the temporal matters of our church? Having served for 6 years on the Methodist equivalent of the Vestry (Church Council) and many more years on various committees, I have been a part of the steering committees as our previous church changed. It's hard to make decisions that impact so many people. It is also hard, sometimes, to see God's callings as we maneuver through what seem like bleak times. During the time I was on Church Council we made an ambitious decision to open up a daycare; three years later we had to make the heart-wrenching decision to close it. We saw a new contemporary service be re-born out of the ashes of a service that no longer served the needs of the congregation.

In 2014 our UMC participated in the Healthy Church Initiative; we re-wrote the vision for our Church, re-aligned each program offered to show how its existence supported our mission, and made major changes to the format of worship. I happily served on the Radical Hospitality Team during HCI. The mission of the committee was to make sure that those visiting our UMC felt welcome, knew how to ask for resources, met members in the church before worship (it time allowed) and could easily determine all the weekly activities offered.

With my current job, and all through graduate school, I planned and managed large conferences (200+ participants) and instituted a mentor program. This was done from the ground up, listening to what our stakeholders needed from our institution.

5. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields? I attend church services when we are in town. We support the youth and children's ministries financially and through our gift of cooking when asked. We routinely help with Service Sunday. In 2017 I worked to start 5th Sunday Fellowship, a gathering that brought together families and parishioners from all services to get to know one another through breaking bread. I helped with VBS in 2016 and 2017 (in 2018 I was teaching a class at UTD and was unavailable). I host board game events for EYC. I taught Sunday School in fall 2018 and will serve as a substitute for spring 2019.

Convention delegate nominees



Keen Haynes

1. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and in our diocese? I am currently on the Vestry where I serve as assistant to the junior warden and was chair of the 2019 stewardship campaign. In addition to my duties on the Vestry and Finance Committee, I serve as an usher and am a member of the Holy Mowers. In 2018, I had the honor of being a member of Paula Jefferson's discernment committee and have helped start a new men's group at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. A delegate to the 2018 annual Convention for the Diocese of Fort Worth, I served the Deanery as alternate member to the diocesan Executive Council. I have also served as a delegate to the Diocese of San Diego annual Convention on three occasions and was a member of the diocesan Executive Council prior to moving to Texas.

2. What personal, professional and spiritual qualities can you bring to the role of delegate to serve the diocese? As a retired U.S. Marine, I have a "can do" attitude that feel is a positive asset to St. Martin-in-the-Fields and the Diocese of Fort Worth. It is my desire to continue to serve St. Martin-in-the-Fields as a delegate to the diocesan Convention in 2019. As a member of the Vestry, who has served as a delegate to both the Diocese of Fort Worth and Diocese of San Diego Annual Conventions, I feel well suited to serve St. Martin-in-the-Fields at the diocesan level. I believe that attending the annual Convention helps me to better understand the mission and direction of the Diocese of Fort Worth. This knowledge can then be used as a member of the Vestry to help guide the direction and mission of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.



Ed McGlaston

1. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and in our diocese? I have been a member of St. Martin's since 2010. For the past eight years, I have served as an usher and a greeter at the 8:30 am service. Last November, I served as a delegate for the first time. That was a great experience and will help me to be a more effective delegate going forward.

2. What personal, professional and spiritual qualities can you bring to the role of delegate to serve the diocese? As for personal qualities, I have been a Christian since childhood and I've been a member of The Episcopal Church since 1970. I am a husband, father, and grandfather. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Northeastern University with a major in Finance. Professionally, I would describe myself as an innovative, hands-on manager of people and processes. I have led business organizations through periods of major change caused by competition, changing costs, technology, legislation and regulation. In addition, I have served as director on several non-profit organizations such as the San Francisco Bay Area March of Dimes, the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, the Joslyn Art Museum, and the Child Saving Institute. I also served on the vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City. I believe that my personal and professional experience make me well-qualified to serve as a convention delegate.



Becky Snell

1. How are you actively, today, involved in the ministries of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and in our diocese? I am active in multiple ministries of St. Martin's including Vestry, Acolyte, Sister of the Spirit, hospitality set up and tear down team, Green Team, Memorial Garden work group, Daughters of the King, and several others. I have been a delegate to diocesan Convention for at least 5 years and often participate on a Convention working group like Nominations Committee, where I was chair 4 years ago. Currently I am in a 2-year term as dean of the Fort Worth East Deanery. We have some work for the 2019 Convention as the East Deanery is the host here in Fort Worth.

2. What personal, professional and spiritual qualities can you bring to the role of delegate to serve the diocese? The spiritual qualities that I bring to the role of delegate for St. Martin's are that of daily prayer and reading of both the Bible and other spiritual materials and the active participation in our corporal worship at St. Martin's. I have professional organizational skills and enjoy true dialogue.