

Dear Congregation Member,

It is **election time** in the congregation. On February 5, 2006 in Cathedral House @ 1:00pm, your congregation will host its Annual Meeting and hold elections for Vestry. This is your chance to pick the leadership in your congregation, and have a say in how our congregation is run.

We have six positions open for Vestry, one for Warden, and one as IPC representative. Your Election Committee has put together a qualified slate of candidates for each of these positions. We encourage you to review their enclosed Election Statements prior to the Annual Meeting on February 5th.

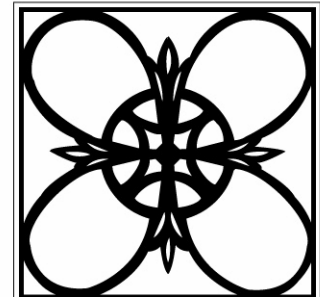
This is your chance to get involved, have a say in how things happen, and to do God's work. As always, we will accept properly nominated candidates from the floor during the Annual Meeting (excerpt from the bylaws; ***"Nominations for any office will be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting if seconded by ten per cent (10%) of the voting members present."***). Starting January 9th, absentee ballots will be available from Canon Storm Swain. Anyone who feels they cannot make the annual meeting must discuss this with her in order to receive an Absentee Ballot.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

The Rev. Mark Hummell  
Election Committee Chair  
mhummell@dioceseny.org



*Candidate's  
Statements  
for Election  
2006*



The Congregation of  
Saint Saviour at the  
Cathedral Church  
of Saint John  
the Divine

## Wayne Yankus

### *Candidate for Vestry*



My pilgrimage to The Cathedral of St. John the Divine began eight years ago. I was seeking a dynamic congregation of diverse souls who allowed all sorts and types of people to worship together. I found acceptance here in this sacred space, and I started to assist as an occasional usher. That work enabled me to become more active in the congregation and meet congregants from all walks of life and areas around the city. I live in Ridgewood, New Jersey and practice pediatric medicine nearby.

I have lived in the USA and in western Mexico and I am fluent in Spanish. My missionary church experience helped me appreciate the strength of a small bilingual parish of diverse congregants.

At the Cathedral, I continue to work as an usher and I am a three year member of the Stewardship Committee. My goal as a vestry person is to seek the spirit of Christ while working with a group of dedicated people who care about their Cathedral, neighborhood, and the issues of stewardship and hospitality for which we are known. It is time for the vestry to be change agents in this community of the faithful and to seek to streamline our management efforts and to focus on congregation building. As a physician, observer, and manager of a small business practice, I feel I can contribute to the Vestry's efforts to build a strong congregation that includes our youth.

## Ruth Davis

### *Candidate for IPC rep*



An Anglican since my birth, I was christened and later confirmed at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in the Diocese of Antigua and Barbuda (now the Diocese of the Northeastern Caribbean). As a young adult, I served as a volunteer member of the D.O.K. and the W.A. (Daughters of the King & Women's Auxiliary), and also as a member of the Eucharist choir. Presently, as congregant of St. Saviour's, I serve as a lay reader and as member of the Cathedral Singers. I am currently employed as a research assistant.

With the great organ and the aesthetics of its architecture, the Cathedral is a sanctuary from the harsh coldness of the mundane. My spiritual home for well over a decade, I now seek closer involvement in stewardship; therefore, I offer myself as a candidate for the IPC. In a metropolitan city of so diverse a people and especially in an epoch when so many seem distracted from the love of God, I desire to foster and strengthen fellowship in the vineyard of the Manhattan North chapter.

## Hal Weiner

### *Candidate for IPC rep*



I have had the privilege of being one of your Delegates to the Manhattan North Inter-Parish Council for six years. I am a member of the Congregation, and was baptized at the Cathedral, over seven years ago.

Last year, The Council sent me as one of two delegates to the National Episcopal Urban Caucus in Towson, MD along with Rev. Earl Kooperkamp of St. Mary's Manhattanville. I am honored that the other Harlem parishes think well enough of the Congregation and myself to have me represent us all at EUC, the caucus of the National Church which concerns itself with inner city parishes, their youth, their problems and their programs.

I would really like to serve you in this capacity and will, together with Rose Davis, who is not up for re-election this year, continue to keep you all informed of the work of the other Episcopal Churches in our Manhattan North IPC, of which the Congregation is a proud member and to represent the Congregation's interests and concerns in the Council.

We will be hosting the annual IPC Epiphany meeting and celebration at Cathedral House at the regular monthly meeting in January 2006 on Saturday, the 14th from 2 PM to 5 PM and urge all interested members of the Congregation to attend at that time.

## Robert Carey

### *Candidate for Warden*



I have been active in Cathedral programs since 1973. My first introduction to the Cathedral was the Institute of Theology program. I became a lecturer in that program and through that came to know the Cathedral better, eventually becoming a communicant in the 80's. I became a member of the choir in December of 1984. I have served on the Vestry and was the Chair of the Education committee during that time.

The congregation of St. Saviour is, for me, an integral part of the larger ministry of the Cathedral. The work of the Vestry and the Warden together, is to see that the congregation's ministry supports and sustains its members and adds to the effectiveness of the Cathedral's witness.

One of the singular features of our shared life is that there are many many communities in this one community of St. Saviour's and the Cathedral. There are many ways for people to be involved-as greeters, ushers, choir members, lay readers, working on Habitat projects, or becoming involved in social justice issues.

All of these communities **are** our community. It falls to the Warden, working with the Vestry, to make that reality vivid and available and known to our many members so in finding their niche, their place, their way of being an active member, they contribute to the work of the whole.

I think that is something worth working at.

## Bill Cassarini

### *Candidate for Vestry*



Three years ago you honored me by seating me on the Vestry. It has been a spiritually fulfilling experience. I again offer myself as a candidate for the Vestry in order to serve the Congregation which has become such an important part of my life. I have been coming to the Cathedral for a number of years and joined the Congregation about six years ago. I am continually impressed with the devotion of so many of you in service to the Congregation. I am a member of the Stewardship Committee and the Discernment Committee where I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many of you.

We are truly blessed to have this magnificent Cathedral as our spiritual home. While I believe we are a strong Congregation, I believe we have the opportunity as well as the obligation to grow even stronger; this includes increasing our membership. This is our challenge for the future. We may be of various backgrounds, but we all are committed to fostering the sense of community that is manifested throughout the many programs and activities of the Congregation. We are truly blessed to have a Dean and a Canon Pastor who are so supportive of the Congregation and who unselfishly work on behalf of all of us.

I believe my professional experience in working to build consensus from various viewpoints would continue to be an asset to the Vestry. I would like to make that contribution and offer to serve on the Vestry as we work together in achieving our vision for the future for the Congregation.

## Vaughn Folkert

### *Candidate for Vestry*



I have been attending services and events at the Cathedral since 1990 and became a member of the Congregation of St. Saviour about 10 years ago. I serve as an usher, have been part of the Habitat for Humanity volunteer group of the Congregation, a lay reader, and a participant in the healing ministry of the Cathedral.

I live in Westchester. I am a physician and work at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. I have two children, a son 19 and daughter 15

I have strong feelings for and about the Cathedral. I can still recall the first time I walked into the great space of the Cathedral. Since that time I have been blessed over and over by the space, the wonderful diversity of the people and events that fill the space. The friendships that have occurred within the Congregation have enriched my life greatly. This is the first time that I am standing for Vestry. If elected, I offer to do my part to help the Congregation grow and to help integrate the life and spirit of the Congregation with that of the Cathedral.

## Brian Nelson

### Candidate for Vestry



I am an active member of the congregation of St. Saviour and have served on the Mission and Outreach Committee for four years. I served on the '05 Crafts Fair Jury and have volunteered to replace Marsha Ra as an organizer of the '06 event - very capable shoes to fill!

When I joined the Cathedral four years ago, I found a spiritual home and a strong and supportive community. After moving to Brooklyn, Diane Reiners and I continue to make this our spiritual home.

Many of you may remember me as the dialysis/kidney transplant patient in '04 and the cancer patient of '05. During these trials I found great strength through worship and prayer with this congregation and through the constant prayers, caring and messages of support I received.

I believe strongly in the congregation's mission - love, healing and diversity and I see the congregation building on its past strengths as we provide support to the Cathedral and to all who come to worship with us. As a vestry member, I would bring my skills and experience to help St. Saviour become even more financially stable, to help us continue to unify in our diversity and through unity and strength to grow in numbers and service.

I am a freelance computer graphics & website designer. I hold an MFA from Columbia University in Theatre Management, have worked for established theatre companies in NYC, and previously worked as an international insurance broker.

My interests include volunteering for Special Olympics as a coach and the NY Organ Donor Network as a speaker, and theatre directing and acting.

## Marsha Ra

### Candidate for Vestry



The Cathedral has been my spiritual home since the last Sunday in October 1972. The Congregation has been my beloved community for as many years. I have served the Congregation as vestry member, warden, stewardship committee chair and coordinator of the crafts fair. I also serve on the Cathedral's Board of Trustees and on the Board's Development Committee. I very much enjoy welcoming worshippers, tourists and other visitors to our wonderful church as an early morning greeter.

This is a time of change and of unprecedented opportunity for the Cathedral and its Congregation. The Towne building is wonderfully restored. The Cathedral restoration project is almost half-complete. Furthermore, the Cathedral is finally getting itself on solid financial footing. The Board of Trustees has passed a strategic plan which stresses increased integration of Congregation and Cathedral programs as well as growth of the Congregation. I believe it is important to have vestry members who can hold the two visions of the Cathedral in their minds as they see to the affairs of the Congregation and as they plan for the future: the Cathedral as spiritual home to its congregation and the Cathedral as an institution with a broader mission for the City of New York and for the thousands of visitors who come to 1047 Amsterdam Avenue every week. It is for that reason that I am willing, if elected, to serve a second term on the Vestry.

## Carole Wilkins

### Candidate for Vestry



St. John's has been my spiritual home for several decades since high school when I first came, as many have, attracted by the mission of the Cathedral and the grandeur of its spiritual space. However, I only began to attend services regularly when I found myself at the Cathedral more frequently and often unintentionally. The mission that I recalled from earlier years remained, and the welcoming fellowship of the Congregation lead me to become a member several years ago. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to furthering the mission and participating more fully in the Congregation by working within the Vestry. My vision for St. Saviour is:

- to nurture the range and depth of expression of our Church by expanding our fellowship opportunities;
- to support the physical environment and condition of the Cathedral that we all cherish; and,
- to further our desire for spiritual growth and enrichment, however expressed variously.

A little of my background: I studied philosophy as an undergraduate at McGill University in Montreal and obtained a MBA after eight years in religious publishing. The publishing houses I have worked for include Seabury Press formerly located in the Episcopal Church Center at 815 and the Unitarian Universalists in Boston. I'm currently pursuing a masters in Legal Studies with concentrations in intellectual property and dispute resolution. These studies assist in my work managing a department which handles intellectual property for book and technology publishing. I also studied philosophy and religion at Fordham University in Manhattan and Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

I make my way to St. John's from Montclair, N.J. where I have lived for the past nine years after more than a decade in Boston and several years abroad.