

Election Nominee Bios

Mike Brown — Financial Director

Here I am Lord...send me.

Presently My Faith Journey has been serving as Financial Director since 2013.

Jan Brown is my patient, loving wife, holding down the hoe front while I carry out the duties of my office.

I would appreciate to continue overseeing the Financial Blessings God has given to us to carry out our Ministry through St. John's.

Someday the time will come when I no longer will have the opportunity to serve. Either no longer called, or family, or health or work. So, I serve while I can.

Here I am Lord. Send me.

Laura Tirone — Stewardship

Length of membership at St. John's: 25 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: I want to encourage our family of faith in their giving and to share in God's blessings.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

Have held Stewardship position since 2013

Member of choir

Sunday School teacher

Former chair of Christian Ed.

Married to Dave, mother of Kyle

Owner of Huber Electric

Live in Williamsville

Susan Vriesen — Secretary

Length of membership at St. John's: over 30 years



I am currently in a position to give back to St. Johns. After raising my sons, and volunteering as Committee Chair for both the Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troop. The church and Pastors have always been there as a support when I needed them. Now I would like to use my talents to help where I have been nominated.

I have been a member of St. Johns for approx. 30 years. I was Baptized and confirmed at Gethsemane Lutheran Church on Goodyear Ave in Buffalo. I transferred to Faith in Elma after confirmation and stayed there until becoming a member of St Johns.

I have been happily married to my husband Dan for 35 years, and we have 2 grown sons, Jeremy and Jimm, and 1 new grandson, Felix.

I have worked at a company in Orchard Park for 23 years, first as an accounting specialist and now I have a position of Facilities Coordinator.

I love the outdoors and nature. Both my husband and I were very active in the Boy Scouts with our sons. We currently have a camping trailer, and camp as much as possible when weather permits.

Rick Mayback — Trustee

Length of membership at St. John's: I have been a member for 38 years.



I wish to help in any way that I can.

I am 66 years old and have worked in my own business for 50 years.

I have been blessed with a beautiful family

Gary Hillman — Trustee

Length of membership at St. John's: 4 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: I enjoy my membership with the church and I'm honored to be able to contribute to the Church.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

Marine Corp Veteran

Married 46 years

Father of 3 children

Grandfather of 5

Retired Industrial/Technical salesperson

Member of Church Choir (fall of 2019)

Enjoy hunting, fishing, golf, hockey and pickleball

Volunteer at food pantry and watchdog at John Sciole Elementary

Andrew McNett — Elder

Length of membership at St. John's: 10 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: I enjoy helping out and want to devote my time to my Christian family. I take care of many family members.

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Harold Deutschlander — Elder

Length of membership at St. John's: 86 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: I Have enjoyed serving on the Board of Elders for many years. I would like to continue serving my church and church family on the Board of Elders.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

I have been a lifelong member at St. John's Church. I have served as a Youth Director and Sunday School Teacher in my early years. I have been a Trustee and served on other committees during my years at St. John's.

Bryan Mayback — Elder

Length of membership at St. John's: 20+ years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: To continue to be an assistant to the church and dedicate my time to positive and productive purposes.

Brief history or other pertinent data: I am a life-long member of St. John's and was confirmed under the pastorship of Pastor Blackwell. It would be an honor to be re-elected as an elder for St. John's Lutheran Church.

Barbara Perry — Elder

Length of membership at St. John's: lifelong

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: I am humbled and honored to be nominated for a fourth term on the Board of Elders using my God given talents serving those in need at St. John's.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

I work at the Department of Veterans Affairs as a Veteran Claim Examiner adjudicating education benefits serving our veterans and their family members. I have been very blessed to be able to share God's love here at St. John's serving as an Elder, on the Altar Guild and helping Pastor and others where needed.

Edward Walsh — Elder

Length of membership at St John's: about 4 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: First, I believe that all things are from God, and therefore believe that if I am being asked to be an Elder here from the church, it is God asking me; and therefore I can only respond with yes. On a personal view I enjoy any opportunity to do work for the kingdom of God.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

Over the years, I worked in many positions (cleaner, usher, security, Sunday School Assistant, Food Preparer, Elder, and Board Member) in various churches.

I worked for about two years as the assistant to the Head Elder at Pinnacle Lutheran Church in Rochester, NY. Elder at my son's church in Menahga, Minnesota. And I was an Elder here at St. John's.

Amy Krupa — Elder

Length of membership: Since I was a child, my parents are Phil and Kathy Paone

Why I wish to pursue: I was honored that another member thought of me to take on this position and would like to take on the responsibilities with our church.

Brief history: I live in Lancaster with my husband Andrew and boys Nick (18) and Alex (13).

We will be celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary this August and we were married at St Johns.

Andy was born and raised Catholic, his parents came over to the US from Ukraine back in the late 1940's and started their family in Buffalo.

Both our boys were baptized in the Catholic church as infants and now made St John's their church home.

Cherie Lysiak — Elder and Shepherd's Staff

Length of membership at St. John's: 4 years

Why I wish to pursue this nomination: Because I wish to volunteer on a regular basis at St. John's. I love helping people. My faith is important to me and I feel good inside helping my church.

Brief history or other pertinent data:

I have served on the church council for the past year and have enjoyed doing so. I've attended each and every meeting. I have done attendance (contact tracing) for both Saturday at 4:30 services and Sunday at 11:15. I have learned an awful lot in this past year. I have also chaired the 125th Anniversary committee holding monthly meetings until Covid hit. We were set to go on June 7th, 2020, but now we are in delay.