

## MEET OUR VESTRY NOMINEES!

My name is **Cherie Knowles**. I have been married to my husband, David for 46 wonderful years! We have two sons, John and Tim, and have been blessed with a lovely daughter-in-law, Ashley and two beautiful grandchildren, Corbett (4) and Sage (10 months).



David and I have been members of St. James for over 38 years, as having a Christ centered household is most important to us, and we found it through the worship at this Spirit-filled church.

I grew up in Northern Indiana, so I can appreciate lake snow effects! My

Mom and Dad moved down to Florida in 1969 where we settled in Winter Park. I went to UCF (which was Florida Technical University at the time) and USF and made my career as a speech

### CHERIE KNOWLES

pathologist for Lake County schools, having moved to Leesburg in 1976.

After 43 years of teaching, I am now retired. I enjoy assisting in any way I can at St. James, take every opportunity to spend time with family and friends, and find peace in church and on the water as David and I have been avid boaters.

Being raised in a Christian household, I began service early. When I was a teen, I served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister at St. Margaret Mary in Winter Park. I also taught Sunday school to first graders. When I moved to Leesburg, I did the same at St. Paul's, but worked with second graders and had the privilege of teaching the First Communion preparedness class.

When I came to St. James, David and I joined the choir and sang for about 25 years. I then was blessed to become an usher and Eucharistic Minister in our church. When Dr. Pratt Carter ( my mentor) could no longer serve at the Thursday healing service, it was my pleasure to commit to assisting as I could. This has been an especially beautiful blessing. Margaret Branham and I started a period of fellowship following this service which has been favorably received. I have been a second pair of eyes, ears and hands for our most wonderful Youth and Family Director, Beth Williams. Our church has been gifted with not only talented musical directors, but with a children's choir that is beyond measure! I was also on standby for our Parish Administrator if needed, and truly enjoyed working in the office as it allowed me to be a part of a wonderful group of people who are the heartbeat of our parish and keep it all going.

Yes, I am a hugger, and I reach out to all of you with much affection, knowing that the right decision will be made to fill our Vestry with just the right people to serve our church, but mostly our Mighty God.

My name is **Sean Lahey** and I was born in 1972 and raised in Longwood, Florida. I was active in the Roman Catholic Church growing up. I graduated from St. Leo College, with a degree in Business Administration and a specialty in management. I have been a Commercial Insurance agent for nearly 30 years. My wife Lara and I were married in 2005 and after meeting Lara, I joined her in attending the Episcopal Church. I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church while attending the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Eustis, FL.



**SEAN LAHEY**

I am a proud husband and father and my wife, myself and children are very active members of St. James. My children, Noah, Clara, Sara and Sofia have been involved in the St. James children's ministry since the spring of 2024. I serve as a consultant with the St. James Finance Committee and I currently sit on the following boards: Central Florida Laps4Life, Life Choices Medical Center, Lake100, and the Lake County Planning and Zoning Commission.

My name is **Nancy Moran** and my love for sacred music began at the age of three. My mom was the superintendent of the Sunday School at the Locust Valley Dutch Reformed Church. Being the youngest in my family by six years, my brother attended the Sunday School and I toddled along behind. We would sing hymns, such as “Jesus Loves Me” and then after church I would go home and play the song on the piano. Thus began my career in music, especially sacred music. And my repertoire expanded when I started lessons on the organ finally being tall enough to reach the pedals.



**NANCY MORAN**

Fast forward, I taught music in middle school for 27 years, and when I was not in the classroom, I taught piano. I also served as an organist and choir director in several churches.

Upon marriage, I converted to Catholicism. I struggled with a lack of music and eventually after many years found myself more and more uncomfortable in the Catholic church, but I liked the ritual and following the liturgical year.

On the first Sunday of June 2019 I attended St. James. When I sang, many people encouraged me to sing in the choir. I signed the guest book and introduced myself to Father Tom. When I attended the following Sunday and shook Father Tom’s hand again, he said “Nancy, how nice to see you again” Hooked! I knew then that I had arrived home. A smaller church where everyone is friendly and very involved in the worship service.

3

I joined the choir and worked with Deb Carraway to play organ and piano duets together.

Not only do I sing in the choir, but I play handbells too and play for the Healing & Anointing Services on Thursday mornings. I am a Lector and a Lay Eucharist Minister and these last two ministries really helped to deepen my faith. Last, but not least I am a member of ECW.

I feel so blessed to have come to St. James and to be able to share my love of sacred music. I am honored to have made wonderful and supportive friends in the choir, as well as, many in the congregation. The more involved I become the more my faith continues to strengthen. “I am Home”.

My name is **Dee Saylor**. In my professional career I worked at the same company for 45 years. This company had many different names:

Lukens Steel, Bethlehem Steel and I believe the final name was Cleveland Cliffs. I had many different positions at the steel mill. I had some great bosses who gave me opportunities and challenges. I started out as a Secretary, was a Programmer, Security Administrator and finally an Accounting Analyst. My background gave me experience in budgets and financial planning.



I have been married to Michael Saylor for 41 years. We have two sons, three grandchildren, one great granddaughter and another one arriving in June. They all live in Maryland.

**DEE SAYLOR.**

I previously attended St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Oxford, PA. I started attending St. Chris in 1966 when I was baptized and then confirmed. As an adult member, I served on the Altar Guild and Memorials. I was a member of ECW and secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President. I also served on the Vestry for a number of terms. I held the positions of Secretary, Treasurer and Accounting Warden. I was also on the Search Committee for two of their priests.

I started attending St. James in 2016 where I attended part-time. In 2022 I started attending full time and I am currently a member of the St. James Altar Guild and ECW. Last year I was Co-Vice President of the ECW and volunteered at the Jody's Gift Shop. I am very interested in becoming a Vestry member.