

VESTRY CANDIDATES

***Jen Snider***

**1. *Please tell us about yourself and your time at Redeemer. How have you participated in the ministries of Redeemer?***

**I have been active at Redeemer for approximately eighteen years. I joined while I expecting our second child, with a goal of introducing the church to our young daughter, Paige, and her upcoming sibling. In my youth, I and our family were very active in our home Episcopal Church in Fairport, New York, and fond memories of Church school and Youth Group were part of what I wanted to pass on to our kids. Since joining Redeemer, I have volunteered my time at vacation bible school, the meals program, managing acolytes, volunteering to assist in services, sermons and Chairperson of a lay clergy internship committee for our current clerical intern. I also have previously served two terms on the vestry, the second of which included serving as senior warden. I also was privileged to assist Julie Williams with her goal of forever protecting our Memorial Garden, and as fellow attorneys we were able to ensure that this important part of our Church will remain a sacred spot for its residents and their families. While most of these efforts are particularly centered around our youth, I also see my larger ministry in representing our Church in the community not only directly, but indirectly, the latter through the manner in which I conduct myself among my peers, family members, neighbors and acquaintances.**

**During my time on Vestry we oversaw completion of significant maintenance projects throughout the Redeemer campus that had been deferred for many years. We did so while maintaining a modest budget and retiring mortgage debt. Additional progress made by the Vestry included establishing a curacy program and reserve funds for future clergy renumeration. The final year of my time on the Vestry was the first year of the pandemic, and I am very proud of the careful, thoughtful work completed by the Vestry and Clergy during that challenging time. I believe our parish emerged stronger than ever from that challenge.**

**2. *Please explain why you would like to serve on the Vestry. What types of talents, gifts or knowledge would you offer as a Vestry person?***

**Service on the Vestry will provide me the opportunity to give back to a parish that has given so much to me. I know from past experience that it is also an opportunity to lend my working knowledge of the various events, institutions and people in Platte County, Missouri to help further the mission of the Church. My profession as an attorney allows me to have a sharp understanding of the ‘whys’ and ‘wherefores’ of our State laws and our legal system, which impact short- and long-term programs for the church, as well as the day-to-day operations of a church organization as a business entity. I have the privilege of professionally working with other institutions in the Area that allow me to have friends in the community that may continue to enhance our parish’s collaboration in activities and outreach. Most of all, I think that my professional experiences have thoroughly enlightened me that while we may have dark times here and there, there are many in our faith and community whose lives are much more challenged, and our efforts inside and outside our Church walls can improve the world around us. We all have the chance to effect a positive world.**

**3. *As you look at the future of Redeemer, what are your hopes and desires for our church as you look into the next three years?***

**I hope that we have the vision to reach outside our walls of our church to reach others in our community, both local and beyond to grow our membership. The Pandemic educated us that with our live-streamed services, our membership is not limited to people who live in Kansas City. Our fantastic clergy can only do so much to grow our congregation … our members are capable of growing our parish and I hope our vestry can inspire and foster this grass-roots form of growth. Another avenue for growth is an invigorated outreach effort. Continuing the ministries that are successfully reaching those in need are essential, and reviewing ministries that are not reaching their full potential is the next step. By lifting up our giving to programs outside our Church, we are reaching out to organizations and their members who can lift us up in return. I think many, if not most of our members value the strong sense of belonging and community that we have at Redeemer, which in today’s global society has increased value. I would like to see greater efforts to show this very special attribute of our Church to our peers in hopes to grow our membership. This last goal might be achieved by encouraging our members to participate in groups, activities and leadership roles within the Diocese, rather than just inside our parish.**

***Cathy Langjahr***

**1. *Please tell us about yourself and your time at Redeemer. How have you participated in the ministries of Redeemer?***

**I’m a retired teacher with one daughter, who lives in New York. I’ve been a life long Episcopalian. I’ve been a Redeemer member since 1999. I have attended the 8:00 service for many years. I have enjoyed teaching Sunday School for the past 3 years. I also belong to a women’s civic organization that serves the Northland community. I have served in several offices in that organization.**

**2. *Please explain why you would like to serve on the Vestry. What types of talents, gifts or knowledge would you offer as a Vestry person?***

**I want to serve on the vestry to help the church. Being a teacher, I think it helps with my ability to work with others and being part of a group making decisions.**

**3. *As you look at the future of Redeemer, what are your hopes and desires for our church as you look into the next three years?***

**My hope for Redeemer is that we continue to be a community resource and reach out to people in need. I also hope that Redeemer continues to strengthen and build our own church community.**

***Amy Posey***

**1. *Please tell us about yourself and your time at Redeemer. How have you participated in the ministries of Redeemer?***

**My family and I began attending Redeemer about 12 years ago. I have assisted with ministries that are primarily directed at children: youth group, Sunday school, and coordinator of acolytes. I have also volunteered on occasion with Soil Mates, cleaning the church, and providing hospitality between and after services.**

**2. *Please explain why you would like to serve on the Vestry. What types of talents, gifts or knowledge would you offer as a Vestry person?***

**Although my involvement with various Redeemer ministries has been fulfilling, I’m feeling called to become more deeply involved. I have the administrative experience that comes with 20+ years as chair of Psychological Sciences at Benedictine College, and from service on the boards of First Judicial District (KS) CASA and the Northeast Kansas Community Action Program (NEK-CAP). As a nearly lifelong resident of Missouri, I am eager to focus my energy on this side of the state line for a change!**

**3. *As you look at the future of Redeemer, what are your hopes and desires for our church as you look into the next three years?***

**I look forward to seeing our church community grow in number as well as in its impact outside the walls of the church: opportunities that go hand-in-hand. As we have seen in recent responses of parishioners to the Redeemer Connections initiative, many of us seek and acquire spiritual fulfillment by living out Christ’s teachings through service to the broader community. Likewise, members of the broader community are often drawn to parishes that are visibly engaged in service to others and, important for us, want to raise their children in affiliation with those churches.**