

2023 VESTRY CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE: PETER KENT

How long have you worshipped at Immanuel? Any other family members who worship here?

I've worshipped at Immanuel for the past 18 months. My family and I relocated to Northern Virginia in July of 2021 after residing in Germany for the previous six years and began worshipping at Immanuel shortly after moving into our new home in August of 2021. My wife and I regularly attend the 10:30a.m. service. Our two children are in college and join us at church when they are home on breaks.

What are some parish activities or ministries that have captured your time and talents?

This year we participated in the pumpkin patch set-up and unloaded trucks on two of the delivery dates. We attended the 2022 annual parish meeting and the recent newcomer's event that was held in Fall of 2022. This past Christmas we sponsored one of the families that were included as part of the Christmas giving campaign.

Please name something you find very valuable/something you love about Immanuel.

We've found Immanuel to be a very friendly, warm and engaging parish. It seems exceptionally vibrant and active with a variety of activities across the social, spiritual and community outreach areas. The clergy and clergy to congregation interaction at Immanuel is also something that I really appreciate about the Immanuel worship environment.

What gifts, talents, interests and/or goals and objectives do you think you might bring to Vestry service?

I've served on two Vestries over the past twenty years and also served as an interim Parish Administrator for 8 months at Heavenly Rest Episcopal in Abilene, Texas. While on Vestry I was active in both outreach and facilities/grounds committees. As Parish Administrator I was significantly engaged with the Vestry in a large Capital Funds Campaign to support the building of a new parish hall. I was also central in the foundation and development of an outreach committee to support a group of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo who had been relocated to Abilene. I am still very interested in community outreach opportunities and ways to serve the needy in the local community.

How would you view serving on the Vestry as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?

I feel most connected with the Church and our Christian mission when I am actively engaged in the work of my parish. Serving on the Vestry is a way of getting to the core of where the parish is actively engaging its resources and talent and helps me feel more connected to the mission of the church. Being on the Vestry also helps me to be more connected with the needs and concerns of fellow parishioners which gives me a stronger sense of community.