



the  
church of the  
atonement

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

ANNUAL MEETING  
30 JANUARY 2022  
11:00 A.M.

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5749 N. Kenmore Ave.  
Chicago, Il 60660  
773.271.2727  
[www.atonementchicago.org](http://www.atonementchicago.org)

## CANDIDATE FOR WARDEN

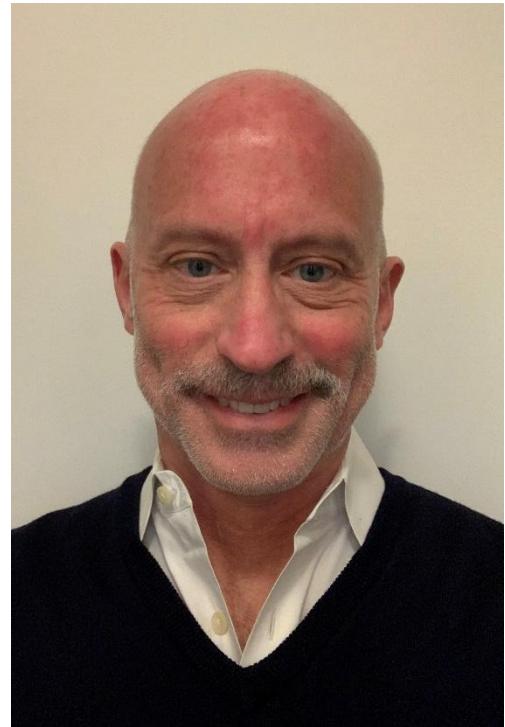
TIM FOX

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Tim Fox began attending the 11:00 Mass in 2013 and was received into the church in November 2014.

As a member of the parish, he has participated in outreach activities including meal preparation for Sarah's Circle and a team that welcomed and assisted a refugee family on their arrival from Africa. In 2017, he completed the four years of Education for Ministry (EfM). He is a regular lector and intercessor and has completed two terms on the parish's Endowment Guild.

Tim is Senior Attorney for the Illinois Pollution Control Board, an environmental agency in state government. He grew up in Moline, Illinois and graduated from the University of Virginia.



## CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY

CHUCK ELLIOTT

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Since 2010, Atonement has been my church home ~ a place of genuine hospitality; accessibility for those new to Episcopal practice and tradition; diversity of worship styles and expression (including Mass, prayer, study, connection, or [phenomenal] music nearly every day of the year); rich, thoughtful opportunities for learning, growth, and service. In short, a place for all, "no matter where you are in your walk of faith" . . . just what our home page promises. Atonement is also a lovely, serene haven for worship, an architectural gem. I'd welcome an opportunity to serve on the vestry to help sustain Atonement's amazing strengths; but also to explore ways to use our physical resources and the talents and energy of our clergy and congregation to enhance our service and sharing of the Good News into the larger community.

I have been an independent business and marketing writer for many years, working primarily with professional services firms to sell work. My wife, Margaret Sullivan, and I live in Andersonville.

Hello, my name is Rufus Gonzales. I work as a professor at Loyola University in the counseling psychology program and also have a psychotherapy practice in Edgewater. My husband Ed Hebson owns Flaco's Tacos with his brother and cousin. Ed and I have been attending Atonement since January of 2007 when we moved into the neighborhood. We felt immediately welcomed and at home here and became regulars at the 8 am Mass, until we adopted our first child and started to attend the 9 am family Mass. We now have three children, Michael (age 11), Ana (age 9) and Dennis (age 6), who all were baptized here. As a same-sex couple, with a multiracial and adoptive family, we have experienced Atonement to be an affirming spiritual home. As a family, we love the sense of community and connection that we have. We really appreciate the coffee hours, when we can have them, and have enjoyed bringing treats to share. I have been mostly involved with activities for kids, helping out with the Easter Egg hunts, Christmas cookie decorating, and Sunday school. When the Sunday school program began, I helped initially with the pre-school kids, but now assist the lead teacher with the older kids. As a member of the Vestry, I hope that I am able to continue to support and foster the participation of families and children at Atonement. I am looking forward to becoming more involved and helping to shape our community.



(Rufus pictured holding his son Dennis, with the rest of his family this Christmas.)

My name is Richard Velon; many of you know me as “Rick.” If I was called Richard as a youngster I was in a big heap of trouble.

I'm a native Chicagoan, born and raised on the SW side of Chicago. My 46-year career in Visual Merchandising/Store Planning and Design has allowed me opportunities to relocate to Orlando, FL, Pittsburgh, PA, Houston, TX, Atlanta, Ga, New York, NY, and Richmond, VA – opening and renovating stores in the South/SW, Midwest, and the East Coast, NY-FL.

I've been an active parishioner at The Church of Atonement for 9 yrs. I was first introduced by word of mouth from William Mallek, an active member for over 20 years. My second introduction was from Br. Steve. Wetmore. I was walking to work on a Saturday morning in June and he was outside on the church steps. He said a welcoming “Hello,” and asked if I had ever been to this church. I said “No;” he then invited me in. I was in awe. He then gave me a brochure and said I would be welcomed at any time.

Several weeks later, I was doing my usual Sunday morning ritual, having coffee and watching Meet the Press, and a voice told me to get myself ready and go to the 11:00 Mass at church on the corner. I approached the church nervous and petrified, but welcoming greeters and ushers put me at ease. I sat in a back pew on the right side, and I couldn't believe how wonderful the Mass was. Afterwards Father John David introduced himself with warm and welcoming words, and other parishioners did the same. I was hooked and have been attending ever since.



The first time I was introduced to be involved in a ministry was when Fr. John David asked me to do the Crèche for Christmas. I was thrilled and scared at this challenge but accepted. Nine years later, I'm still honored and blessed to do it.

Through the years I've become more comfortable with offering my time to help out where needed. I am an active participant with hosting coffee hours, helping in the kitchen, and decorating for receptions and Senior Lunches. I also work with Gardening/Landscaping, and I am a member of the Buildings/Property Committee the Outreach Guild, the Gala Committee, and Q&A.

As many of you know, this past year has been challenging for me because of my health. I retired from working for Howard Brown Health at the Brown Elephant store in Andersonville after 10 years and 8 months, which has given me the opportunity to offer more of my time to volunteer if and when I can to help the church and the community.

Being a part of the Atonement Family has enriched me spiritually and allowed me to continue helping in whatever way I can.

I feel being a member of the Vestry would be a great opportunity to help with for growth of our church and in reaching out to other areas in the community and beyond. I hope to be able to continue our support for those that we have helped for many years and to build our church family base by becoming more diversified for increased growth in the future.

## CANDIDATES FOR PARISH DELEGATES

BR. JOSEPH GAUSS, BSG

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I have been a giving member in good standing of The Episcopal Church of the Atonement for over 25 years, with several years of ministry serving on the altar and most recently in Atonement's Saint Cecilia choir. I am a member of The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory - a men's Christian community within The Episcopal Church - and I function as their secretary. I have served as a delegate to diocesan convention for the past two years and also served at the special convention this past December to elect our new bishop.

In my work life, I am a Registered Nurse working as a Clinical Coordinator on the Stroke Unit at Evanston, Hospital in Evanston, IL. I am also an avid cyclist.



JAMES OLSON

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Hello, everyone! My name is Jim Olson, and I am a relatively new, member of Church of the Atonement. I'm honored to be given the opportunity to serve as a delegate to Diocesan Convention. I'm a native of the Boston area, and for the last 25 years, I've served as a United Church of Christ pastor in local parishes as a settled and interim pastor, as a University Chaplain, and as a denominational officer. I have lots of experience with church conventions, and I have served as Parliamentarian at General Synod, the UCC's big national meeting. I live in Edgewater with my husband, Darrick, and two very spoiled rescue cats. I'm currently in discernment with the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago to become an Episcopal priest, and I hope to be a Postulant some time this spring. I am a May, 2021 graduate of the Diploma program at Bexley-

Seabury.

## ALLISON TRIBBLE

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I have had the honor to serve as one of Atonement's Delegates for two conventions, I am a "Cradle Episcopalian" and deeply love the Episcopal Church! My family has included generations of Episcopal Priests, but I am most proud of how our denomination led on important social issues: ordination of women, gay and HIV+, divorced inclusion at the altar rail, and more. In my life, my faith has led me to work in helping professions as a master's-degreed Psychologist/Therapist and now as an MDiv., because the psychology wasn't enough. Holistically, I felt drawn to Chaplaincy and I am the Chaplain at a long-term care facility in Chicago. My husband, Dave, and I have been members of Atonement for over 15 years and miss in-person services! May God speed us through COVID!



## WILL CRONENWETT (ALTERNATE)

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I'm Will Cronenwett, and I've been going to the Church of the Atonement since about 2006. It was the first Episcopal church I ever attended, and from the moment I walked in the door I knew I was home... both at Atonement, and also in the Anglican, sacramental way of making our faith come alive. I've been active in our church, serving twice on the vestry (once about 10 years ago and then again currently), and I've had the honor and privilege of serving on the altar. For the last several years, I've helped represent our Parish at the Diocesan convention, making sure that Atonement has actively helped shape Diocesan governance and the Diocesan stance on issues that are relevant to our lives and faith.