

# Vestry Slate 2023



**Susan Emack Alison**

Married to James. Mother to Parker (28) and Anne Fairly Robson (28). Member of Saint Luke's since 1964.

Parish Service: Stephen Minister group leader, Founder's Place volunteer, Feed My Sheep cook, Connections committee member, miscellaneous outreach volunteer.

Service & Community activities: Past president of Linly Heflin Unit, board member of Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation, board member of Colonial Dames, Junior board member of YWCA, and member of the Junior League, two garden clubs, two dance clubs, and a book club.

Current or Previous Employment: Previously Copy Chief of Southern Living, Cottage Living, and Coastal Living magazines. Editor of approximately 30 books. Currently a freelance copy editor.

*Jesus and Saint Luke's have brought me comfort, peace, and direction for nearly 60 years. I was baptized, confirmed, and married here, as were my children. With God's guidance, I hope to bring an editor's eye for detail and discernment as our team honors the church's strong past by helping prepare it for the future.*



**Derick Belden**

Married to Aimee. Father to Ben (22) and Margo (20). Member of Saint Luke's since 1996.

Parish Service: Stewardship Chair 2022-2023; Vestry Clerk 2022; Acolyte captain 2010 to 2019; Stewardship Co-Chair 2021 - 2022.

Service & Community activities: Member, Board of Directors, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 2022; and Member, Board of Directors, O'Neal Library, 2023. Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation; City of Mountain Brook Board of Zoning Adjustment and Tree Commission; Mountain Brook Chamber of Commerce; Leadership Birmingham.

Current or Previous Employment: FRED Communication by Design; Executive Editor, Southern Living Magazine 1996 - 2009.

*Saint Luke's is an integral part of my family's life, helped make my children the people they have become, and been there for us when we needed it most. It is time for me to hopefully be able to give back to the place that's become so important to us. I am very excited about the energy at Saint Luke's and would like to continue contributing. Should I be elected to the vestry, I would like to continue focus on stewardship in an effort to grow our participation rates and overall member engagement so Saint Luke's can do more of the great work it does for our members and for those in need in the greater Birmingham community.*

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## Morgan Cook

Married to Phillip. Mother to Phillip IV (17) and Juliette (14). Member of Saint Luke's since 2010.

Parish Service: Outreach Committee member, 2021 Long Range Planning Committee Co-chair, Youth Advisory Council, Leader of Grace and Truth Bible study.

Service & Community activities: Crestline Elementary 1st grade girls Bible Club leader, Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation Development chair, Lovelady Center Women's Committee member, Current volunteer and past Board member of MBJH PTO, volunteer of the MBHS PTO.

Current or Previous Employment: Mom

*The Gospel writer concludes the book of Mark with this statement: "And they went out and preached [the Gospel] everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message . . . ." My hope for our Saint Luke's family is that we be faithful in following this model of the early church. I pray that Saint Luke's be bold in proclaiming the Truth of the Gospel all of the time and everywhere; that our love for each other and our community bear witness to the Grace received in Salvation; that we be obedient in seeking God's guidance in everything we do be it worship, ministry, or community outreach; and, having done these things, we trust with confidence that the Lord, and the Lord alone, will cause the work we do for His Kingdom to bear fruit.*



## Tom Garrett

Married to Anne. Father to four grown children: Bryan, Taylor, Grace, and Mary B. Member of Saint Luke's since 1985.

Parish Service: Former vestry member, former Sunday school teacher, former outreach committee member, former chair of building & grounds committee, former adult education committee member.

Service & Community activities: Local youth soccer board, Rathmel Sports Park board.

Current or Previous Employment: Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC.

*My hope for St. Luke's is simple and not original since it is from our website. I love that we strive to be a neighborhood church, that we strive to be followers of Christ and that we strive to be generous, welcoming, big-hearted Christians. My hope for myself is to faithfully serve our membership and our clergy in this calling. We have something special at St. Luke's and I desire to take a turn in helping to keep this place so welcoming for so many.*

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## Robert ("Bob") G. Methvin, Jr.

Married to Lee. Father to Hope (21), Kate (18), Laine (13). Member of Saint Luke's since 1999.

Parish Service: Former Sunday School teacher, former Adult Lead team member, involved in Saint Luke's outreach efforts.

Service & Community activities: President of Alabama State Bar (2020-2021), served on the Board of the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers which provides free legal services to the needy, Chair of Birmingham Bar Crisis Relief Committee in 2011 which provided free legal clinics for the needy after the tornadoes, Founded (2001) and serves as Chair of the Board of C.F. Hope for Alabama - a local charity assisting low income families with children suffering from cystic fibrosis, served as Chair of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for Alabama, served on the advisory Board of Laps for CF, serves on the Board of Bigtime Ministries, a local charity dedicated to teaching children Christian principles, active with the Harvest Circle of Jones Valley Teaching Farm, a non-profit in downtown Birmingham providing inner-city students with hands on food and nutrition education.

Current or Previous Employment: Methvin Terrell Attorneys

*Saint Luke's has been a great church home for my family. Lee and I have loved watching all 3 of our daughters grow up in the Church and we are especially grateful for our incredible youth staff. My hope is that Saint Luke's will continue to serve not only the community and our parish, but also continue our outreach to serve those who are less fortunate. It is further my hope that we will increase funding, if the budget allows, to grow our outreach efforts.*