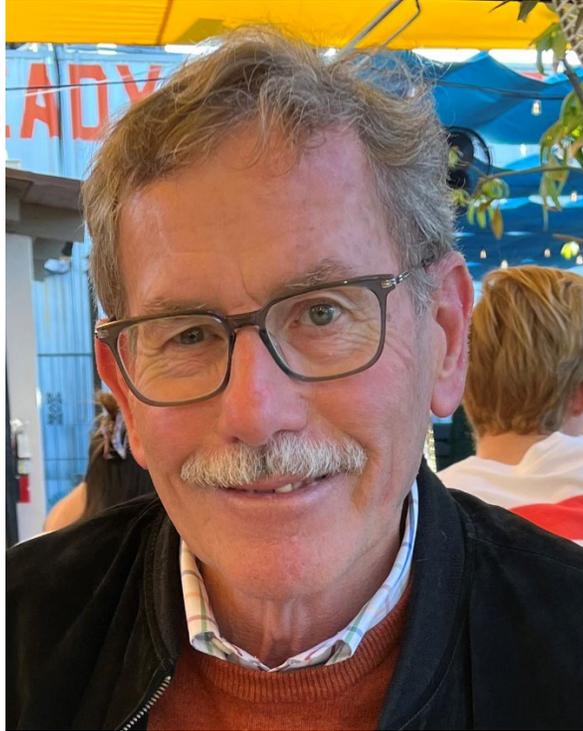


Mark Lester



Appendix II

Chapter Nominee Biography and Statement (Self Nomination)

(Please include a photo when submitting this document)

1. Nominee Name/Phone/Email:
Mark Lester/(619) 307-1900/mlestersd@sbcglobal.net
2. What brought you to St. Paul's Cathedral and why did you stay? I came to St. Paul's in 1991, migrating from another Episcopal parish, which I loved, but in which the clergy had become increasingly reactionary and inflexible. I was attracted to the Cathedral by its commitment to worshiping God in the full beauty of holiness: music, liturgy, and preaching. I stayed because I found a loving, inclusive, and progressive community which both welcomed me and quickly encouraged me to participate in its activities and ministries.
3. With what activities or ministries have you been involved and how? I've been challenged over the years at SPC by a remarkable variety of service/ministry opportunities: from membership on the Education, Music, Evangelism/Incorporation, Finance, and Endowment committees, through a 1990s group charged by Dean Carroll with imagining the future of SPC in the 21st century, three non-consecutive terms on Chapter, twelve years' as a manager of Nutmeg & Olive LLC (2013-2025), to reorganizing the Buildings & Grounds Committee in 2019. I was elected People's Warden in early 2012, and was named Dean's

Warden in June 2012, subsequently serving in that role during our transition between deans in 2012-2013, working closely with our Interim Dean. Dean Bridges asked me to serve as Dean's Warden again in 2017. I have been a lector since 1993; I have presented forums, given stewardship and campaign witnesses, been a delegate to Diocesan Convention, and hosted summer socials in my home. My current ministry is as Lector Coordinator, in which capacity I get to lead an absolutely brilliant group of lectors.

4. Chapter is considering a strategic plan with four major goal areas for the cathedral community to prioritize over the next few years:

- 1 Build Disciples for Today and Generations to Come (*formation, worship, justice*)
- 3 Build Community and Congregational Connection (*growth, incorporation, fellowship*)
- 2 Be Good Stewards of our Resources (*finance, campus, operations*)
- 4 Serve as a Cathedral in the City, for the City (*interfaith, ecumenism, public space*)

Please rank these four areas in descending order of interest to you, with 1 being the item of most interest.

5. What attributes and gifts do you bring to the ministry of Chapter (please include any pertinent educational, professional or community experience)? I'm a retired San Diego State University administrator, where my responsibilities included managing the library's budget, human resources, facilities, security, and communications program, as well as a public service division which included circulation/course reserves, interlibrary loan and resource sharing. I served for 16 years as a board member of the San Diego Early Music Society, including seven years as its president, and four as its treasurer.
- 6.
7. Why do you feel called to serve on Chapter at this time in your life and in the life of the cathedral? The philosopher Heraclitus said "You cannot step into the same river twice." Change is all around us, and as someone who has served previously on the SPC Chapter, I know that the Cathedral is not immune from that law. The next three years will be full of new opportunities, but, I suspect, also deep societal and organizational challenges. At this point in my life, I feel the gentle nudging of the Holy Spirit, who seems to be reminding me that I have the skills and experience to help support the Cathedral at this juncture as a Chapter member. Most importantly, I feel called to serve because I love this community in all its glorious diversity, and embrace its mission of loving Christ, serving others, and welcoming all.

Appendix I

Chapter Candidate Nomination Form (Third Party)

(Confidential: please submit to the People's Warden)

1. Nominee Name/Phone/Email: Mark Lester, 619/307-1900, mlestersd@sbcglobal.net



2. Nominator Name/Phone/Email: Lisa Churchill, 858/449-9261 sptheadverger@gmail.com

3. What qualities do you see in the nominee that lead you to recommend them for leadership in the parish?

Mark has been a true servant leader in this community since well before my arrival in 2010. He has tirelessly served in multiple roles ranging from lector leader to a member of Nutmeg and Olive to a stint on chapter during the challenging interregnum between deans. He brings considerable professional experience in many aspects of corporate governance, as well as a true musician's heart for our traditional liturgy and worship.

4. Specifically, how does the nominee live out the Cathedral's mission to "Love Christ."

Serve Others. Welcome All.?"

Mark is a person of quiet, yet deep faith, who has always been willing to step into any place of perceived need. He is non-judgmental, thoughtful, and very much a steady hand in times of challenge. He's approachable and always, always kind.

5. Bearing in mind the corporate nature of Chapter deliberations and Chapter's role as spiritual leaders in the parish, why would the nominee would make a good Chapter member?

Mark brings a measured and thoughtful voice, always willing to listen to others, and not one who puts forth his own voice without something meaningful or helpful to say. He's not driven by ego but by service. He also leads by example and never hesitates to step in as needed. In his current role as lector coordinator, he gently finesses a large group of sometimes fussy readers to ensure that our Liturgy always has the Word front and center.