

Introducing the Rector Search Committee

On May 6, the Vestry unanimously approved the 12-member Search Committee. Reflecting our diverse community, it is composed of men and women of a variety of ages with differing interests. Some are long-time members, well-versed and experienced in the workings of our church. Others are relatively new to Bethesda, thus bringing necessary fresh ideas and approaches to the task. A number have experience in personnel searches. Our parish life is represented by those who have been active with missions and outreach (including Faith-in-Action), Christian education, stewardship & finance, ushers and greeters, lay readers, the ECW, music, Altar Guild, and Eucharistic ministry. Some have children currently in the church school, while others have had their children grow up at Bethesda. Many have Vestry experience either at Bethesda or at another Episcopal church. All have a deep love for Bethesda and a stake in its future growth and success.

Chairman: Becky Myers

Vestry Representatives: Jim Bertles and Laura Warner

Peter Broberg	Don McKenna	Connie Purcell
Deborah Hale	Richard Miessau	Vincent Ruisi
Helene Lorentzen	Carrie Pateman	Frank Young

SEARCH COMMITTEE BIOS

Chairman: Becky Myers



Becky is a life-long Episcopalian and a member of BBTS for more than 30 years. She has been a member of the Vestry and Executive Committee, ECW president, church school teacher, Spring Festival Chairman, Auction Underwriting Chairman, and Chairman of the Mission & Outreach, Bookshop, and Vestry Nominating committees. She was instrumental in re-writing the by-laws of the ECW and the bookshop as well as the guidelines for Mission & Outreach. Currently, she serves on Mission & Outreach and assists the Church finance office in recording the Sunday offerings.

Her family also has had a long history with BBTS. Her husband has served on the Vestry as Junior Warden and currently is an usher and on the Investment committee. Her two sons were baptized and confirmed at BBTS, attended church school, participated in youth groups and Christmas pageants, and served as acolytes.

In addition to her volunteer work at BBTS, Becky has been involved with a number of charitable associations over the years. She was General Chairman of the Junior League's Festival of Trees (a project with over 100 volunteers and multiple sub-committees), served as Trustee for The Town of Palm Beach United Way, and served as a lay member of the Ethics Committee for the Palm Beach Bar Association, among other activities.

Professionally, Becky has experience in public relations and fund-raising and holds a master's degree in Journalism & Communications. She is a real estate broker for Brown Harris Stevens and serves on the Profession Standards Committee for the Palm Beach Board of Realtors.

James Bertles

Originally from Greenwich, CT, Jim and his family moved to Palm Beach in 1985 and became members of Bethesda. Jim has served in numerous leadership roles at Bethesda, including multiple terms on Vestry and its Executive Committee. He has been both Senior and Junior Warden, Chancellor and served on the Buildings and Grounds, Planned Giving, Legal, Personnel and Investment committees. Currently, he is on the Vestry and the Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee. His wife, Lisa, is actively involved in ECW and the Altar Guild, and all three of their children were baptized and confirmed at Bethesda, attended church school and served as acolytes.

Professionally, Jim is currently managing director of Tiedemann Wealth Management. He is also very actively involved in charitable and civic activities.





Peter Broberg

A well-respected attorney in Palm Beach, Peter has been a life-long member of BBTS. He has served previously on the Vestry and is currently the Chancellor, an usher, and docent for the church. He has been a Beefeater and Star of the East multiple times in the Boar's Head Festival. As a child, he was an acolyte and crucifer.

Peter has a long family history at BBTS. His parents were very active; his father served multiple times on the Vestry and as Senior Warden, and his mother ran the bookshop for many years. She is still on the Columbarium committee. His two children also grew up at BBTS, serving as acolytes and in the Christmas pageant and Boar's Head Festival.

Deborah Hale

Deborah has been a member of BBTS since 1986, serving in many activities over the years: Spring Festival, Strawberry Festival, ECW Hospitality committee, Christian Education teacher (assisted with Rite 13 group and confirmation class), Boar's Head Festival, and the Christmas pageant.

Professionally, Deborah is a teacher at Cardinal Newman High School. She formerly was the head of the Home Economics Department and currently is an instructor for Health, Speech, and Computers.



Helene Lorentzen

Helene and her husband moved to Palm Beach and joined BBTS in 2003. They have three sons (ages 2-8) who attend BBTS's church school and participate in the Boar's Head Festival. In addition to volunteering for various charities and school activities in the community, Helene has been active at BBTS making lunches for St. George's, acting as chef for Cajun Grace, and assisting with the pre-school church school, Homebound lunches, and parish picnics. She currently serves on the board of the ECW.



Prior to starting a family, Helene had a career in business, working on the commercialization of emerging technologies, first with Battelle Memorial Institute and then with the Dept. of Energy. She later worked as an associate for a venture capital firm evaluating start-up companies for investment. She is a graduate of Trinity College and Yale's business school.

Don McKenna

Relative newcomers to BBTS, Don and his family have been members since 2008 when they moved here from Hilton Head. Don is a retired senior human resources executive with 24 years experience in corporate management. He was responsible for developing the human resource initiatives in some of America's most admired companies as recognized by Forbes, Fortune, and Business Week. He was Vice President of HR for Home Depot for 10 years and a division Vice President of HR at ITT Corp. for 14 years. While in Hilton Head, he ran his own residential construction company and consulted in the area of human resources. Don is familiar with the search process, having led the search for a new headmaster for a private preparatory school.



Richard Miessau

Rick and his wife have been members of BBTS since 1992. He is a former Vestry member, webmaster 1995-2009, greeter, usher, mission team leader, World Mission Commission representative, and member of the Communications and Faith-in-Action committees. His two sons were baptized and confirmed at BBTS and serve as youth leaders.

Professionally, Rick is a Senior Project Manager for the South Florida Water Management District and holds degrees in Oceanography, Engineering, and Info. Management.

Catherine (Carrie) Pateman

Carrie, the daughter of Rod and Cecie Titcomb, and her husband are life-long members of BBTS. As a child, Carrie sang in the choir and was active in the youth programs, pageants, and festivals. She has taught confirmation and Vacation Bible School, served on the Adult Christian Education committee, and is currently on the ECW board. She has completed one year of EFM.

Professionally, Carrie is a registered nurse, working part-time while raising her 3-year old daughter.



Connie Purcell



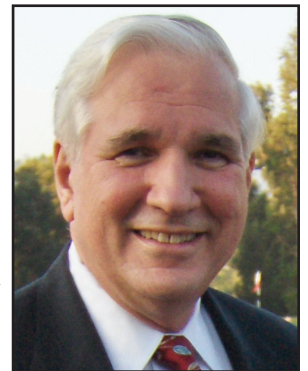
Connie is a long-time member of BBTS, having joined in 1979. She is well-known and respected in the parish, having served the church in numerous capacities and has been named Distinguished Episcopal Churchwoman. Over the years, she has gained a wealth of knowledge and experience at BBTS by serving multiple times on the Vestry and as Junior and Senior Wardens. She is a past President of ECW and is currently on its board. She also serves on the Personnel, Building & Grounds, Mission & Outreach, and Budget & Finance committees and was on the special 2009 Vestry committee for budget revision and on the search committee for the current interim rector.

Extremely active in the community as a child advocate, she sits on the boards of several non-profit organizations and is the recipient of numerous community service awards. Professionally, Connie is a real estate associate with Brown Harris Stevens.

Vincent Ruisi

Vince and his partner have been members of BBTS since 1995. He has been very active in church life as an acolyte, usher, Lay Eucharistic Minister, adult education teacher, and facilitator of Disciples of Christian Community program. He has served on the Christian Education, Vestry nominating, Mission & Outreach, and Building & Grounds committees. He was on the search committees for some of BBTS's associate clergy.

Professionally, Vince is a psychotherapist working in association with psychiatrist Mark Agresti, M.D. He holds two master's degrees.



Laura Warner



Laura has been a lifelong Episcopalian. She is the daughter of the late Canon Frederick E. Thalmann, rector for 32 years of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Troy, New York. In 1995, Laura and her four sons moved to Florida from Saratoga Springs, NY and became members of Bethesda. In 1997, Laura married Stephen J. Warner. Over the past 14 years, Laura has been involved as a Vacation Bible School and Sunday School teacher, committee chair for the Spring Festival, a sandwich maker for St. George's, a flower delivery volunteer and with several Youth Group Fundraising Activities.

Presently Laura has an ETCetera business and is a Trustee of The Sage Colleges, a Director of The Beach Club, Regent of the HMF Chapter DAR, a board member of Opportunity Inc. and the 'The Sand Castle Ball' 2010 for Opportunity, Inc.

Frank Young

An Episcopalian originally from the Northeast, Frank moved to Hobe Sound year round in 2008 and joined BBTS. He makes the long commute to Palm Beach on a regular basis, serving on the St. George sandwich-making team and the Stewardship committee.

Frank is a retired executive, having worked in the Executive Buying Division of F.W. Woolworth Co., as head of his own import company, and in the executive recruiting business. At his former parish in New Jersey, Frank served two terms as a Vestry member and was Vestry liaison to the Stewardship committee. As chairman of the Long Range Planning committee, he produced the Parish Profile, used a tool in the search for a new rector.

