Vestry Nomination Invitation

I want to share my story with you of how I came to be on the Vestry. It all started with a "tug." My initial response was; "God, You have got to be kidding me. You know my past experience concerning the Vestry with a former church was definitely not positive." So began my wrestling with the Lord.

I was convinced I could change God's mind. But.... You know how it is with God when He's calling you to do something; you just don't feel peace. So, I decided to go to the Prayer Team and received confirmation that I was to move forward and felt peace about it.

You know the result of that now. Fast forward three years and here I am about to finish my three-year term. I was back out with the Prayer Team again asking for prayer, but this time for God to raise up the three new people for Vestry that He has already been preparing. Deb Tomchek reminded me that it was three years ago at this time that she had prayed with me.

This past three years on the Vestry has shown me that I have a voice and has given me the confidence to use it. My walk with the Lord and my prayer life has become stronger. I blame and thank Fr. Travis for uncomfortably comfortably (if that makes sense) stretching me outside of my comfort zone—you know that safe little box we like to keep ourselves—and I am a better person for it. Phil. 4:13 from the *Amplified Bible* says: "I can do all things (which He has called me to) through Him who

strengthens and empowers me (to fulfill His purpose – I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace)." This verse sums up how I feel my experience with the Vestry has been.

Immanuel needs three new people on Vestry, young and old, male and female, married and single, with or without children, retired and still working, people from ALL walks of life, in different phases of life. So, if you are feeling a tug, talk to one of the members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is made up of the three outgoing Vestry members (Karen Groat, Kent Avery, and me), and one non-Vestry member (Andy Oravetz, Chair).

You can also speak with <u>Fr. Travis</u> or the other six members on <u>Vestry</u>, get your questions answered, pray about it, wrestle with God, get prayer for it. Be a "hearer" of the word, not just a "doer."

Cheryl Timmons, Vestry