

The Reverends John & Rachel Gardner

John Gardner is a native Virginian, having been born and raised in Martinsville. He graduated from Martinsville High School in 1991. He received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the College of William and Mary in 1995. Before attending Seminary, John worked for several years in the health care field, spending most of that time working for a doctor who specialized in HIV/AIDS research.

Rachel (Wenner) Gardner was raised in the Midwest, spending the first part of her childhood in Michigan and the latter half in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1996, she received her Bachelors of Arts in Studio Art and Sociology from Kalamazoo College in Michigan. Following college, she spent a year volunteering her time with non-profits in Washington, DC, a year teaching kindergarten in Milwaukee, and a year running a soup kitchen in downtown Milwaukee. Her father and step mother are also Episcopal priests, serving in Massachusetts.

John and Rachel both received their **Masters of Divinity** from **Virginia Theological Seminary** (VTS) in 2002. They were betrothed at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Zomba, Malawi while on a mission trip, and were married in 2003. After serving as Priest Associates at separate churches in the Diocese of Milwaukee, they heard the call to minister together, and have been serving Trinity Church since July 2006. Their first child, Boyden Isaac, was born in October, 2006.