

Board & Nominating Com. Nominees

2015 Board of Trustee Nominees

Mark Bradbourne became a member of the church in 2000 and since joining the church he has given his energy to multiple activities including musical performance (percussion) with the choir, with his band, and as a solo artist. He has worked on the church's website, managed the church auction and most recently acted as a member of the music director search committee. Mark works for Harley-Davidson Motor Company as the manager for their Retail Reporting project, which is bringing together the data from the dealerships around the world. He has been working in Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence since 1997 for various companies around Northeast Ohio and is a two time graduate from the University of Akron receiving an Associate of Applied Science in Computer Programming and a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Organizational Communication. He and his wife Rose, who were married in the church in 2001 have two daughters, Jenna (10) and Jillian (6). In his free time he enjoys playing with his band, The Singular, riding his motorcycle and playing Disc (Frisbee) Golf.

Sherry Griswold has been a member of First Unitarian Church since 2005. She has been an active teacher in the Youth Religious Education Program, and has served as co-chair of the Religious Education Committee as well as the Committee to Support the DRE. More recently she has contributed to the work of the Growth and Development Committee and the Stewardship campaign. Before moving to Cleveland, she worked as an x-ray technologist at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston for 13 years, and has a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Leslie University. She is an active fundraiser and organizer for the American Diabetes Association's Tour de Cure, where she is this year's captain of Team Red. She lives in Shaker Heights with her husband Mark, son Gabe and their always happy dog, Ginger.

Jeremy Holmes has been attending the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland for over 30 years and has been a member of the church since 2009. During his time at First Unitarian he has participated in and directed youth musicals, been on the Hire-A-Teen Committee, the Membership Committee, the DRE Search committee, in the Racial Harmony group, and was a member of the UU Players. He has been an advisor of the senior high youth group since 2008. Jeremy has also been active in the Ohio-Meadville District and on the national level of Unitarian Universalism. He has served as the Young Adult Lens for the C.E.R.G. UU Leadership Team Institute, on the O.M.D. Young Adult and Campus Ministry Committee, on the O.M.D. Nominating Committee, and is in his sixth year as a Co-Chair of the O.M.D. UU Young Adult Network. Jeremy works as an Employment Services Supervisor for the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and is the Assistant Coach for the Cleveland Heights High School varsity ice hockey team. He lives in Shaker Hts. with his wife of almost one year, Dr. Erin Holmes, and their dog Conway.

Meg Pauken has been a member First Unitarian since 2003, along with her husband, Kevin Ortnor and her daughters Betsy and Anna. She has served on the Religious Education Committee, Committee on Ministry, Lay Pastoral Care team and currently co-chairs the Stewardship Committee. She was an original founding member of the Young Families Covenant Group and has taught RE nearly every year since joining the church. This year she is a Coming of Age Mentor. Meg practiced law for many years and now works as a freelance writer. She lives in Auburn Township with her family.

2016 Nominating Committee nominees

Tom Gibson became a member of First Unitarian in 1980. Since then, he's been a part of various groups and committees: choir, Music Committee, Communications Committee, Ministry for Earth, the Board of Trustees and the 2015 Nominating Committee. He led the church's effort to create its Permaculture Garden. Prior to retiring in 2009, he had a career in journalism and public relations.

Nancy King Smith has been a member of First Unitarian for more than thirty years and served as President of the Board in 1996-97. She currently chairs the UU Ministry for Earth committee and serves on the 2015 Nominating Committee. She has chaired the national Board of UU Ministry for Earth and is continuing to work with them on environmental justice initiatives. Now retired, she was Executive Director of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes and the Cleveland Children's Museum.

Cynthia Taylor has been a member of First Unitarian Church since 1980. After several years' hiatus, she and her family returned to active membership in 2006. She has served on the Board of Trustees as Vice-President, President, and Past-President, and has been active as an Usher, a member of the Walking Covenant Group, and the Permaculture Garden. She was a facilitator of the first Hybrid UU Leadership Training Institute (H-UULTI) in 2014. Cynthia is the founder of Integrative Psychiatry, LLC. She maintains a private practice in Integrative Psychiatry and is on the teaching faculty in Psychiatry at UH - CWRU.

Frank Wardega became a member of First Unitarian in 2005. Since then, he has served on the board and taught religious education to the High School students in the religious education program. Frank is a business attorney with the firm of Kohrman Jackson & Krantz. While on the board Frank provided pro bono services to the Church by drafting the Church's amended by-laws and in working on the solar panel project and the related contracts.