

# Nominating Committee Candidate Slate 2016

## Board of Trustees Candidates

### Renewing Board Candidates



#### **Paula Bendl Smith (2016-2018)**

Paula came to UUCA in 2011 looking for community and spiritual comfort. Paula joined a Covenant Group and made a point of talking to someone new each Sunday. She has served with VOICE on the mortgage crisis and affordable housing, marched with UUCA Equality in the Gay Pride parade, served coffee and welcomed newcomers on Sundays, served on the Stewardship committee, co-facilitated a covenant group, was a delegate to GA and joined a UUCA delegation to Guatemala. She is grateful for positive, open and compassionate ideas and wants to contribute to right relationships, social justice and helping UUCA Connect, Grow and Serve.

Paula has had considerable experience with policy governance on five previous non-profit boards. She was the founding executive director of a state-wide non-profit child care resource and referral agency in Kentucky, and served as a director of training, technical assistance and partnerships for a national non-profit in Arlington. She is currently a federal project officer for HHS in DC. Paula has two grown daughters in Kentucky and was widowed in 2012.



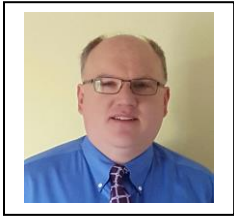
#### **Janice Morris(2016-2018)**

Janice joined UUCA in 2000 and has been increasingly active in various church activities over the years. In addition to serving as an RE teacher for numerous classes, including participating in the 1st and 5th grade OWL programs, she has also been a committed member of a covenant group, taking on a co-facilitator role for the past two years.

One of her most inspiring experiences was traveling to New Orleans on a UUCA service trip after Hurricane Katrina, which sparked her interest in doing more volunteer activities with the church. In addition to previously taking on a leadership role in organizing UUCA's Working Together Weekend, she currently participates in UUCA's monthly Meals on Wheels deliveries. She has helped out with food bagging activities for ASPAN and food service activities for AFAC, and served as a volunteer for the UUCA Service auction this past year.

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## New Board Candidates



### **Al Himes (2016-2018)**

A fourth generation UU, Al was raised in the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Akron, Ohio. Al has been living in Alexandria / Arlington since 2001 and became a member of UUCA in 2004. Al continues to be active in Fellowship X since joining UUCA including 9 years on the Fellowship X Leadership Team. Al also served 10 years as a UUCA Youth Group Advisor, was a part of UUCA's Leaders of Tomorrow program, and more recently has served on the UUCA Services Auction Committee and the Communications Team.

Outside UUCA, Al is the Manager of Metrobus Service Development at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, work that involves a significant amount of community outreach and advocacy with local governments, including an appointment by Alexandria City Council to the City's West End Transitway Policy Advisory Group. Additionally Al is a 2011 graduate of the American Public Transportation Association's Leadership APTA program. Al recently moved from Alexandria to Arlington with his fiancée Jennifer Browne with a wedding date of May 14, 2016.



### **Warren Wright (2016-2018)**

Warren Wright first joined UUCA as a member in 1993. He most recently served as an advisor to the Strategic Planning Committee in 2016. He chaired the Ministerial Search Committee in 2013-2014, was on the Capital Campaign Steering Committee in 2010-2011. He lived in Cleveland from 1996-2006, where he served for 2-years on the Board of Trustees at First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, was on the Religious Education Committee, and taught RE most of those years. Has been a facilitator for the Appreciative Inquiry process, and has authored or contributed to several congregational surveys, and was on the Labyrinth committee from 2007- 2009. Warren's passions are leadership development, entrepreneurship, and using business as a means for social justice. Professionally, Warren is President of CoachingMillennials. He writes, speaks, and consults on the topic of social generations. Warren is married to UUCA member Jennifer Wright. They live in Annandale and have two grown sons.

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## Nominating Committee Candidates



### **Ben D'Avanzo**

Ben D'Avanzo has been a member of UUCA since 2012. He is on his third year of being a high school youth group adviser. His other previous involvement in the church includes membership on the Transition team, Young Adult Group leader, sound technician and Appreciative Inquiry facilitator. He is a lifelong UU and took denomination-wide leadership roles in high school and college. Outside of church, he currently works for Families USA, a healthcare justice advocacy organization, is the president of the Clarendon-Courthouse Civic Association and is on track to complete his Master's in Public Administration at George Washington University in December.



### **Tina Hinh**

Tina Hinh and her husband Jon Ferris joined UUCA in 2011. They have three daughters, Adele (5), Stella (3), and Chloe (newborn). She is a resettlement officer with the United Nations Refugee Agency, based in Washington DC.

After having their first child, Tina and Jon looked at their daughter and realized that they wanted to raise their daughter in a religious community. They found that community in UUCA. Tina's extended family comes from a variety of different religious backgrounds, including buddhism, catholicism, and protestantism, and she is especially drawn to UUCA's emphasis on justice in action and its principle of inclusiveness.

Since joining UUCA in 2011, Tina has been involved in a number of UUCA's ministries, including teaching RE, participating in UUCA's baby club and covenant groups, and for the past three years, has served as a coordinator for the Meals on Wheels volunteer program.

Tina is excited about the opportunity to serve on the Nominating Committee.

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## **Bill Turner**

Bill has been a member of UUCA since 2012 and has been active as an usher, as a greeter at the welcome desk, as a teacher in 6<sup>th</sup>-grade RE, and as an organizer of a circle dinner group. He has helped to plan the UUCA Program Guide and also has given a special tour of the Kennedy Center, where he is active as a volunteer and as an usher, twice as an auction item to benefit UUCA.

Bill has been a volunteer in the breakfast program at Miriam's Kitchen, a service provider for the homeless in Washington, DC, where he also has led a short story reading/discussion group for guests in the life skills/arts therapy program. He is a former president of the Friends of the Arlington Public Library and a former chair of the nominating committee for the District of Columbia Library Association. Bill is a licensed DC tour guide, meeting/greeting and guiding groups from across the nation, after recently retiring as a librarian with the DC Public Library. As a career changer he also has been a college professor, a writer/editor, a school administrator, and a volunteer coordinator.

Bill seeks to connect, serve, and grow in mind and spirit with UUCA as member of the nominating committee.

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## Officer Candidates - Elected Annually



### **Betsey Lyon - Secretary**

Betsey Lyon joined UUCA in 1993, inspired by her children's great religious education experience. She taught RE, has ushered since 1999, and is a covenant group member. She is a long-time volunteer at the Arlington Food Assistance Center with neighbors, family, and the church. Betsey is a retired communications manager for the federal government and national membership associations, who now volunteers locally, especially to advance local get-out-the-vote and precinct efforts. She and husband Jim have called Arlington their adopted hometown since 1982.



### **Peter Vitaliano - Treasurer**

Peter Vitaliano has been a member of UUCA since 1991. He served three years on the Board of Trustees in the mid-1990s and served a term on the RE Council prior to that. He previously served as the Church's Treasurer for two years in the late 1990s, and returned to that position last year. More recently Peter was one of three founding members of the church Audit Committee, and he has been the treasurer for Chalice Theatre for a number of years.



### **Bob Gayer - Assistant Treasurers**

Bob has been a member of the Church since 1984 and involved with money matters from the start, including 10 years as Treasurer. He coordinates UUCA's Buddhist Fellowship and can be found Monday nights in the meditation class. His 34 years in the federal government included Army service, 20 years at Treasury, and 10 years with the Navy.

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## **Gene Mulligan- Assistant Treasurers**

Gene joined the Church in 1959 and the Church Finance Committee in 1966. He served five years as Treasurer and several as Assistant Treasurer. Gene serves as Chair of the Investment Committee that oversees the Endowment and several other Church mutual fund investment accounts. He served as a US Navy officer until 1963 and Bank of America institutional bond investment manager until retiring in 1995. Gene and Dorothy have raised four children through UUCA's cReligious Education Program.