

Nominees for Board of Trustees (vote for 3)

Lucinda Beattie: Nominee for Board of Trustees



My association with First Unitarian Church dates from 1982 when my first husband, the late Reverend Paul Beattie, became the minister of First Unitarian and our family moved to Pittsburgh from Indianapolis, IN. We had always looked on our marriage as a partnership, and I enjoyed being involved in church activities, like the RE Committee and Garden Committee. Following his death in 1989, I stepped back from my First Church activities to focus on raising our three daughters who were 3, 6, and 9 at the time. As a family we continued to be a part of the church, with my daughters attending RE each Sunday through their teenage years. First Church was a place where many people knew and remembered their father, providing a home away from home for them.

In the mid-1990s I served on the Board of Trustees and co-chaired with Jim Reitz and Ken Doyno the Capital Campaign that resulted in the Garden Lobby and the myriad other improvements that were part of that effort. After my youngest daughter left for college in 2004, I took a break from First Church.

In 2001 I began a 20-year career with the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership that included: working on the Coneman Communications Campaign (think Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel rehab); bringing a carsharing program to Pittsburgh; leading the PDP's team on developing a Pittsburgh pedestrian wayfinding program; identifying funding to ensure a T free fare zone in Downtown Pittsburgh; and advocating for additional passenger rail service between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg.

Since retiring in 2020 I've joined the Steering Committee for First Church's Humanist Group, become a member of the Share the Plate team, and write postcards monthly with the Women's Alliance postcard group. I also chaired the Thanksgiving Luncheon in 2023.

Deborah McGuire: Nominee for Board of Trustees



I have been a member of First Unitarian since moving to Pittsburgh in 2008. Before that time, my family were members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton, NY. Both my children were raised UU. When they were preschoolers, I went in search of an RE curriculum that did not preach dogma but instead offered an education of world religions and self discovery. I found that at UUCB, and at the same time a religious home and supportive community for myself. I am so fortunate to have found another such community at First U.

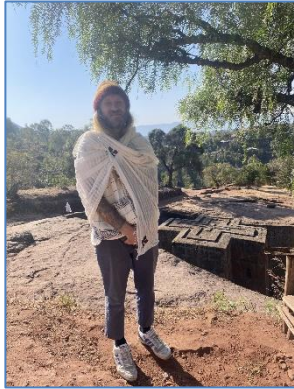
Professionally I have worked in the legal field for most of my adult life, first as a civil litigation paralegal and then as a law firm administrator. When I moved to Pittsburgh I wanted a break from the legal field and searched for employment in nonprofit community service. I found positions at 2 wonderful institutions: Phipps Conservatory and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh. The last 20+ years of my professional life centered around business operations and human resources/relations and supporting my coworkers to find a work life balance. I am now, gratefully, retired.

During my membership at First U, I have supported the community as I was able by volunteering on various fundraising events including the beer tasting done years ago. I also used my professional experience to serve on what at that time was known as the Ministerial Relations Committee. I am

currently involved with the Social Justice group. While at UUCBinghamton, I was an RE teacher and youth group advisor, worked on the Search Committee, and served on the Board for 2 terms.

I look forward to continuing to serve First U on the Board of Trustees.

Casey Taylor: Nominee for Board of Trustees



Casey Taylor has been a member at First Unitarian for nearly three years, joining with his wife Monica and their three children Rory, Kellen, and Logan. He is active as a religious education volunteer, working primarily with 4th - 6th graders and helping them answer big questions about life and their spiritual pursuits. When not at First Unitarian, Casey can be found skateboarding around the city, or working in the Pittsburgh area in market and consumer research. He is also a writer working on his first book for St. Martin's Press about the ethnoreligious history of cannabis, the Rastafari movement, and the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. His theology is Orthodox Tewahedo, but his religion is inclusive and devoutly Unitarian, with an emphasis on the open mind and loving heart.

Nominees for Nominating Committee (vote for 3)

Laura Gallagher: Nominee for Nominating Committee



I gave my testimony last year as part of the pledge drive and shared that I had been baptized in the Episcopal church; spent a decade as an evangelical Christian; joined my husband in the Roman Catholic church when we married in 1989.

My path as an English major had several starts and stops, and culminated in my working as the administrative assistant in Public Relations at St. Francis Medical Center for 10 years.

I was a stay-at-home mother to our two daughters, Emily and Lauren, volunteering at church and parochial school, assisting in Girl Scout Troops, and playing violin in a civic orchestra.

When my husband passed away in 2007 I went back to work as a secretary. Ten years working for the State of Pennsylvania rounded out my career until retirement in 2019.

For 13 years I grounded my spiritual yearnings in the work of Al-Anon, a 12 Step program for families and friends of alcoholics; began writing poetry; and became more acutely aware of the socio-political changes that were happening nationwide and globally.

During the pandemic quarantine I joined 1st Unitarian of Pittsburgh remotely. Now I enjoy activism through PIIN, in which I've canvassed alongside people from other faith organizations to do Integrated Voter Engagement. I joined the Racial Justice Task Force and now the subset Environmental Task Force.

The Women's Alliance is a source of stimulating friendships and good works. The Covenant Group to which I was invited is now a mainstay of my attachment to the community. One Sunday a month I usher.

The most interior ministry work I've been engaged in, and still have much to learn about and understand, is The Leading Edge group conducted by Paula Cole Jones, in the pursuit of communities of communities.

Hugh McGough: Nominee for Nominating Committee



I grew up just a few blocks away from our church but did not enter the building until 2002, when I attended a recital featuring Kris Rust, who later became my husband. I was drawn into the congregation by the consistently warm welcome I received and by my visceral affinity for the UU Principles and world view.

As a member, I have assisted with religious education, served as a "Coming of Age" mentor and chaperoned a weekend for youth in Washington, DC. I sing in the choir, have served on the Social Justice Endowment review committee, and am adept at operating the church's semi-automatic dish washer.

For 10 years I have been a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, including several years as chair of the Autism in the Courts Workgroup. Previously, I was a magisterial district judge for four years in the East End of Pittsburgh. Prior to law school, I worked in print and broadcast news. I was an early volunteer with the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force, serving as Board President and as a pro bono attorney. I have also volunteered with Humane Animal Rescue (adopting no fewer than six dogs and cats), the Renaissance City Choirs, and am a former Board President of the Gemini Children's Theater. Board of Trustees 2025-2028

Kathleen J. Miller "Kathy" : Nominee for Nominating Committee



I've been attending First UU since 1999 when I moved to Pittsburgh as a newly-single parent with my 10 year old son, Phillip Miller Lyons. I became a member a few years later when I decided to join the congregation in order to be able to express my voice for an important vote.

Throughout the years I've participated in church life in a variety of ways: as a member of one of the original Covenant Groups, as a volunteer on the Grounds/ Garden Committee, as a member of the now-defunct Triple U's (Unattached UU's), as a member of the Writing Salon, as Coffee Hostess for Sunday Coffee Hour & The Forum (Rev Herndon created a paid position for this role), as the First UU representative on the PIIN

Public Safety Task Force, as a member of the Bridge Team at the time the BLM banner was installed, as a member of Joyful Noise, as a reader during Poetry Readings, as part of the Lay Leadership team during the time before an interim minister was hired, as a member of both WomenSpirit & Women's Alliance, as an Usher & Greeter.

I am currently on the Pastoral Care Team and in an all-women Covenant Group. Recently I had a lot of fun making & serving "Malcolm's Chili" for the First Annual Chili Cook-off.

My lovely spouse, Christine Beregi, and I were the first congregational couple at First UU to be married by Rev. Kate. We bring our grandsons, Malcolm & Emmett Lyons, with us to church as often as possible. Our church friends make up the bulk of our local social circle and we're very okay with