

Recommendations from the Nominating Committee for 2020–2021

Boldface type indicates those who require a vote by the congregation

POSITION	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
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Board of Trustees

New trustees (three-year term)	Sarah Hedge	2023 (first term)
	Greg Hoelzer	2023 (first term)
Continuing Trustees	Bryana French	2023 (second term)
	Christa Anders	2021 (second term)
	Keven Ambrus	2021 (first term)
	Kristin Siegesmund	2021 (first term)
	Daryn Woodson	2022 (first term)
	Benjamin Miles	2022 (first term)
Dan Moriarty	2022 (first term)	
Officers (one-year term)	Bryana French, President	
	Kristin Siegesmund, Vice President	
	Keven Ambrus, Treasurer	
	Christa Anders, Secretary	

Foundation Board

Chair (one-year term)	Suzan Klein	
Continuing Members	Suzan Klein	2023 (second term)
	Anne McBean	2023 (second term)
	Jill Andersen	2021 (second term)
	John Bringewatt	2021 (first term)
	Ginny Halloran	2021 (first term)
	Rochelle Hammer	2021 (first term)
	Leila Ambrus	2022 (first term)
	Jared Cruz	2022 (first term)
Roberta Haskin	2022 (first term)	

Nominating Committee

Chair (one-year term)	<i>Appointed by Board of Trustees</i>	
New Members (three-year term)	Ray Dillon	2023 (first term)
Continuing Members	Jim Ramnaraine	2023 (second term)
	Sharon Ramirez	2021 (second term)
	Pat Gottschalk	2022 (second term)
	Janet Avery	2022 (first term)
Cathy Manning	2022 (first term)	

Delegates to the 2020 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association



First Universalist Church of Minneapolis

Nominating Committee Recommendations

Nominees for Officers of the Board of Trustees



Bryana French, President

Bryana has been a member of First Universalist since 2015 and is happy to serve a second term on the Board of Trustees and as the President of the Congregation. She is an Associate Professor at the University of St. Thomas' Graduate School of Professional Psychology where she specializes in multicultural counseling and social justice psychology. She consults locally and nationally on diversity, equity, and inclusion and brings this lens to the Board of Trustees. Bryana recently married Ben, by Rev. Schroeder in August 2019, and has two amazing step-kids and a dog.



Kristin Siegesmund, Vice President

Kristin has attended First Universalist for 23 years along with her partner, Suzann, and her daughter, Kathleen. Over the years, Kristin has been active in RE, is a past co-chair of the stewardship campaign, and was on the Foundation Board for six years. She has participated in Habitat builds, Circle Suppers, and small groups as a participant and facilitator. Kristin has practiced law since 1980 and worked at Legal Aid for 23 years. She now is a District Court Judge in Hennepin County.



Keven Ambrus, Treasurer

Keven and his wife, Jill, joined the church when their two daughters Muriel (19) and Leila (17) were little girls. After watching the girls grow up in the church and Jill become more active with the Racial Justice program, Keven decided his contribution would be volunteering to be a worship associate. Professionally, Keven has worked in the finance arena for over 25 years and really enjoys his work. One of the things that Keven is proudest of is the fact that he was raised by a strong black woman who taught him the value of education, family, and love.



Christa Anders, Secretary

Christa Anders and her partner, Tom MacLeod, joined First Universalist in 1996 when they were expecting their first child and looking for a faith community in which to nurture their family. Christa has served in a variety of roles at church—many of them involving Religious Education. In her professional life, she is a partner in a small public policy consulting firm focused on improving the lives of low-income children and families. She is trained as an attorney and policy analyst and has experience working with nonprofits and government organizations.

Nominating Committee Recommendations

Nominees for Board of Trustees



Sarah Hedge

Sarah has been attending First Universalist since 2002. You can typically see her on Sunday mornings with her three children who have been Religious Education participants and staff: Hirut (19), Helen (16), and Binyam (13). Over the years, Sarah has been involved in a variety of ways at church: advocating for anti-racist practices with the Change Team, co-facilitating and chaperoning Youth Cultural Exchange, teaching 7th grade Neighboring Faiths, serving as chaperone on the high school Boston Pilgrimage, and many years ago, facilitating the Young Adult Group. Sarah is a special education resource teacher, currently focused on including kindergarteners with a variety of disabilities in mainstream classrooms, at a community school in Minneapolis Public Schools. She continuously strives to bring a lens of equity and access to all she does.



Greg Hoelzer

Greg has been a member of First Universalist for over 25 years. He has served in many capacities, including on the Nominating Committee, Membership Committee, Choir, and Circle Supper activity leader with wife Marybeth. Greg has had a long career in software development and information technology in variety of leadership, project management, architecture and technical sales roles. Greg is currently a Cloud Sales Specialist, supporting accounts across the Upper Midwest. Greg and Marybeth are proud new grandparents of Callan North Hartman, born this past September. Residents of South Minneapolis, they take advantage of our status as a “Foodie” city (mainly take-out recently), our parks/trails, and lakes in the summer. First Universalist has always been a “common ground” in Greg and Marybeth’s lives, providing a spiritual home and instilling a sense of service toward our larger community.

Nominee for Chair of the First Universalist Foundation Board



Suzan Klein

Involved with First Universalist for six years, Suzan has been a member since 2016 and is grateful for the many ways First Universalist has enriched her inner world and invited her to employ new filters to understand and engage with the outer world. For Suzan, leadership is about fostering an environment that involves voices, evolves conversations, and resolves for meaningful outcomes. Having worked as a facilitator for 10 years, Suzan is employed as Business Manager for the Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association. She is honored to serve the Church and broader Twin Cities community through the Foundation Board and is looking forward to exploring with fellow board members new possibilities to deepen the Foundation’s impact.

Nominee for Nominating Committee



Ray Dillon

Ray joined First Universalist in May of 2015. In gratitude and love for this church, he has taken to heart our covenant to deepen our relationships and to sustain each other on our individual faith journeys. He sings in the choir, has participated in many Circles, and has taken very active roles in Daytime Connections and the effort to improve the use of the church database. He is a retired elementary school teacher who enjoys piano, poetry, history, and a passion for Cairn Terriers that he shares with his husband Dick.