

UUCS Board of Trustees Nominees 2024

Cindy Fine, UUCS Board Nominee

I've been a member of the UUCS for 37 years. My two adult daughters Katie and Nora grew up in the church. Over the years I volunteered for a variety of programs: OWL facilitator, RE teacher, and personnel team. I was on the search team that brought Todd to our church and for several years I worked as the RE assistant.

In my working life I held a variety of social service positions including Community Health Educator at Planned Parenthood, and Planning Coordinator at Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington (ALTCEW).

I've been happily retired for the past two years, enjoying time for travel and grandkids. I continue to be involved with ALTCEW as a volunteer for their Dementia Friendly Spokane program.

I hope to continue to serve the UUCS as a board member as we navigate our next steps forward as a church that champions freedom, reason and tolerance.

Justin Bell, UUCS Board Nominee

My first encounter with Unitarians or Universalists was at a UU summer camp in 1986. My sole reason for attending was to pursue a charming woman I had recently met. Karen was the folk dance teacher at this UU camp in Southern Calif. My pursuit paid off. Karen and I married about a year later. We are still happily married 37 years later. We attended these week-long UU camps together for about 20 years. Karen remained the dance teacher. Later I became the camp massage teacher.

I left California in July 2007 and first attended the UU church in Spokane in early 2008. When I first attended, I was already familiar with several people at the church whom I had met volunteering with two groups: Spokane Alliance and Sustainable Works. I felt at home. I had a very strong interest in ecology and alternative energy. These two Spokane groups and the UU church fit my needs. I continued volunteering with these groups for a couple more years. Later, I was one of the founding members of a group now known as the Vet's Garage. The goal was to provide a gathering place for vets, teach various skills and provide treatment for those few suffering from PTSD. Being a veteran (Sgt USAF), I was aware of the problems that certain vets have with mental issues, drinking and not being able to fit back into society.

My life history, background and goals include a wide variety of things that are compatible with UU goals. I am very interested in marine ecology. I was for 10 years a volunteer narrator on whale watch boats where I provided a brief and simple description of the whales, dolphins and sea lions found along the California coast. I have helped produce a small video on bio-diesel production that is on YouTube today*. I attended master composting classes* and was an active composter (until I moved a year ago). I drive a Prius. I built a simple water recycling system that ultimately recycled several hundred thousand gallons of laundry water. I am interested in extending a friendly hand across the waters to those in foreign lands. Karen and I visited Felsőrákos in 2010 and 2015. When I was with the

Spokane Alliance, I spoke out at several public meetings about problems with asbestos and sick time for employees. I served briefly on the church security team and I helped install the church security video system.

I am pleased to be invited to serve on the UU board of directors.

Justin Bell

*YouTube– Biodiesel with Dr. Frank Navratil

Endowment Team Nominees

Shane Gronholz — 3 year term

Mary Giannini – 3 year term

Tom Brattebo – 3 year term