

## **Slate of Nominees**

### **Trustees at Large (two-year term 2008-2010)**

#### **Rick Fierberg (Unitarian Church in Westport (CT))**

Rick first attended the Unitarian Church in Westport in 1999 and became a member in early 2001 after relocating from New York. He is a graduate of the University of Rochester and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University, and is currently an attorney and mediator in private practice. In addition to personal participation in congregational life through year-round Sunday worship, weekly chant and meditation, and numerous Odyssey adult religious education offerings, Rick has contributed to the Unitarian Church in Westport as a religious education teacher and member of the Vision 2028, Camp Jewell, Green Sanctuary, Canvass, Nominating, and Vision Mission Covenant committees. Rick is currently a member of the District board.

#### **Janice Marie Johnson (Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan))**

Janice is Director of Lifespan Religious Education at the Community Church of New York UU. She is co-recipient of the UUA President's Volunteerism Award (2006), a member of the UUA's Board of Review, a past member of the UUA's Commission on Appraisal, and former president of Diverse and Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries. She serves on the UUA's Journey Towards Wholeness Transformation Committee, the UU Leadership Team Institute design team, the Church of the Larger Fellowship Nominating Committee, the UUA's Peacemaking Congregational Study/Action Issue Core Team, and the Interfaith Alliance's Youth Leadership Education Advancing Democracy and Diversity Program design team. She is a member of the board of the UU Women's Heritage Society and the UU Representative for the Consultation on Interfaith Education. An energetic lay leader, Janice brings gifts of listening, collaboration, and reconciliation, coupled with a deep understanding and vision of both congregational life and governance.

#### **Toby Tyler (Morristown (NJ) Unitarian Fellowship)**

Toby has been involved with the Morristown Fellowship for more than 20 years. He is currently a member of the Fellowship's Public Relations Committee, a member of the Right Relations Task Force, and a religious education teacher. He has served as president and treasurer and as a member of the Social Responsibility Committee, the Committee of Ministries, the Finance Committee, and the Building Committee. He also served as president of the First Unitarian Society of Westchester (Hastings-on-Hudson NY). Toby is currently a member of the District board.

#### **Rev. Cheryl Walker (Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan))**

Cheryl currently serves as Assistant Minister at the Unitarian Church of All Souls (Manhattan). Prior to All Souls she served as Intern Minister at the Unitarian Church of Montclair (NJ) and as a chaplain at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. As a member of the Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan), Cheryl has been active in the Homeless Shelter, the anti-racism team, and adult education. Cheryl received her Master of Divinity degree from the Union Theological Seminary in New York and also holds a degree in mathematics from Springfield College. Cheryl is currently a member of the District board.

## **Nominating Committee**

### **One-year term 2008-2009**

#### **Doug Rhodes (UU Congregation of Princeton (NJ)), Chair**

Doug is completing eight years as District Ministerial Settlement Representative, having advised 26 search committees in their efforts to find ministers for their congregations. Doug served on the District board for eight years as treasurer, vice president, and president (1995-1999), and also served as chair of the District Presidents Association for three years. Doug has served his home congregation as president and as chair of the Religious Education, Finance, Pledge Campaigns, Programs/Membership, and Appraisal and Review committees. Currently, Doug is a member of Princeton's Committee on Ministry, the Social Justice Committee, and the Exploratory Committee for establishing a statewide UU legislative ministry in New Jersey.

#### **Kirsten Henrickson (Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (NJ))**

Kris has been a member of the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood for 33 years. For the last four years she has served on the District board, most recently as vice-president. During her years at the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, she has filled many roles including board president and small group ministry facilitator, but her current favorite job is serving as chair of the Internship Committee where she guides the congregation in becoming a Teaching Congregation as she supports the growth of this year's intern minister.

### **Two-year term 2008-2010**

#### **Rev. Jennifer Brower (UU Congregation at Shelter Rock (Manhasset NY))**

Jennifer was called to the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in 2002, having served congregations in New York City and East Brunswick NJ. A graduate of Ohio University, Athens OH, she holds a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Jennifer is a former member of the District Growth and Extension Committee. She has led UU workshops on spirituality and health, spiritual practice, and small group ministry. Jennifer's ministry in the larger community includes work with the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine and with organizations serving the needs of people living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. She is the author of an essay on Faith, Spirituality and Aging, which was a website companion piece for the *Frontline* documentary, "Living Old."

#### **Rev. Susan Rak (Unitarian Society, A UU Congregation (East Brunswick NJ))**

Susan currently is minister of the Unitarian Society, a UU Congregation (East Brunswick NJ). She has also served UU congregations in Flushing NY, Stratford CT, Levittown PA, and the Community Church of New York UU in that capacity. Prior to that, she was Program Consultant in the Joseph Priestly District for four years and Director of Religious Education for UU congregations in Cherry Hill NJ, Newark DE, and Albany NY. She has also been a member of the District board, the Joseph Priestly District Religious Education Committee, the St. Lawrence District Religious Education Committee, and the UUA Religious Education Futures Committee.

#### **Rev. Paul Ratzlaff (UU Fellowship of Huntington (NY))**

Since August 2004, Paul has served as minister of the UU Fellowship of Huntington (NY). His 30+ years of UU ministry have been in the Metro NY District. He previously served as president of the District Chapter of the UU Ministers Association. Currently he serves on the Steering Committee of the Long Island Leadership Institute, which helps train our next generation of congregational leaders. He is married to Barbara, and they have two grown children. Barbara and he live in Northport NY.