

District Nominating Committee Presents 2006 Slate

The Nominating Committee of the Metro NY District (Jim Bridges (Chair), Holly Bussey, Eddie Hadden, Shelly Psaris, and Frances Sink) presents the following nominees for the slate at the 2006 Annual Meeting, April 28-29, 2006.

Board of Trustees: Trustees at Large (2-year terms 2006-2008)

Alexandra Collier (Unitarian Church of All Souls (Manhattan)) Alexandra has the energy and passion that continue to bring excitement to the Board and to our District. She's chair of the Young Adult program at All Souls, the largest Young Adult group in our District. She's been chair of Denominational Affairs and a religious education teacher for 7th and 8th graders ("Race to Justice"). She's been elected to be a delegate to General Assembly 2006 in St Louis. Alex is definitely a "GA Junkie" as she's been delegate to several GAs including Fort Worth and Long Beach. Additionally, she's been co-chair for the UU-United Nations Office Annual Intergenerational Spring Seminar (2005). She's been a member of All Souls for only three years, but her five-year involvement in her congregation and the District is inspiring!

Richard Fierberg (Unitarian Church in Westport (CT)) Five years in this district has catapulted Richard into a man of action. He's spear-heading the Green Sanctuary program and is also developing an Addictions Ministry. In the past, he's been involved with canvassing, religious education, Visioning Steering Committee, Caring Committee, and other activities. He's honored to be nominated for this position.

Douglas Ford (UU Congregation of Somerset Hills (North Branch NJ)) Douglas is seeking a second term to the District Board. In his congregation, he's chair of Worship Associates and is part of the Committee on Ministry. In the past he's chaired Adult Education, Strategic Planning, Sabbatical Task Force. Previously part of the Morristown Fellowship, Douglas was active on the Board of Trustees, Board Secretary and Chair of Ministerial Relations.

Joanne Hammer (UU Fellowship at Stony Brook (NY)) Joanne has been associated with her congregation and this District for 30 years. Her activities are varied and include two terms as congregational president and four years as finance chair. She's also been co-chair for the Pastoral Assistant program (shared ministry) and on the music committee for many years (yes, she sings too!). At the District level, she's been president of the Long Island Area Council for three years and has been active in numerous fund raising activities at all levels.

Toby Tyler (Morristown (NJ) Unitarian Fellowship) Toby is seeking re-election for another two year term to the District Board. He's been involved with the Morristown Fellowship for 20 and with the District for 25 years. His activities include public relations, Committee on Ministry, religious education teacher. He's also served as congregational president, vice president, and treasurer. Toby looks forward to continuing to serve the District and this faith movement.

Rev. Cheryl Walker (Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan)) Cheryl currently serves as the 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.

NOTE: If elected, the preceding will join the following board members continuing their two-year terms that end in 2007: Jerry Muntz (president), Kim Andersen, Richard Bock, Rev. David Bryce, Ted Fetter, John Hawkins, Kirsten Henrickson, and Rev. Susan Rak.

Nominating Committee (1-year terms 2006-2007)

Frances Sink (Unitarian Church in Westport (CT)), Chair Frances has been a member of Westport congregation since 1994. She currently chairs the Associate Minister Search Committee. Frances has served on the Westport Board of Trustees, chairing it for two years. She has also chaired and served on the Membership and Safe Congregations Committees. She chaired the Social Justice Steering Committee to hire a Social Justice Director and currently serves on the Social Justice Council. She has been a religious education teacher and is a choir member. She has made two partner church pilgrimages to Transylvania in 2003 and 2005. She has been a delegate to District annual meetings and General Assembly. Frances is a licensed clinical psychologist. She lives in Wilton CT with her husband, Victor Olsen, and son, Peter, who is a member of the Westport Youth Group.

Lisa Bredbenner (UU Congregation of Monmouth County (Lincroft NJ)) Lisa was born in South America and came to the US in 1977 to start college. She began searching for a religious home for her family when her twins were born. Lisa found it in the UU Congregation in Lincroft in 1995. Since then, Lisa's been active in many ways. She's served on the Board and has always been involved with religious education, including being Vice President of Religious Education, teaching classes, and serving on the Director of Religious Education Search Committee. Lisa's committee life has been extensive, ranging from Community Life to the 50th Anniversary Committee. She helped create the Committee on Ministry and chaired the Governance Structure Committee. She's also been instrumental in helping the congregation leadership move towards a Policy Governance model. Lisa is presently serving as president of the congregation. Her term ends in June 2006, and she now looks forward to participating at the District level.

Rev. Hope Johnson (Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan)) Hope serves as Consulting Minister at the UU Congregation of Central Nassau (Garden City NY). She describes herself as "Jamaican, by way of the world." Hope's daughter Jova is a youth leader. Hope credits much of their involvement and success to family – both familial and extended – and to Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan), their home congregation. Hope's volunteer service includes: member, Nominating Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association; member, Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression and Multicultural Committee; member, Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association; member, Steering Committee of the Diverse and

Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries; Jubilee World Trainer; co-chair, District Anti-Racism and Diversity Committee; and board member, UNILEAD leadership school. Former service includes: trustee at large, District Board; and adult-at-large member, Youth Council of the Young Religious UUs.

Carolyn Musser (Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (NJ)) Carolyn has been a member of the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood for more than 20 years. Over the years she has served on numerous committees as well as serving as trustee, secretary, and vice president. She is currently completing her third and last year as president. She has been the beneficiary of numerous District round tables and annual meetings as well as attendance at three General Assemblies (Phoenix, Long Beach and Boston). She retired as the grants officer of New York City Technical College in 2000 but has begun to dabble in grants development once again as a volunteer. Carolyn has two children and four adult grandchildren scattered all over the US. A fifth grandchild is due in June.

Shelly Psaris (UU Fellowship at Stony Brook (NY)) Shelly is active in our denomination in many capacities. In her congregation, she is co-chair of the Committee on Ministries of the Congregation and a Worship Assistant. She has been a member of the Nominating Committee and the Religious Education Committee and has served on the Board of Directors. At the District level, she is currently a member of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Her other activities include having served as president of the Long Island Area Council, and she's been active in Habitat for Humanity.