



## 2025 Annual Meeting

### Leadership Candidates

This list is all open positions currently up for election for the term beginning in 2025-2026 and does not include the names of members previously elected and serving a current term. Please see the [Bylaws](#) for a specific list of elected committee and governing board positions.

#### **Governing Board**

##### **Officers**

Justin Fisher, President, 2025-2027

Gary Crevier, Vice-President, 2025-2026

Beth De Stasio, Treasurer, 2025-2027

##### **Board Members-at-Large**

Jerry Behrendt, 2025-2027

Ligia Rivera, 2025-2027

##### **Leadership Development**

Constance Harrington, 2025-2027

Ben Hendrickson, 2025-2027

Helene Iverson, 2025-2027

Bradley Shipps, 2025-2026 (completing a vacancy)

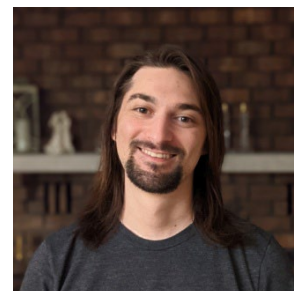
**See pictures of all the candidates and read their bios below...**



## **Governing Board Candidates:**

### **Justin Fisher**

I am delighted to be nominated to serve and represent our Fellowship. We are in turbulent times, and although challenges are on our horizon, I feel now, more than ever, is the right time to lean in to our community. We are not alone when we have each other. I hope you feel love and support from our community. If you have been unsettled by the current world affairs, then I hope you feel emboldened knowing that we can make a difference together!



You may have met me through my work on our Leadership Development Committee, Journey Group, Men's Group, or the many other activities I've participated in over my past eight years as a member. I served as our Vice President this last year and have had the pleasure of being mentored by Dana Johnson and Sam Zinth. I am grateful for our amazing board members and feel that we are in good hands. In combination with a strong executive team, I think we will be able to guide our community in a way that reflects our values.

Personally, I have two kids and a puppy at home, Clara, Leo, and Shadow, and a loving wife Ann. The past two years we have hosted two incredible families who fled the war in Ukraine. In my free time, I enjoy tinkering with computers, camping, hiking, and being with my family. Professionally, I have worked as a software developer for over 15 years.

### **Gary Crevier**

My passion for social justice is one of the main reasons I am a member of the UU Fellowship for two years now. I am a member of our Green Sanctuary and volunteer with my wife Helen here at the Fellowship whenever and wherever we can.

Over my past 19 years of retirement I've served on the board of the Fox Valley Warming Shelter and am presently on the board of ESTHER of the Fox Valley where I continue to work for social justice. Whenever the dignity of anyone or any part of creation is being abused, threatened or disrespected so is our own dignity, and the good of the community.



I enjoy riding out in nature on my e-bike, reading, meeting new people and enjoying Helen's cooking.



### **Beth De Stasio**

I and my husband Bart were introduced to Unitarian Universalism in Providence, RI after being recruited by a friend. The leader of that congregation was Buddhist and a dynamic speaker, and we were intrigued.

We joined the congregation in Madison while we lived there for 3 years and then joined the Fellowship in Appleton when we moved to Appleton in 1992. I served as a religious education teacher many times, was the chair of the landscape committee for several years, and am a co-leader of the Heart-to-Heart couples' retreat. I've had some experience on a board of directors, first at Project Bridges Day Care and later at the national level for the Genetic Society of America. Our two sons were raised in this Fellowship and are living their UU values.

I am happy to continue to serve the Fellowship in this way. My gratitude and love for the people who preceded me and those to come is deep. Thank you all for the support and spiritual challenges this community has provided to me and my family.



### **Jerry Behrendt**

I began attending the Fellowship in 2016. My wife Amy and I came looking for a faith that aligned with our values which is exactly what we found at the Fellowship. Our children, Peyton and Tyson, have benefited greatly from attending RE and being part of this welcoming community. I've been grateful to be part of the Fellowship ever since. I've previously served on the Leadership Development Committee and volunteered as an usher.

I have a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from UW-Milwaukee and I've worked in IT management for 25 years. I have successfully petitioned a large fast food chain to add a novelty item to their menu. I love to travel, fish, and play Dungeons & Dragons with friends both new and old. I consider myself to be a competent cook, an adequate photographer, and a reliable source of dad jokes.





### **Ligia Rivera**

I've been a member of the Fellowship since 2005.

I joined the Immigration Justice team in 2019. Learning about CAPAS and assisting two asylum-seeker families have been very spirituality fulfilling. I am volunteering with Hope and Help Together, a local non-profit which welcomes immigrants to our area.



I retired in 2018 from Kimberly-Clark Research & Development after 25 yrs. doing consumer-based product development in both the U.S. and Internationally. Prior to that, I worked for Colgate-Palmolive 10 yrs. in New Jersey. As a member of the League of Women Voters Appleton-Fox Cities, I was part of the Diversity team for 3 yrs and in 2019 co-chaired a two-year study of Climate Change Preparedness & Resilience for our tri-county area. I also enjoy researching the latest advancements in Healthy Aging and Brain health using the principles of Functional Medicine.

I am forever grateful for the spiritual home and support this Fellowship provided to my wife Miriam Douglass and me when we were seeking to be legally married in 2014. We enjoy traveling and organic gardening. My favorite exercise is Zumba.

### **Leadership Development Committee Candidates:**

#### **Constance (Connie) Harrington**

I am an active member of the Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for about a year. My family—husband Richard and daughter Maisie— are the heart of my life, offering daily inspiration and grounding.



Professionally, I have devoted my career to human services, focusing on supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I hold a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology, equipping me with the skills to provide empathetic and effective support. Further enhancing my leadership capabilities, I am a graduate of the National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities, an organization committed to preparing the next generation of leaders in the field.

Within the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, I contribute to the spiritual and communal life of the congregation. I lead a Journey Group, facilitating deep, reflective conversations that foster personal growth and strengthen communal bonds. Additionally, I volunteer in the Religious Exploration program, guiding children in exploring UU principles and nurturing their spiritual development. In my new leadership role within the UU community, I am committed to ensuring a welcoming space where all individuals feel valued and empowered to contribute their unique gifts. My vision encompasses deepening connections among members, engaging in meaningful service, and nurturing a vibrant, compassionate congregation.



### **Ben Hendrickson**

I have lived in the Fox Valley for the last 25 years. My wife Veronica and I have 4 children and 2 pups (Princess Leia and Archer). I love being involved in youth activities and have been a coach with Parks and Rec soccer for 11 years. We joined the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship two years ago and have enjoyed our time as part of this fellowship. We love the opportunities that have come as part of it to truly practice our faith by showing love and care for others and our world.



### **Helene Iverson**

Helene Iverson joined the Fellowship more than seven years ago. She is a retired elementary educator. Volunteers at Leaven and NAMI, and is a member of AAUW. An avid reader, traveler and grandmother; and still trying to learn Spanish and golf.



### **Bradley Shipps**

Bradley has been a UU for 25 years and member of the Fellowship for 15 years. She has held a variety of volunteer roles at the Fellowship including serving on the Wellspring committee, as an RE volunteer, making coffee, ushering, and serving on the board. Bradley works in library administration. She lives in Appleton and her daughter, Hollyn, is 13.

