

St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church

Candidates for board and other leadership positions for congregational vote June 5, 2022

Thank you to the following members who are offering their time and talents as new Leadership Committee, Fund Trustees, and Board of Trustee members. Their terms will begin on July 1, 2022.

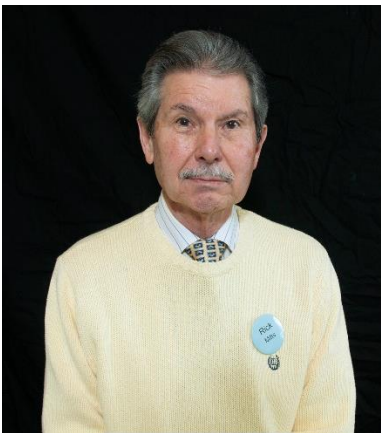
All members, please plan to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday June 5, and vote to confirm these members. Below are photos and brief bios.

Leadership Committee:



Bill Gordon – 2-year term

Nancy Johnson, my wife, and I have been members of St. John's for more than 20 years and think of the church as our spiritual home. Over the years I have served the church in lots of different ways. I spent 8 years teaching middle schoolers in the RE program. I was a member of the Nominating Committee (now called the Leadership Committee) for a couple of years. Since I know something about software, I was asked to help with the first St. John's web site. Ever since, I have been either formally or informally involved with the tech team.



Charles "Rick" Mitts – 1-year term

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to St. John's as a member of the congregation's Leadership Committee. If elected, I will do my best to fulfill the responsibilities of this position. I will give this work the same effort that I have given the opportunity to create name badges for St. John's members. I am a retired STEM educator.

It is still a relatively new field in education. I have written several articles for my professional journal, *The Technology and Engineering Teacher*, and served two terms as a peer reviewer for this journal. As a young teacher here in Cincinnati I was a teacher's union activist and leader. I was also active in the movement against the Vietnam War and other social justice work in support of women's, Black, and gay rights.

The first time I was here at St. John's was as the chairperson for a regional meeting to organize support for a national anti-war march. I served as one of three rotating chairpersons in the Cincinnati Peace Coalition. When I returned to St. John's, approximately three years ago, it was because a PEW research study ranked UUs as the second-most well educated religious group in the U.S. What I hoped to do was make the connection between STEM knowledge and morality. UU moral principles and its openness to science make this a reasonable aspiration. It gives me hope, especially with the onset of the climate crisis. It is estimated that Cincinnati will be the destination of 500,000 climate refugees.

I am married to Connie. She creates beautiful altar flowers and I do buttons.

We are a team. The first time I saw her she was waiting in line to board the school bus home in elementary school. I was instantly smitten. Love requires commitment. We've been married 54 years, evidence that when I make a love-based commitment, I stick to it; even when it gets hard. I love St. John's. If the members think I am worthy of a place on the Leadership Committee, I will do my best. And I will stick to it even if it gets hard. Love is its own reward.



Alicia Rosselot

Alicia renewed her St. John's membership in 2015. She has volunteered in many ways, with much of her time devoted to children in the Religious Life program and serving as the Religious Life Team Leader since July 2019. She served on the outreach committee from 2019-2022. She often helps behind the scenes to create successful programs at St. John's. She is artistic and optimistic.

Fund Trustees:



Linda Heath – 2-year term

I'm asking for your vote to be one of the two elected Fund Trustees. The Fund Trustees oversee the investments in St. John's three endowment funds – Legacy, Miller-Lorentz Property, and Music. They also ensure expenditures from the funds follow each fund's charter.

As a long-time member, I've volunteered in many ways. Currently I'm a member on the Outreach Team and on the newly formed Reproductive Justice Team within KUJJAN (Kentucky UU Justice Action Network).

I love the outdoors, traveling, and learning new things. I value St. John's for my friendships and it's being religiously progressive. Our voices and actions are needed now, so I'm happy to serve St. John's as a Fund Trustee.



Nancy Johnson – 1-year term

My husband, Bill Gordon, and I have been members of St. John's for more than 20 years. I have served on the Board, on various committees, and most recently, as the coordinator of the Morning Reflection zoom group, which has been meeting two to three times a week for more than two years. I grew up in a household that lived paycheck to paycheck, so investing and finance were not part of my background. But I have learned more about investing through my work as a tax preparer for H&R Block and as a result of conversations with

our son, David Gordon-Johnson, who works as an associate wealth management advisor for Northwestern Mutual when he isn't on stage or baking bread. I would be glad to have the opportunity to serve St. John's as a Fund Trustee.

Board Positions

Member at Large:



Ann Schuur – 3-year term

Hello. I joined St. John’s in 1989 when my son was just a babe in arms. I have served the community in many ways over the years: as a Religious Education teacher, a member of Caring Circle, a Board Member, a member of a Ministerial Search Committee. I have served on the Committee on Ministry and on the Leadership Committee. Some of my “best” service has been in the kitchen, doing dishes, chopping food and sipping coffee with my fellow St. Johners. I am a retired social worker, residing in Finneytown with my husband, Rich Overturf. I am willing to commit the time and effort as a

board member because I love this community.

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Vice President:



Anne Fleischer – 3-year term (1 year as Vice President, 1 year as President, 1 year as Immediate Past President)

Anne Fleischer is an associate professor in occupational therapy at the University of Cincinnati. Prior to coming to Cincinnati in 2020, she worked for 24 years as an occupational therapist at Wake Forest Baptist Health and 10 of these years was as a manager. While working, she pursued her Ph.D. in occupational therapy and in 2015 accepted her first faculty position at Eastern Kentucky University.

Beyond her professional life, she has been married for over 30 years and has three adult children. She was involved with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, from 1996 until she left in 2015. She was the chair of the Caring Committee, led Small Groups, co-taught in religious education, and volunteered in a variety of committees: clothing closet, making coffee, auction, etc. As a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Lexington Kentucky, she was a greeter, member of a women's group (Penny Circle) and volunteered in a soup kitchen. She became a member at St. John’s in 2021 and has served on the AV Team and the Caring Circle. She is eager to work with the broader community as the Vice-President.

Formalizing changes made this year:

Mike Johnson and Zoe Waldridge’s roles

Mike and Zoe were elected to the Board in 2021 to serve as Programming Director and Member at Large, respectively. When Chris Wagner resigned to become Treasurer, Mike was appointed by the Board to serve as Finance Director, and Zoe was appointed to be Programming Director. According to the bylaws, the congregation votes at the next annual meeting on these changes so the two can officially continue their unexpired terms.