

# Considering Running for Member of the Board or President-Elect of Our UUC Congregation?

## **Here Are Answers to Some of Your Questions about Serving as Board Member, President-Elect, President, and Past President.**

This coming year our congregation will choose a president-elect and two Board members (the treasurer position next comes up for a vote in 2011). If you are thinking about running for president-elect or the Board, we want you to know that you'll have considerable support. By design, there will be two experienced members of the Board, as well as a current and a Past President serving on the Board to help introduce you to Board service. Past members of the Board are also there to serve as your mentors.

### **Q. What are the benefits of serving on the Board?**

**A.** The intrinsic rewards are many!

Some comments from a past member: **"serving on the Board was a very positive experience in that it provided me with a better sense of who we are as a congregation, helped me grow as a person, gave me the confidence to be able to stand up in front of the congregation and preside as convener over the service and congregational meetings, and helped me bond with other members of the Board, etc.."**

Our past Treasurer says there are **"monthly meetings where one gets to know and work with the people who are leading the congregation. Most people find this to be rewarding and it allows one to get to know well many of the congregation members."**

### **Q. Are there any requirements for serving?**

**A.** Membership in the congregation is required, as well as a willingness to commit to two years as a Board member and three years as President-Elect. Some Presidents-Elect have previously served on the board, and others have not.

### **Q. What does a Board member do?**

**A.** Attends a board meeting once a month, becomes more knowledgeable and engaged in congregational life and governance, and votes on policy and other important matters coming before the Board.

### **Q. What do the President-Elect, the President and the Past President do?**

For one year, the **President-Elect** serves as a member of the Board and

- Chairs the Nominating Committee
- Attends Board Retreat and Board Leadership Conference
- Attends and helps develop orientation training for new Board members
- Attends agenda planning meeting once a month

Then, for one year as **President**, chairs the monthly Board meetings and

- Listens and responds to concerns of the congregation
- Prepares and posts Board agenda and minutes, and reports on Board doings in the monthly newsletter
- Leads congregational meetings as needed and occasionally convenes Sunday services

Finally, for one year as **Past President**, provides support and direction to the new Board and

- Assists with orientation for new Board members
- Lends experience and knowledge on past and future concerns
- Assists the Volunteer Committee with a recruitment fair
- Chairs the Policy Committee

For more detail, please refer to Policy and Procedures Manual PART II <  
<http://www.uucnr.org/uuc-governance.html>>.

**Q. Who is available to help me prepare for future service as President-Elect so I'll be ready when I run? Is mentoring available?**

**A.** Yes. UUC members Polly Stimson, Mike Skinner, and Isabel Berney are all happy to mentor those wishing to serve.

**Q. Whom should I contact if I have questions?**

**A.** You can contact Stephanie Gilmore (Chair of the Nominating Committee), 552-3988; and Kathy Welch (Chair of the Leadership Development Committee), 953-1035. We especially encourage you to talk with current Board Members: Darla Bray (President), 763-3072; Carol & Jim Kern (Past Co-Presidents), 633-1193; Crosby Houston (Member at Large), 951-1049; Dick Kates (Member at Large), 951-1413; Scott Myers (Member at Large), 626-6767; Wayne Neu (Member at Large), 961-9314. Also, you may talk with some other Past Presidents: Pat Traynor (552-5374), Marilyn and Frank Dupont (552-2526), Isabel Berney (961-0804), Mike Skinner (951-3365). Note that our email addresses are available in the UUC Directory.

Thank you for considering serving in some capacity on the board. Whatever role you wish to serve now, later, or, ultimately, not at all, we hope you'll continue to think about your future role here at UUC. How might you use your gifts to build the Congregation you and we seek? We are available to talk with you about how to find the path toward your unique contribution to the Congregation