



Nominees for the Board of Trustees

2- Year Term beginning May 2017 (completing the term currently held by James Goward)



Waciuma Wanjohi - Waciuma has attended First U since moving back to Brooklyn in 2014. He has served as a Sunday School teacher and a Coming of Age mentor. He currently serves on the Adult RE Forward First Team and previously served as a Lay Leader. He grew up in a Presbyterian church for which he served as an elder on the Session. Waciuma has worked as a New York City Teaching Fellow in Harlem, as a teacher at the American School of Bombay, and as a founding teacher of the Brooklyn Laboratory Charter School. He is currently studying

Computer Science.

3- Year Terms beginning May 2017



Laurel Lesio-Eisenstadt – Laurel lives in the Cobble Hill area and is a private school music and dance teacher by profession. She and her husband, Bert, have been attending First U since the spring of 1996 and became a member a few years after that, teaching in the RE program and serving as a member of the RE council. Laurel currently teaches in the OWL program and is a new member of the choir. She raised her now grown children, Amy and Ben, here at First U and is grateful for the community, and for the strong spiritual and ethical home that First U has been to all of them. Laurel would

be proud to serve on the board.



Dawn Elane Reed – Dawn Started attending First U in the fall of 2007. She became a member right away and started singing in the choir. Soon after signing the membership book, Dawn's son, David, was dedicated in our Sanctuary. Dawn has served on the Religious Education Council, taught regular RE and Owl Classes and attended a Unitarian Universalist Association District Assembly meeting as a Representative for First U. She Co- directed and performed in the Mother Wove the Morning Theater project, was a mentor for the

coming of age program and served on the committee on ministries for three years. Dawn is looking forward to putting her faith in action as a Board Member.



Dale Ho - Dale has been a member of First Unitarian since April 2016, and is currently serving as a Lay Worship leader this year. He lives in Prospect Heights with his wife Caroline Sharman and their two children, Madeleine and James. He's originally from San Jose, California. Dale works as a lawyer at the ACLU, where he is the Director of the ACLU Voting Rights Project. He is very happy to have found a spiritual home at First U, and hopes he can be of service to this community as a member of the Board.

Nominee for Clerk of the Congregation

1- Year Term beginning May 2017



Bruce Wilde - Bruce is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist. He joined First U promptly after moving to New York in 1990. Bruce sings in the choir and serves on the Forward First Governance Team. You'll also see him working on UniFair and the Auction. He also helped his wife Coco launch First Acoustics, the folk music concert series that began as a part of First U but has since developed into an independent not-for-profit. Bruce and Coco have raised their daughters Vanessa, Vivian and Vera at First U.

Nominees for Leadership Development Committee (formerly Nominating Committee) 1-Year Term beginning May 2017



Edwin Lord - Edwin is a retired Licensed Clinical Social Worker, having graduated from Columbia School of social work. He has worked for a number of years in the field of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS services. He has been a member of FUUB since 1998 and has held a variety of offices including, Board President, a member of Welcoming Sanctuary Task Force and two-time General Assembly delegate. Edwin is currently on the Pastoral Care Team, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and can be frequently seen in the vestibule servicing as part of the Sunday welcoming team. Away from FUUB he is on the Kingsboro Alcoholism Treatment Center's Community Advisory Board.



David Garvoille (2nd Term) David looks forward to serving a second year on the LDC along with the rest of the dedicated folks on the LDC slate. His ambition is to develop leadership pipeline at First U where newcomers can get engaged in meaningful ways, take on leadership and have a leadership body that truly reflects our values of diversity and inclusion. A lifelong UU, David was dedicated in 1970 at the First Unitarian Society in Madison, Wisconsin and was an active high schooler at my second home congregation in Stillwater, OK in the 1980s. He pledged and signed the First U membership book in January of 2013. David has served as a Lay Leader, co-chair of Stewardship Team for three years and co-led our capstone RE program Coming of Age and co-taught two rounds of OWL. Most recently he co-chaired the annual auction and served as the chair of the Leadership Development Committee (formerly Nominating Committee).



Kurt Steele – Kurt is a retired corporate lawyer who practiced law both at a large NYC law firm and as general counsel of several large companies. He has been a UU since 1983 when Pat and their two children showed up one day at the Montclair (NJ) Unitarian Church which was near where they lived then. He had a variety of leadership roles in both that church, the Evanston (IL) Unitarian Church and the All Souls Unitarian Church (NYC). Kurt also has served as a Trustee of the Meadville Theological School, one of two UU schools. Since following Rev. Ana to First Brooklyn in 2012, he has fallen in love with his fourth UU congregation. Besides the church being only four blocks from their apartment, he's thrilled about how the church is growing and becoming much more mission-oriented. Kurt has particularly focused his efforts on the Forward First strategic work. Kurt has just completed a 3-year term on the Board of Trustees.



Nancy Witherell (4th Term) – Nancy is a life-long UU. She has served in many capacities. This year, Nancy is a mentor in the Phoenix Rising Program, and is serving as the VP of the Women’s Leadership Alliance. She has been on the Board; two strategic planning committees, including Forward First; run the UniFair clothing department with Lee Pardee for many years; part of the Anti-Racism Team (which she says, changed her life), and Chaired the Welcoming Sanctuary Task Force which put up the Welcome sign over the main entrance of the Sanctuary.

Nancy is married to Tom Check. They raised their son, Dan, at First U, and he in turn is raising his family at All Souls Church in DC. Nancy is retired from her career as a Psychotherapist.



Mary Most – Mary was born and raised Unitarian at All Souls in Manhattan, where her parents were married and continued to attend even after they moved to New Jersey. She was in the LRY youth group in Paramus NJ, and went to youth conferences at congregations throughout the Metro District. She also attended the Unitarian Homestead Camp, and has organized camp reunion weekends for the past 10 years. Mary has been a member of our Brooklyn congregation since 1993; her children, Melody and Skylar, are 3rd generation Unitarians. Currently Mary is nearing the end of her second time serving on the Board

of Trustees. She’s been active in RE, the Flower Committee, and the Program Council; taught OWL to all age groups; served on the Ministerial Search, Finance Committee, and Sexton Search; and arranges the annual donation of UniFair leftovers. Mary currently works at the NYC Department of Sanitation, producing promotional materials and web content for recycling and composting.