



Nominees for Delegates to the  
Unitarian Universalist General Assembly  
Providence, Rhode Island, June 24-28, 2020



**Tom Check**, together with his wife Nancy Witherell, has been an active member of First Unitarian Brooklyn for the past 35 years. First Unitarian is Tom's spiritual home, and the community that grounds his efforts for social justice. Tom has served on the Board of Trustees (two 3-year terms, including a year as Board President); the Senior Minister Search Committee (2011-2012); the Finance Committee; the Stewardship team; the Accessibility Task Force, which performed early planning for the wheelchair lift that is now in use; and other committees and task forces. Tom is currently an active member of the Committee on Ministry, the Immigrant Solidarity Committee, and the Deacons. He would be honored to represent First Unitarian as a delegate to the GA, and bring learnings from the UUA and other

congregations back to First Unitarian.



**Abby Grosslein** has been a member of First Unitarian since 2017. The congregation has influenced almost every aspect of her life from where she lives in Brooklyn to where she got her Master's Degree. Abby has been honored to serve on the Women's Leadership Alliance board since 2019, while participating in annual events like UniFair and the Auction. She loves Jazz Sunday and the monthly Sabbath Lunches. Her social life consists of Young Adult Ministry, monthly brunch, and knitting with church friends, both in and out of the pews. Abby has learned much from the Caring Ministry and First U Green Sanctuary Team, and would be humbled to represent First U at GA this summer.



**Garnett Losak** is First Unitarian's Director of Congregational Life. While she has served the congregation professionally for seven years, she has been a member for nearly 30. Before taking a staff position, Garnett most recently served on the Board of Trustees (as president for two years), as chair of the Stewardship Committee and, as chair of the Ministerial Search Committee, that selected Rev. Ana as First Unitarian's ministerial candidate. Garnett is most proud, however, of the two years she served on the Right Relations Task Force (RRTF) where she and others helped the congregation come through a difficult period. Garnett believes that the work of the RRTF was instrumental in creating the vibrant, healthy community that we have today.



**Laura Manos-Hey's** first serious religious community was at McDaniel College where she was a part of the Christian fellowship group for 3 years. She became involved with All Souls in Manhattan after she graduated in 2011 and was an active member there for close to 4 years. Laura served on the young adult leadership team, helped to rebuild the LGBT group for several years, participated in small group ministries and was active in social justice causes of all kinds. She attended GA as a delegate for All Souls and also volunteered at the registration/check in station. Laura found her way to First U in 2015 and it's the best spiritual home she's ever had. These days she helps with young adult leadership, and is an active organizer with the Queer Caucus, among other things. Laura is currently serving the second year of a two-year term on the Leadership Development Committee. Laura's UU life (particularly at First U) is incredibly busy, but the full schedule is always worth it because this is her home, her family, and a community she's proud to serve.



**Lee Pardee** has been attending First U for over 30 years and has served the congregation in many ways. She is a past chair of the Social Action and Membership committees and currently chairs the Finance Committee. She has served on the Worship and Music, Nominating, Music Search and one of our Ministerial Search committees. She has served on the Board of Trustees three times and been president twice. She has sung in the choir almost as long as she has attended First U. Lee often offers a sumptuous tea at the annual auction (note the teacups in the background of the photo). This year Lee is trying something new by serving as a teacher and mentor to the FUUB Coming of Age class – and enjoying getting to know some of our awesome youth. Lee works as an administrator in a foster care agency and lives in Sunset Park.