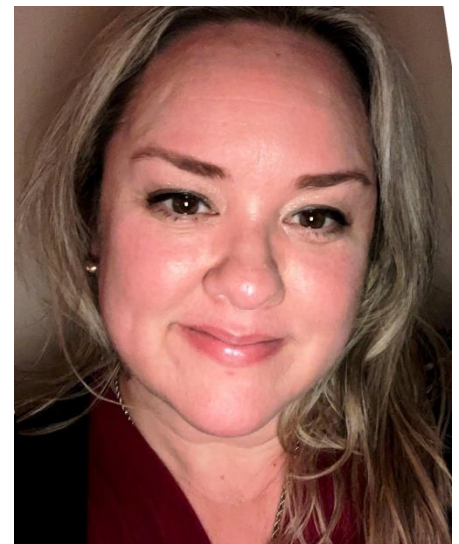


## Candidates for the Nominating Committee - First Unitarian Church of Portland – May 2020

**Julie Grice.** Julie is seeking a first complete term on the Nominating Committee after having served a vacated partial term. For reasons of personal safety and security Julie has asked that her bio and picture not be distributed electronically. However, her full bio and photo will be part of the candidate information sheet mailed out with the ballots.

**Amy Norcom** began attending the church in 2013, drawn by the amazing music program. She has served on the Music Council and as a substitute teacher in Religious Education. Amy has taken on fundraising roles for vocal and handbell choirs, and she is the treasurer of the Pacific Ringers ensemble. Amy is up for a second term on the Nominating Committee. A techie by day, Amy is a systems analyst for Legacy Health. For much of her career, she has gravitated toward nonprofit organizations including OHSU, Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette, and Albertina Kerr. She lives in Southeast Portland with her fiancé, Tom.



**Steven Storla** looks forward to helping the church by serving a second term on the Nominating Committee. Steven was raised UU and has been a member of six congregations. He moved to Portland and joined the church in 2002 with his late husband, Rev. Robert Schaibly, when Bob retired from full-time ministry. Steven was co-founder of UU Animal Ministry and served on the Committee on Ministry for Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons, a community minister. In terms of related professional experience, during his career working in colleges and universities he was on numerous hiring committees and understands the process of considering the strengths of different candidates. He enjoys speaking with fellow congregants about leadership opportunities in our church. Now--more than ever--our church plays an important role in his life. He values the richness and diversity of our church culture and the significance of our presence in the larger community.

## Candidates for Board of Trustees - First Unitarian Church of Portland – May 2020



**Caitlynn Hill** (she/her/they/them) has been a member of the church for about 3 years, is a happy member of the Younger Adult Group, and an alto in the choir where she loves to practice the joy of being in beloved community. Caitlynn grew up in southern New Jersey and found Unitarian Universalism at a small church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania soon after college. Caitlynn was raised Catholic and feels a strong connection to the church's history and the ritual of Sunday service. Caitlynn is a mental health therapist – she works with children, youth, and their families. She is passionate about suicide prevention and will talk to anybody about the importance of sleep hygiene. She finds that our UU principles not only enrich her personal life but can be directly applied to her professional drive to show unconditional positive regard for youth and families. Our UU values and principles guide her in personal relationships, professional ethics, actions in the larger world, and, hopefully, in humble service to the church as a member of the Board.

**Adam House** grew up in Portland and lives in Montavilla with his spouse, Tim. He has attended First Unitarian since 2010, when he moved back home after stumbling happily into Unitarian Universalism during college in Bellingham, Washington. Adam taught in the Learning Community for five years, and if you ask him about our faith, the first thing he will tell you is that Our Whole Lives and Coming of Age, the curricula we teach our middle-schoolers, articulate everything most important about our theology. We teach our young people to value themselves and one another, to embrace science, and to prioritize asking good questions over always having “correct” answers. The rich, intergenerational activities and programs offered by this congregation have blessed Adam's life in many ways, and he is delighted to have another opportunity to give back. As a member of your Board of Trustees, Adam will be committed to the work of making this church a place for everyone. Unitarian Universalist theology offers us the opportunity to co-create salvation for ourselves and for one another, but only if we continuously expand our welcome, embrace the folks on the margins, and keep asking good questions instead of believing we already have the answers.



**Marilyn Mays** is the parent/step-parent of three strong and wonderful adult children and the grandparent of a 7 year old thoughtful and outspoken granddaughter. Her degree from the University of Oregon in 1978 led to a career in non-profit management. That work led to the ownership of her own small businesses. Now she is co-owner of Rock Paper Garden Art with husband Matt Schiewe, a small business/art studio in the Garden Home neighborhood providing a variety of classes that include parenting and art, and she serves as a realtor. Serious gardening, meditation, and practicing gratitude in these challenging times have all made the social distancing and the necessary “Shelter in Place” much easier. Singing and church committee meetings on Zoom with fellow volunteers have been welcome events. She has joyfully been the President of Grace Choir and member of the Music Council for three years and, as she will passing her presidency on this fall, the opportunity to serve on the Board at First Unitarian comes at a perfect time.

**Alan Comnes** has been a member of First Unitarian Church since 2001 and a Unitarian Universalist for nearly 30 years. Alan has been on the Board since 2015 and is seeking to serve for a second full term. A professional in the energy industry, Alan brings his skills in project management, finance, and communications to the work of the Board. Alan is active in the Grace group of the First Unitarian Choir and, on the Board, has served on the Communications Committee and the Sr. Minister transition team. Alan is a strong believer in community institutions like First Unitarian Church of Portland. The Church's services and community-building work uplifts him. Alan believes that First Unitarian's power to help individuals and to be a positive force in the community will only grow in the future!

