

Signature Petition for Board of Trustees Candidacy (2026)

First Unitarian Church of Portland Oregon Article V, Section 6 of the First Unitarian Church By-laws, passed May 2005, reads:

“Additional nominations for the Board of Trustees may be made, with the written consent of the nominee, by a petition signed by not less than five percent of the voting members, and filed with the Nominating Committee not less than thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting.”

For 2026, there are 646 certified voting church members, so a minimum of 33 signatures of **voting church members** are required on this petition. The deadline for submission of this petition is Friday, April 24th, 2026.

I, _____ (please print your name), hereby give my consent and enter my name as a candidate for the Board of Trustees. I am a voting member of the First Unitarian Church of Portland, Oregon, as defined in First Unitarian Church by-laws.

If elected, I agree:

- 1. To serve a term of three years.***
- 2. To participate in monthly committee meetings and the work of the Board.***
- 3. To abide by the Covenant of Leadership. (below)***

Signed _____

Date _____

Please attach the signature petition form and file with the one Nominating Committee by April 24, 2026. This date is 30 days prior to the Board determined deadline for returning ballots by May 17, 2026. Completed petitions should be returned to

NominatingCommittee@firstunitarianportland.org. Also, so we may publicize your candidacy, please submit a photo of yourself and a brief biography; including past and present church activities, as well as any personal information you would like the congregation to know, to the email address above. This information should be submitted by April 3, 2026.

Please collect all signatures on lined paper in the format shown below. Please attach additional sheets to this form as needed. Remember, all signatures must be from voting members of the congregation. Church bylaws require a voting member to sign the Membership Book, and Board policy requires that “a member shall make and fulfill a pledge that is generous within his or her means.”

Signature Number	Full Name (printed)	Phone
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____

BOARD COVENANT OF LEADERSHIP

Our promises of spirit *We promise to*

- *pray and be mindful of Spirit, alone and together*
- *be thankful for and continue to strive to deepen our spiritual lives*
- *look within our hearts for help and listen to the answers that come to us.*

Our promises to our church community *We promise to*

- *demonstrate our leadership and commitment to our church by our example*
- *support our church ministers and the staff so that their efforts can be most productive*
- *try to discover what is best for our church as a whole, not what may be best for us or for some small group of the church*
- *listen with an open mind and heart to the words and ideas of the members of our church community*
- *communicate openly, acknowledge and appreciate others, act with heart and integrity, and cultivate relationships within our church community*

Our promises to the ministers and to each other on the board of trustees *We promise to*

- *respect and care for each other*
- *honor the fact that our ministers are called, not hired*
- *treat our time on the board as an opportunity to make an important gift to our church*
- *listen with an open, nonjudgmental mind to the words and ideas of the ministers and each other on the board*
- *discuss, debate, and disagree openly in board meetings, expressing ourselves as clearly, honestly, and courteously as possible so that we are certain that the board understands our point of view*
- *support the final decision of the board, whether it reflects our view or not.*

We pledge to observe these promises, to do our best to trust that others are also observing them, and to be forgiving when we inevitably make mistakes. We accept the accountability implied in these promises.

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(from the appendix to the: GOVERNING POLICIES FOR FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF PORTLAND, OREGON Adopted by the Board of Trustees on March 1, 2018)