



Association of
Unitarian Universalist Administrators
Supporting and strengthening Unitarian Universalism through effective administration

January 4, 2023

Dear AUUA Members,

Happy New Year! We hope that you were able to get a little bit of rest between the busy-ness of December and the busy-ness that is January, when many of us are sending giving statements to the congregation, processing W2s & 1099s, helping with budget setting for the next fiscal year, along with all our other day-to-day, week-to-week, month-to-month administrative duties.

We plan to send out more of a newsletter later this month, and in the meantime, we want to let you know of some changes on the AUUA Board. Carol Marks, who has been our AUUA Board President, retired the end of December and stepped down from the Board. Carol sent this Farewell to be shared with AUUA members:

Farewell from Carol Marks

After 30 years of working as a church administrator (administrative assistant, church administrator, and finally director of administration) at the same congregation, I decided earlier this year after many months of discernment that I would end my employment as of December 31, 2022. For the most part, this has been the most fun I have ever had at work, and I've enjoyed working with a variety of interesting ministers and other church staff over the years. I have also been thankful for the AUUA all through those years, for providing me with colleagues who really "get" what we do for a living, listening ears, and a lot of mighty fun times. I am happy with the kinds of opportunities the AUUA continues to provide for its members in the form of training, shared resources, and good offices assistance.



I will be leaving the AUUA Board and taking some time away from Unitarian Universalism for a while, to clear my mind and figure out what is next for me, but you are in good hands with our remaining AUUA Board members. They are all insightful and helpful people, and it has been a real pleasure to work with them. I have known Christina Fulton for over 25 years, and she is truly a leader in her field. She will be coming in from serving as Vice President, to become President of AUUA, as I step away after five and a half years of service on the Board this time around.

I wish all of you the very best in your professional endeavors, with regular substantial raises in pay, generous vacations, healthful working conditions, congenial co-workers, and UUs around you who are all trying to make the world a better place.

Happy trails!

Carol Marks

AUUA President June 2021 through Dec 2022

Christina Fulton, who had been Vice President, has stepped into the President role effective January 1. Mary Beth Hannan, who had been a board member-at-large, has stepped into the Vice President

role, and we have selected Karena Stroh to complete the last 6 months of that at-large position. Karena is the Administration & Finance Director of First Parish Brewster Unitarian Universalist in Brewster, Mass, and has been a member of the AUUA professional development team. We welcome Karena to the Board!



With those changes, here is the **updated Board list**:

- President: Christina Fulton; Director of Operations & Finance, 1st UU Society of Burlington VT
- Vice President: MaryBeth Hannan; Congregational Administrator, UU Church of Kent OH
- Treasurer: Carol Lewis; Director of Administration, First Parish Cambridge MA
- Secretary: Laurie Lantz; Congregational Administrator, Countryside UU, Palatine IL
- Member-at-large: Lewis Copulsky; Operations Director, UU Fellowship of Raleigh NC
- Member-at-large: Daniel Polk; Executive Director, North Texas UU Congregations
- Member-at-large: Le Aúndra Salazar-Slaughter; Congregational Administrator, All Souls UU Church, Kansas City MO
- Member-at-large: Karena Stroh; Administration & Finance Director, First Parish UU, Brewster MA

A **new Board slate for the 2023-24** fiscal year will be presented to the AUUA membership in May, prior to the membership's voting at the Annual Meeting, to be held during Professional Days.

And speaking of **Pro Days** – please save the dates of Tues & Weds, June 6 & 7 for our annual Professional Days workshops & the annual meeting. The Pro Days team has been busy working on some great programming; stay tuned for more news to come.

Monthly check-ins hosted by AUUA board members continues on the 1st Weds of the month:

- Jan 4
- Feb 1
- March 1
- April 5
- May 3

That is a great opportunity to check in with one another and share what is (and isn't) working for you and to get the support and insight of colleagues.

Happy New Year!

Laurie Lantz, Board secretary, on behalf of the AUUA Board