

Candidate Biographies

Erik Stalhandske - President



My wife (Ann) and I have been UUs for 35 years, previously attending congregations in San Diego, CA; Burlington, VT; and since 1990 here. I've been involved in a variety of activities at UUAA: Currently serving as Congregational President seeking second term, previous Board member, SGD instructor, Leadership Development Team, Investment Advisory, Men's retreat planning, Associate Minister Support, men's group member, mentor, Chair and lead in developing our Planned Giving program. Also, I was a member of the Reflective Conversations team, and a Chalice Circle Facilitator. Outside of UUAA I'm on the board of a nonprofit building bike trails, and active in my extended family's life.

Professionally I was a healthcare administrator, working for the federal government for over twenty years, mostly in Ann Arbor. My wife is a special education teacher in the Ann Arbor preschool program.

I'm humbled to continue this opportunity to serve our congregation during this dynamic period with our new Senior Minister. Our three children—now grown—all went through the UU programs, and were positively impacted by their experiences. My wife and I have been personally nurtured through our UUAA experiences and community. I continue to have the time, energy, and desire to give back to this wonderful community. By continuing as President, I offer continuity for the Senior Minister and the congregation, as well as with our important purpose and vision work. Thank you for consideration of my nomination.

Vanessa Campbell – Treasurer



Vanessa Campbell became a member of UUAA in 2009. She has been involved in Chalice Circles, the Chalice Singers, Welcome Ministries, a financial reporting review, and the auction. With more than nine years as an entrepreneur of Sage Bookkeeping Services, she works with small businesses and seniors. The majority of her career, she was employed by a telecommunications corporation during the early development of the Internet. She also managed holography production in a local laboratory. She has extensive experience in process development, analysis, and project management. Vanessa looks forward to working with other UUAA leaders, learning more about the Congregation, and deepening her connection to UUAA through her Board service.

Toni Wander – Board Member, At-Large



I have been a member of UUAA since November 2014. My immediate family had not been religious at all, but my grandparents had been involved in UUAA. When my mother died, I felt a need to have a spiritual community in my life. After a few visits I felt a deep connection and joined without hesitation. I took part in a Chalice Circle, and then in January 2015 I joined the choir. I attended the General Assembly in 2017 and was on the Planned Giving Committee for a year in 2017 – 2018.

In my professional life, I received my BA in philosophy, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Michigan, and my MSA in Accounting from Eastern Michigan University. I am a Certified Financial Planner (CFP™), Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and a Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA®). I started my career in 1988 at Tisch Incorporated, a local investment and insurance firm. I then spent twelve years with Plante Moran to help individuals manage their portfolios and complete their tax returns. For the last ten years I have worked in the banking industry, heading up the Financial Planning department in a local community bank. And now, as of February of 2019, I have co-founded Legacy Wealth Partners, LLC. I am thrilled to be independent, working to assist clients in developing and fulfilling their dreams. I can now also dedicate more time and energy into the community, and to UUAA, and so would like to join the board.

Erin Krajcik – Board Member, At-Large



It is an honor to be selected as a candidate for an At-Large position on the UUAA Board of Trustees. Thank you. I grew up with Unitarian Universalist values as a part of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah. Since joining UUAA in 2014, it has been a privilege to serve during the Newcomer's Welcome and Involvement Table and as a member of Friends of Restorative Justice. It is such a delight during the Newcomer's Welcome to meet and engage with new people interested in the Congregation and Unitarian

Universalism, and I get to talk about all of the amazing things this congregation does! I also have found such meaning through my involvement with Friends of Restorative Justice. With this group, we are able to put "faith into action" on so many levels by

promoting a restorative approach criminal justice. I am proud to be a member of UUAA while engaging with these groups.

As a Clinical Social Worker, my professional values, experience, and training have been very helpful for my involvement with these groups. I imagine this skill set will also prove useful for continuing to engage with the congregation in the role of Board Member-At-Large. One of my favorite things on Sunday is not only seeing so many people I know but seeing how many people I have yet to meet. For me, this is the wonder of our Congregation. We are vast, and deep. We do so much and with such meaning. For that, I appreciate the UUAA Congregation, and the opportunity as a candidate for Board Member-At-Large.

Leigh Robertson – Leadership Development Team, Elected Position



Leigh Robertson has been a Unitarian Universalist since 1999. She joined the UUAA congregation in 2005 and quickly found a spiritual home. During her 14 years here, she has been actively involved in Interweave, Sharing Collections, the Strategic Planning committee, Coming of Age, YRUU, Congregation retreats, Newcomers Welcome, and the Ministerial Search Committee. She is also faculty at UM School of Social Work where she has had numerous leadership roles.