

**Thomas Jefferson District
Nominating Committee Report
February 17, 2010 – revised 3/3/10**

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General Comments from the Nominating Committee:

We were excited and pleased to receive more applications than the number of open positions this year. We were enthusiastic about the depth and breadth of skills and experience represented by the field of applicants. Our selection process was conducted with an eye to maximizing experience, skill, diversity, and leadership, in the best interest of the District.

In future, the Committee will make a better effort to acknowledge applications as they come in. And the Committee will work to have its final report ready for the winter Board meeting, which is usually earlier than the due date specified in the by-laws (70 days before the Annual meeting).

We continue to be aware of the constraints that the present Board meeting schedule places on the applicant pool: not everyone who is interested in serving on the Board is available for four all-day Friday meetings each year.

As the District navigates the transition to policy governance, the work of this Committee will evolve in the direction of Leadership Development. The Committee will work with the Board, the District Executive, and a re-visioned committee structure to identify, train, and support strong, flexible, responsive and creative leaders at every level of District life. This is exciting and life-giving work.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the District as chair of this Committee over the past 4 years, for the dedicated service of the committee members I have worked with during that time, and for the support of District staff and leadership. Thank you.

Rev. Sally White
(outgoing) chair

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For President (2-year term): Jim Key (Beaufort, SC)

This will be Jim's second consecutive term as President; he is eligible to serve 2 successive terms.

Jim is a member of the UU Fellowship of Beaufort which he helped to organize in 1999. He served as President of the fellowship for five years, Finance committee chair for three years, and Long Range Planning chair for one year. In 2001 Jim was a student at the Mountain School for Congregational Leadership, joined the faculty of MSCL in 2002, and served as dean 2003-4. He has attended General Assembly since 2002. Additionally, he is Secretary of the District Presidents' Association and serves on the Audit Committee of the UUA Board of Trustees.

Jim is the principal partner of the Shenandoah Group, a consulting firm that focuses on governance, risk management, and control solutions to help organizations add value. Formerly he worked for IBM where he was Director—Internal Audit, North America and Asia Pacific, residing in Tokyo. He has consulted on governance, risk, and control issues; conducted training; and facilitated workshops around the world for a wide variety of clients in business, government, education, and not-for-profit sectors.

For Vice-President (2-year term): Denise Rimes (Richmond, VA)

This will be Denise's second consecutive term as Vice-President. She is eligible to serve 2 successive terms.

Denise was graduated from the University of Virginia where she majored in American Government and Religious Studies. She has been employed by Bank of America for thirty years, and is a senior vice president in the credit card division. Denise is a currently serving on the Board of Directors for Communities in Schools of Richmond, Virginia and has served on a number of other non-profit boards including the United Way of Greater Richmond, Family Lifeline, University of Virginia Alumni Association, Memorial Child Guidance Clinic/Prevention Services Advisory Board, American Red Cross/Personnel Committee, and Youth Matters Board of Directors. She is actively involved in lay leadership at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, and is the immediate past president of the Board of Directors.

For Director (3-year term): Rev. Ann Marie Alderman (Greenville, NC)

This will be Ann Marie's first term as Director.

Rev. Ann Marie Alderman received her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University in 1975. After wandering nearly 20 years in the wilderness (as she puts it!), she found Unitarian Universalism in Statesboro, Georgia. While preparing for fellowship as a UU minister, she provided pastoral care to patients

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and staff during medical care crisis situations in a very intense, Level One trauma center hospital in her hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. She then served as DRE at the UU church in Jacksonville for two years while continuing to prepare for fellowship. After receiving preliminary fellowship and ordination, she became Associate Minister there where she served for 3 more years. Ann Marie went on to serve half time as the minister for a small congregation in rural Pennsylvania for 2 years before moving to her current settlement as fulltime minister of the Greenville, NC congregation. Before entering professional ministry, Ann Marie managed her family's small service business for more than 15 years. She is currently treasurer of SEUUMA and has served as treasurer of many other voluntary organizations. She is a Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop facilitator and she is excited about the possibility of creating new relationships with others who care about the growth of Unitarian Universalism.

For Director (3-year term): Nathan Hollister (Eno River Fellowship, Durham, NC)

This will be Nathan's first term as Director.

Nathan has been active in UU youth programs for about 16 years, first as a youth and now as an advisor. He is a third generation UU, growing up in 4 different congregations. He has held leadership positions on the local, district, and continental levels as a youth, including district youth council, dean of the Continental Conference, GA youth staff, and UUA Youth Office intern. He has worked as a Leadership Development Conference trainer, facilitating youth leadership conferences in most of the UUA's districts. He has a decade of social justice community organizing experience. He is currently in his first year of school at Meadville-Lombard, studying for an MDiv, with hopes of entering fellowship as a UU minister. He believes that as a movement we need to strengthen our District structures to better serve our congregations.

For Nominating Committee (2-year term): Lois Cavanaugh-Daley (Raleigh, NC)

This will be Lois's first term on the Nominating Committee.

Lois Cavanaugh-Daley has been a resident of Raleigh, NC for the past 20 years and she has been a member of UUF Raleigh since November, 2003. She decided to join the congregation so as to not be alone in any longer in fighting for social justice. Lois is a committed mental health services advocate, a teacher, trainer, writer, and activist. She enjoys meeting new people and hearing their stories. She thinks she can contribute to the governance of the TJ District due to her long standing commitment to social justice

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For Nominating Committee (2-year term): Myrtle Hepler (Raleigh, NC)

This will be Myrtle's second term on the Nominating Committee. She is eligible to serve 2 successive 2-year terms.

Myrtle Eakes Hepler was born on a tobacco farm near Roxboro, NC, went to colleges in Virginia and Tennessee, then moved to the west coast (California and Washington) before returning to NC. She has a BA in English, and Masters' degrees in English and in Administration and Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction. She is now retired after spending 34 years in public schools as teacher and administrator. She has a son and a daughter and two grandsons. She discovered UUism at UUFRaleigh in 1984, where she soon served as Sunday Morning Services Chair (UUFR had a half-time minister). She has been a UUA Jubilee World I anti-racism trainer 22 years, and has served in every position on the TJD Board of Directors except that of treasurer, as well as being on the District Anti- Racism Transformation Team. She is a life member of the NAACP.

For Nominating Committee (2-year term): Anna Olsen (Asheville, NC)

This will be Anna's first term on the Nominating Committee.

Anna Olsen, native of Asheville, NC, lived in Morristown, NJ, Boston, MA and returned to NC 21 years ago. Graduated from Greensboro college in NC and Masters from Montclair State in NJ in Speech Pathology. Spent 7 years in the public schools, 4 years as a sales consultant, 3 years owning a natural food store and 25 years as a corporate trainer.

Joined a UU church 34 years ago and knew that my soul was at home. Married Rev. Clark Olsen and have served on almost all church committees in 4 different congregations over those years. Was elected to be the UUA Trustee from the Thomas Jefferson District and served for 2 years. During those two years I visited over 40 congregations. I am dedicated to our movement and continue to serve in our Western Carolina Cluster steering committee. I have attended numerous trainings on anti-racism and have served on the local NAACP board. Helping to create a Beloved Community is a priority in my future work