Candidates for the Board of Trustees (BOT)

Deborah Conta



Deborah became a member of the First Unitarian Society during the pandemic, after seeking and finding First Church as a spiritual home

and a welcoming community. She has participated in silent retreats, Theme Circles and both the Tillich and Dillard discussion groups. With Rev. Dena, she co-facilitated a monthly Grief Support Group. She is a regular usher. She became a Pastoral Care Associate in 2021 and continues to serve in that capacity.

Deborah is a retired hospice social worker and therapist. She maintained a practice as a sentencing consultant to adults and children convicted of serious crimes. Past volunteer work includes board membership at Saint John's on the Lake and the Friends of Golda Meir Library. She was an advisor to the Benedict Center as well as the Visiting Nurse Association. She assessed student work at Alverno College and was a tour guide for Historic Milwaukee, Inc. Currently, Deborah finds great satisfaction in helping newly sworn-in citizens register to vote. She is active in election efforts as a poll worker, enjoys volunteer work discussing career planning at Tenor High School.

Kathy Donius



Kathy has been a member of First Church since 2007. She and her husband Paul Kosidowski wanted raise their son Joe in a church community

that felt right to them. Since then, First Church has become their spiritual home and a source of many new friends. Kathy has participated in many church activities including teaching RE and serving on the Strategic Plan Steering Committee and the Pledge Team, which she chaired in 2024.

Kathy spent her career as a lawyer, serving two years as a law clerk to the late U.S. District Judge John W. Reynolds; 18 years in private practice at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren; and 15 years at Rockwell Automation. She also was a long-time board member of Sojourner Family Peace Center and the Wisconsin Equal Justice Fund. Kathy retired two years ago, but continues to volunteer, regularly providing legal advice at the Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic and assisting Sojourner clients with preparing and filing petitions for restraining orders. In retirement, Kathy also has discovered the joy of making pottery, hiking, and swimming.

Candidates for BOT & Nominating Committee

Andrew Whitver BOT Candidate



Andrew Whitver has been a member of First Church since 2023. He is a somewhat recent transplant to the Midwest. He lives in the Pacific North West for over 50

years. He volunteers, and has volunteered, at several organizations. He recently resigned from the Board of Seattle Pridefest where he was a board member for the past 14 years. He enjoys biking, swimming, hiking, skiing, sledding, taking his dog on long walks, as well as cultural activities like dance, music and the visual arts.

Connie Craig



Connie joined the church in 2007 and has been teaching religious education ever since. She is also an usher/greeter. She recently became a member

of the Sunday Forum team. She was part of the Forge Our Future endowment fundraising campaign helping by reaching out to members.

She was a Milwaukee Public Schools for 31 years. She's been retired since 2022. Connie volunteers for elections, canvasses, signs up voters, sends texts, and writes letters. She's a regular volunteer at WMSE 91.7 non-commercial radio. Connie enjoys live music

Connie Craig continued

and she loves to dance. She enjoys photography and being out in nature, swimming, biking and hiking.

Deb Solis



Deb received her M.F.A. degree in dance from UW-Madison and then worked as a dance educator, performer and choreographer since 1983.

In 2014 she joined the church staff as a part time Youth & Our Whole Lives (OWL) Program Coordinator, retiring from this position in 2024.

Deb and her husband Ken have been members of First Church for 32 years and raised their son Kyle in this beloved faith community. Some of her church volunteer highlights include: serving as a long-time religious educator, children's religious education (CRE) team leader, and member of the Board of Trustees.

Deb has volunteered outside of our church for The Park People, Clement Manor and the Greenfield School District. She currently spends free time teaching the Chinese meditation movement discipline of T'ai Chi Ch'uan at various senior living facilities in the metro Milwaukee area, reading a variety of non-fiction and fiction books, attending diverse community performing arts programs, and practicing yoga, pilates, bike riding and skiing.