

Prairie UU Election ~ May 19, 2024

We invite all who are interested in an elected position to please submit a **Statement of Interest** by **May 13, 2024** to Katy Upperman at KatyU@PrairieUU.org. These statements will be shared with Prairie UU Members prior to the election.

If you're interested in serving in an elected position but have never done so, we especially encourage you to apply, and to bring *your* unique vision to Prairie UU! A description of each position is below. Per the Bylaws, these positions require one year of membership at Prairie.

If you have questions, please contact a current Board Member (Brenda Peterson [President - BrendaP@PrairieUU.org], Kyra Storojev [Vice President - KyraS@PrairieUU.org], Diane McMahan [Treasurer - DianeM@PrairieUU.org], Susan Reardon [Secretary - SusanReardon@PrairieUU.org], Jan Spooner [Trustee - JanS@PrairieUU.org] or Jenny Rodman [Trustee - VirginiaR@PrairieUU.org]). Questions may also be directed to our ministers, Beth Elliot and Nate Clark: Minister@PrairieUU.org.

Prairie UU Elected Positions

President - The President shall serve as Chair of the Board of Trustees, preside at all meetings of the Congregation, and represent the Church on all appropriate occasions. The President shall call all regular and special meetings of the Board, the Executive Committee and the Congregation, and shall perform such other duties that normally pertain to the office. The President is an ex officio member of all Board and Standing Committees.

Vice President - The Vice President shall act in the absence of or at the request of the President, at which time the Vice President shall have all powers applicable to the President. In addition, the Vice President shall perform other functions and duties specified by the Board.

Treasurer - The Treasurer shall receive, safely keep, and account for all money and other property of the Church, and disburse the same under the direction of the Board. At the discretion of the Board, the Treasurer shall be bonded by the Church in an amount determined by the Board. Additionally, the Treasurer shall follow the applicable procedures set forth in the Policy Manual.

Secretary - The Secretary shall record and maintain the proceedings of Board and Congregational meetings, and perform other duties specified by the Board. Minutes of Board meetings shall be transmitted to all Board Members for review in advance of the subsequent Board meeting. Minutes of Congregational meetings shall be transmitted to the Board and be available for inspection by any Member of the Church within sixty (60) days following the Congregational meeting. All records of the Secretary shall be the property of the Church. The Secretary shall assure that proper notice is given to meetings of the Board and Congregation.

**Term of Office for Executive Officers is one year or until their successors are selected. Terms of Office coincide with the Fiscal Year.*

Trustee-at-Large - *One position open.* Shall be elected by the Congregation to serve on the Board as Trustees at-Large. A person must have been a Member of the Church for at least one (1) year to serve as a Trustee-at-Large. The Term of Office for Trustees-at-Large is two (2) years, or until their successors are elected. To assure continuity of experience on the Board, terms of office shall be staggered so that approximately one-half of the Board Members are elected each year. Members elected by the

Congregation or appointed by the Board to a Trustee-at-Large position are limited to three (3) consecutive terms in that position. Serving more than one-half (1/2) of a term is considered a full term. After being out of a particular position for at least one (1) term, Members may serve again in that position as if they had not previously served.

**The Term of Office for Trustees-at-Large is two years, or until their successors are elected.*

Youth Trustee - One Youth ages 16 or 17, or having completed the Coming of Age program, shall be elected by the Congregation to serve on the Board as a Youth Trustee. The Youth Trustee shall vote on all matters that come before the Board, except on legal matters that require the age of 18. A person must have been attending the Church for at least one (1) year, and meet the age or program requirements outlined in Section 1 above, to serve as a Youth Trustee.

**The Term of Office for Youth Trustees is one year.*

Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) - *Multiple positions open.* Shall provide leadership and oversight concerning the overall ministry and spiritual well-being of the Congregation. The Committee shall promote and facilitate the relationship among the Minister, the Committees providing Ministry and the Congregation, and shall receive, investigate, and respond to all matters affecting the ministerial-congregational relationship. In consultation and cooperation with the Board, the Committee shall negotiate the Minister's conditions of employment, conduct the Minister's performance review, and propose the minister's compensation to the Congregation. The Committee shall be composed of six (6) Voting Members who are elected by the Congregation. Terms of office of three (3) Committee members shall begin in even-numbered years. Terms of office of three (3) Committee members shall begin in odd-numbered years.

Leadership Development Committee - *Multiple positions open.* Shall publicize all elected vacant leadership positions, encourage members to submit statements/videos of interest, and provide a slate of candidates and their statements to the Congregation. The elected leadership positions include: the Board of Trustees, Congregational Committees (Committee on Shared Ministry, Leadership Development Committee and any Endowment Fund). The Leadership Development Committee shall be composed of five (5) Voting Members. The Leadership Development Committee shall also identify and coordinate leadership training opportunities and encourage leaders and members at large to attend. The Committee shall also provide recognition of service for church leaders.

Statement of Interest

Please print and complete your **Statement of Interest**, then email it to Katy Upperman at KatyU@PrairieUU.org by May 13, 2024. You may also give a printed copy to a current Board Member. Your statement will be shared with Prairie UU Members prior to the May 19, 2024 election.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Which elected position are you interested in?

_____ President

_____ Vice President

_____ Treasurer

_____ Secretary

_____ Trustee-at-Large

_____ Youth Trustee

_____ Committee on Shared Ministry

_____ Leadership Development Committee

**You can only run for one position, however, if you have interest in more than one, please let us know your preference and we may contact you to let you know the position that would be most helpful to fill.*

Questions to reflect on... (responses need not be more than one paragraph)

1. The Mission of Prairie UU is to “gather as a welcoming, caring community to nurture mind and spirit, celebrate diversity, and work for justice.” Please share your vision of what and how you would like to contribute to accomplishing our mission.

2. Our Covenant states: “We covenant to be a welcoming and loving community, offering each other fellowship, sanctuary, and a joyful spirit. We seek justice and peace in all our deeds and relationships, and we respect and honor both the individual and the collective search for sacred meaning and truth. We revere and celebrate the diversity of our Earth and are guided by the Spirit that connects all life, as we reach out to offer our best to ourselves, our community, and our world.” What does it mean to you to live in a covenant with a community of people?

3. Is there one thing you would like to see done differently by the Committee you are interested in? How would you like to contribute towards that change?

4. What are your goals/priorities for the next three to five years for Prairie UU? What support from your Prairie community do you believe will be needed to help you and us achieve them?