

2023 Draft Ballot for Annual Meeting

Terms for positions begin with election at the 2023 annual meeting and conclude with 2025 annual meeting, pending submission and satisfactory review of self-disclosure form.

4/28/2023

Names in Bold = Nominated for new term

Term ending in -0= Filling an unexpired term; -1=First 2-year term; -2=Second 2-year term; -3=Third 2-year term

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has the usual powers and duties of the Board of Directors of a corporation organized under the non-profit corporation law of the State of Minnesota. The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Conference between Annual Meetings.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation
2025-1	Rev. Sara Morse, Moderator	Hazel Park UCC, St. Paul
2023-1		
2024-1	Bob Sicoli, Treasurer	St. Pauls UCC, St. Paul
2025-2	Rev. Rebecca LeMenager, Secretary	Mizpah UCC, Hopkins
2025-1	Rev. Clare Gromoll, At Large	UCC New Brighton
2025-1	Rev. Danielle Bartz, At Large	First Congregational UCC, Winona
2025-2	Hikaru Peterson, At Large	First Congregational of Minnesota, Minneapolis
2024-1	Jean Chagnon, At Large	First Congregational of Minnesota, Minneapolis
2024-1	Chris Bohnhoff, At Large	Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis
2024-2	Rev. Adam Blons, At Large	Macalester Plymouth United Church, St. Paul
2024-2	Rev. Lauren Baske-Davis, At Large	First UCC, Northfield
2024-3	Brad Sleeper, At Large	Wayzata Community Church, Wayzata
2024-0	open, Liaison to Development	
2025-2	Rev. Victoria Wilgocki, Liaison to Personnel	St. Anthony Park UCC, St. Paul
2024-1	Rev. Tony Romaine, Liaison to Committee on Ministry	First United Church, Little Falls
2024-0	open, Liaison to Finance Committee	

Staff: Rev. Shari Prestemon, Conference Minister

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee promotes and preserves the financial integrity of the Conference. Its duties include: recommending financial policies to the Board of Directors, preparing and monitoring the Conference budget, making and monitoring investments, monitoring risk and obtaining insurance, managing funds and property, and providing consultation on fundraising.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation
2024-0		
2024-0		
2024-1	Kim Shaffer	First Congregational UCC, Mankato
2024-3	Pam DeMarce, chair	First Congregational UCC, Mankato
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-2	Frank Bennett	Edina Morningside UCC, Edina
2025-2	Lew Zeidner	Robbinsdale Parkway UCC, Robbinsdale

Board: Bob Sicoli, Treasurer
open, Liaison to Finance Committee

Staff: Rev. Shari Prestemon, Conference Minister

Committee on Ministry

The Committee on Ministry recommends to the Conference Acting as an Association: standing for churches, the ordaining and commissioning of ministers, and receiving ministers of other denominations by Privilege of Call. It seeks to maintain relationships with persons authorized for ministry and Local Churches holding standing in the Conference. It transfers ministerial standing to or from another Association of the United Church of Christ, authorizes persons to licensed ministry, and confers Dual Standing on ministers of other denominations serving in a UCC setting. It establishes and maintains relationships with Members in Discernment preparing for ordained ministry, and with ministers of other denominations who are seeking Privilege of Call in the UCC. It recommends to the Conference Board of Directors an in-care relationship with new churches or an exploring-church relationship with existing congregations who are considering full standing in the UCC.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation
2024-0	Rev. Cindy Maddox	First UCC, Northfield
2024-0		
2024-0		
2024-0		
2024-0		
2024-1	Rev. Beth Donaldson	UCC New Brighton
2024-1	Rev. Mary Koon	Robbinsdale Parkway UCC, Robbinsdale
2024-1	Rev. Rick King	Falcon Heights UCC, St. Paul
2024-1	Rev. Shannon Smith	The Congregational Church UCC, Rochester
2024-2	Rev. Karl Jones	Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis
2024-2	Rev. Tim Johnson	Cherokee Park United Church, St. Paul
2024-3	Ole Olson	United Faith Community, Buffalo
2024-3	Rev. Desiree Gold	First Congregational UCC, Moorhead
2024-3	Rev. John Fiscus	Peace UCC, St. Cloud
2024-3	Rev. Kathy Itzin	Robbinsdale Parkway UCC, Robbinsdale
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-2	Barb Johnson	Union UCC, St. Louis Park
2025-2	Janet Bartz	The Congregational Church, Rochester
2025-2	Kari Hansen	Mayflower UCC, Minneapolis
2025-2	Rev. Ellen Green	Lynnhurst Congregational UCC, Minneapolis
2025-3	Rev. Beth Faeth	Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis
2025-3	Rev. Bryan Olson	Cottage Grove UCC
2025-3	Rev. Kathryn Morin	UCC New Brighton
2025-3	Rev. Kitty Burbo	The Congregational Church, Rochester

Board: Rev. Tony Romaine, Liaison to Committee on Ministry

Staff: Rev. Kelly Gallagher, Associate Conference Minister

Development Committee

The Development Committee promotes the financial development of the Conference through presenting annually a fund development plan to the Board of Directors, assessing donor prospects, and ensuring execution of a fund development plan.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation		
2024-0				
2024-0				
2024-1	Nancy Swanson	Cherokee Park United Church, St. Paul		
2024-3	Rudi Anders, Chair	Mayflower UCC, Minneapolis		
2025-1				
2025-1				
2025-2	Rick Wagner	Robbinsdale Parkway UCC, Robbinsdale	0	0
Board:	open, Liaison to Development			
Staff:	Bob Olsen, Director of Development			

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is responsible for human resource matters through recommending personnel policies to the Board of Directors, assisting in development of position descriptions, recommending staff compensation to the Finance Committee, and ensuring that performance reviews are conducted.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation		
2024-0				
2024-0				
2024-0				
2025-1	Anne Ehrenberg	UCC New Brighton		
2025-1				
2025-1				
2025-3	Jeorgia Cluckey	Community UCC, St. Paul Park		
2025-3	Sonja Martens	Edina Morningside UCC, Edina		
Board:	Rev. Victoria Wilgocki, Liaison to Personnel			
Staff:	Rev. Shari Prestemon, Conference Minister			

Annual Meeting Planning Work Group

The Annual Meeting Planning Work Group oversees all matters related to planning all Annual Meetings of the Conference.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation		
2024-0				
2024-0				
2024-0				
2024-1	Rev. Enno Limvere	First Congregational UCC, Grand Marais		
2025-1	Rev. Vanessa Bradby	New Spirit UCC, Savage		
2025-1	Cecilia Alexander	UCC New Brighton		
2025-2	Rev. Nora Elliott	St. Luke Presbyterian (PC-USA), Minnetonka		
2025-2	Rev. Robin Raudabaugh	Union Congregational UCC, Elk River		
Staff:	Rev. Shari Prestemon, Conference Minister			

Nominating Working Group

The Nominating Work Group makes nominations for positions to be elected by the Conference Annual Meeting and nominations for positions to be appointed by the Board of Directors.

Term	Name, Role	Congregation
2024-0		
2024-0		
2024-1	Rev. Elliot Howard	
2024-1	Rev. Howie Tobak	Saint Anthony Park UCC, St. Paul
2025-1	Jon Tufte, chair	Peace UCC, St. Cloud
2025-1		
2025-1		
2025-1		

Staff: Rev. Kevin Brown, Associate Conference Minister

General Synod Delegates

The Minnesota Conference chooses 19 delegates and 19 alternate delegates for each General Synod from among its authorized ministers and members of its Local Churches. Lay persons must comprise at least fifty percent of the delegates and the delegation must reflect the United Church of Christ's commitment to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The delegation must be representative of people of diverse races, ethnicities, genders, gender expressions and youth and young adults (at least twenty percent of each delegation shall be under 30 years of age, and where possible, be represented equally by high school age youth and young adults).

Class of 2027 - serving for General Synod 2023 & 2025

Delegate	Elizabeth O'Sullivan	First UCC, Northfield
Alternate		
Delegate	Noah Moore	The Associated Church, Owatonna
Alternate		
Delegate	Rev. Eli'jah Carroll	St. Paul's UCC, St. Paul
Alternate		
Delegate	Katie Johnson	Falcon Heights UCC, St. Paul
Alternate		
Delegate	Rev. Matt Orendorff	The Federated Church, Morris
Alternate		
Delegate	Bree McKee-Miller	Mayflower UCC, Minneapolis
Alternate		
Delegate	Rev. Victoria Wilgocki	St. Anthony Park UCC, St. Paul
Alternate		
Delegate	Jerry Locula	Peace UCC, Rochester
Alternate		
Delegate	Cole Marshall	First Congregational UCC, Anoka
Alternate		
Delegate	Skyler Honer	First Congregational UCC, Wadena
Alternate		

Class of 2025 - serving for General Synod 2021 (online) & 2023

Delegate Rev. Jill Warner
Alternate

New Journey UCC, Hutchinson

Delegate Rev. Charlotte Frantz
Alternate

Peace UCC, Duluth

Delegate Rev. Anna Larson
Alternate

Circles of Faith UCC, Waubun

Delegate Adam Thompson
Alternate

Colonial Church, Edina

Delegate Ash Koncar (youth delegate)
Alternate

Falcon Heights UCC, St. Paul

Delegate Rev. Dr. Justin Sabia-Tanis
Alternate

Robbinsdale Parkway UCC, Robbinsdale

Delegate Gary Kwong
Alternate

Union Congregational Church UCC, Hackensack

Delegate Rev. Justin Griffiths
Alternate

Delegation includes:

Rev. Sara Morse, Moderator

Rev. Shari Prestemon, Conference Minister