

Board of Trustees

MEETING: August 11, 2025, 7:00 pm Eastern Time

Pursuant to notice duly given, this meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association was held via Zoom conferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sofia Betancourt (President), Chris Chepel (Co-Financial Advisor), Barbara de Leeuw, Mary Heafy, Kimberly Quinn Johnson (Co-Moderator), Emily Koriath, John B. Newhall, Adam Robersmith, John Simmonds (Secretary), Vanessa Southern, David Stewart (Co-Financial Advisor), Justine Sullivan, Sam Trumbore (Financial Secretary), Bill Young (Co-Moderator)

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Carey McDonald (Recording Secretary & Executive Vice President), Stephanie Carey Maron (Governance Manager), Danielle Di Bona (chaplain)

OBSERVERS: Rev. Dr. Michelle Walksh and Clyde Grubbs, Nancy Reid McKee, Rev. Mr. Barb Greve, Chris Allen-Rowe, Meg Richardson, Stephanie Samson, Traci Davis, Judy Ball, Be Scott



Meeting Minutes

OPEN SESSION

Co-Moderators Kimberly Quinn Johnson and Bill Young opened the meeting to observers at 7:08 pm ET, and Board Chaplain Chris Buice shared an opening reading. The Board members then took turns reading their covenant, aloud.

Introductory Remarks

Co-Moderators Bill and Kimberly welcomed the Board members and observers, and expressed their excitement about co-facilitating their first board meeting.

New Congregations

Co-Moderator Johnson invited Be Scott of the Unitarian Congregation of Taos and Chris Allen-Rowe of the Mountain Unitarian Universalists to speak about their new congregations.

Co-Moderator Johnson moved, John Newhall seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the admission of the following congregations into membership with the UUA:

- Unitarian Congregation of Taos
- Mountain Unitarian Universalists

Co-Moderators' Report

Co-Moderators Johnson and Young provided updates on the following items since General Assembly 2025 ended:

- Filling two Board vacancies, with hopes to have them filled by October's in-person meeting.
- Received and responded to concerns from the LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) Board regarding religious educators. Will summarize these issues for staff and potentially discuss them further with the Board.
- Engaging in ongoing conversations about challenges at the MFC (Ministerial Fellowship Committee), with two new liaisons (Justine Sullivan and Adam Robersmith) now in place.
- Working on clarifying co-moderator roles and dividing workload, which they are finalizing with Governance Manager Stephanie Carey Maron, and plan to share with the full Board soon.
- Having regular meetings with S. Carey Maron, President Sofia Betancourt, and Executive Vice President Carey McDonald.

Information About October Meeting

S. Carey Maron explained how the Board would meet in Boston in October 2025, referencing an email sent by Betty Clark on August 5th.

A Welcome to the Year Ahead

President Betancourt welcomed new Co-Moderators Young and Johnson, and expressed gratitude for their service in the faith community. She highlighted the success of General Assembly and emphasized the importance of "meeting the moment" in addressing current challenges. EVP McDonald discussed ongoing initiatives and plans for the upcoming year, while also mentioning the need for strategic planning and engagement with the Board.

Sharing Hopes for the Year

Co-Moderator Johnson asked every person to share their hopes for the year ahead.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board began its meeting in Executive Session at 7:50 pm ET for the purpose of sensitive business.

Board Chaplain Buice shared a blessing/benediction, and the meeting ended at 9:09 pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carey McDonald

Recording Secretary

