

## **Board of Trustees**

**Monica Drane (Chair)** – Monica has been a member of 2U for more than a decade, and serves on the 2U Board of Trustees. Originally from a Chicago suburb and raised Catholic, Monica married Paul Shadle at the First Unitarian Society of Madison, WI. They have three children. At 2U, Monica has chaired the RE committee and volunteered in many capacities. Before becoming a parent, she worked in politics and as a Chicago public high school teacher.

**Darrin Weatherspoon (Chair Elect)** – Darrin is a single father of three: adopted son Cortez, 20; foster son Mario, 25; and nephew Marcus, 25. Each of these at-risk young men had varying special-needs issues which have been the primary focus of his life for the last 13 years. As they have matured and move to independence, he takes special joy in their success. Currently, Darrin is President and Managing partner of Dove Productions, a family-owned event planning and promotions company. He also serves as Director of Service Delivery for the William Everett Group, and is the program manager for the City of Chicago Enterprise Case Management project. He started attending 2U in 2009, during an extremely trying time in his life, and was impressed with the minister and the congregational warmth, even in its time of transition; he signed the book approximately 8 months later. Since joining, he has been a regular member of the hospitality team, has served as co-chair of the Committee on Ministries, and is a co-sponsor of the new Fellowship Group. He looks forward to serving the congregation in many capacities in the future.

**Kimberly Bares (Secretary)** – Kimberly Bares joined 2U in 1996 after meeting Jill Althage and Larry Lefferts in Baltimore shortly before she moved to Chicago. Through the years, she has served in many capacities, including Chair of the Board, and chairs of the Fundraising Committee, Stewardship Committee and Committee on Ministries. In 2006, she organized a delegation to visit our Partner Church in Transylvania, Romania and is the godmother of the former parish minister's daughter. She is the happy mom of Zoe, 7, a first-grader at Peirce Elementary in Andersonville. She and Zoe make a family with Jennifer Doyle, near Swedish Covenant Hospital. Kimberly has an economic development consulting practice in Chicago.

**Melanie Bienemann (Trustee, 1-year position)** – Melanie has been a Unitarian Universalist since 1999. She and her partner Dawn joined the Unitarian Universalist society in Iowa City, during their search for a place to have their commitment ceremony. She and Dawn served as co-chairs of the pledge campaign for their Iowa City society in 2003. In July 2004, they moved to Chicago, and transferred their membership to 2U in 2005. She has been a member of the Board of Trustees for the last two years. In her first year she served as liaison to the Building and Grounds Committee, and currently serves as board liaison to the Committee on Ministries.

**Jill Siegel (Trustee, 2-year position)** – Jill has been a member of 2U since 2002 when she and her then-fiance Jeff Siegel were looking for a spiritual home that would be comfortable for her Methodist and his Jewish backgrounds. She has been involved at 2U in a number of capacities: as editor of the Anvil, leasing coordinator for the loft, and organizer of various fundraisers. In late 2012, she joined the Sunday Services Committee. Professionally, Jill uses her planning and design background in her work as a community development consultant, providing physical planning, economic development, and fundraising strategies to a variety of non-profits including the Andersonville Development Corporation,

Center for Neighborhood Technology, LISC, and Rogers Park Montessori School. Jill holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia and a Masters of Architecture degree from Washington University in St. Louis. She and husband Jeff love being parents to their ever-amazing 8-year-old daughter Brooklyn, a second grader at Rogers Park Montessori School.

**Karen Fort (Trustee, 3-year position)** – Raised Unitarian, if anything, Karen Fort was married by our old minister Bart Gould in her front yard five blocks from the church, where she now lives with her husband. She formally joined Second Unitarian as a member in 1996, and her two teen kids benefitted from Youth Group and UU regional “Cons”. She served as treasurer in 2003-2004. She is a free-lance theater director, so one disadvantage is, there may be some specific over-committed weeks. But she doesn’t work full time, so she can volunteer, a way to live out our UU principles. Over the years she has gained a flexible perspective on many church issues, that often both ways will work.

**Molly Rossow (Trustee, 3-year position)** – Molly has been a member of Second Unitarian for over two years. She is active on the social justice council and has served as a co-representative for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

### **Nominating Committee**

**Rose Broome** – Being a part of the Nominating Committee will be a new experience for Rose. She has been involved with 2U for about four years, and most of her work has been related to cooking: coffee hour, the installation reception, Fall Fest, etc. She has found each 2U “adventure” in which she’s participated has presented the opportunity to get to know other members on a deeper level, and anticipates that this new task will do likewise.

**Margaret Redlich** - Margaret is a lifelong Unitarian-Universalist, dedicated at Second Unitarian and raised in the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian-Universalist Congregation in Springfield. She started attending 2U while at school at the University of Illinois at Chicago ten years ago. She has been active in the Young Adults Group, and is currently serving on the Sunday Services Committee.

**Erin Rusmi** - Erin has attended 2U for a year and a couple months. Having recently moved to Chicago, she was looking for a spiritual community, serendipitously found 2U while walking around the Lakeview neighborhood one day, and after some browsing of the website came to Sunday services one morning. She loved 2U right away and was excited to get involved. She sings in the choir, participates on the hospitality team on the first Sunday of each month, co-facilitates the young adult group, teaches Spirit Play, and is involved in the Sun Moon Group and the Social Justice Council.

**Neal Shankman** - Neal came to 2U in 2006 with his fiancée Carey Farrell looking for a pretty Unitarian church where a Jewish boy could marry a Catholic girl without anyone feeling left out, spiritually. After three years as an increasingly involved friend of 2U, he reconciled his Jewish identity with his UU beliefs and signed the book already. Along with Carey, Neal served as coordinator of the 2U Young Adults in 2009/2010, and on the Board as Council Chair from 2010 through 2012. He sings in the 2U Choir and helps coordinate the 2U Seder and an annual Folk (Music) Fundraiser.