

OUUC CANDIDATE PROFILES

OUUC Board Candidate Profiles, 2025



John Cox is a PNW native who lived all over Oregon and Washington before falling in love with Olympia just before Covid. He started attending OUUC two years ago, drawn in by the new-to-him idea of spirituality without dogma. Since then, he has been an active member of Building & Grounds team, Member Engagement, and this year's Stewardship committee where he enjoyed turning data into stories – something he now hopes to do on the Board. Outside church, he enjoys home improvement, brewing, running, and trying to teach a man to fish (himself)!



Ryan Baye joined OUUC in the spring of 2017, finding a spiritual home after giving up a Lutheran heritage and believing he would never find a place of worship that both encourages questions and personal exploration and allows for doubt. In the past eight years, he has engaged in several roles: co-chairing a Young Adult group and serving on the

2018 Ministerial Search Team, Rev. Mary's Transition Team, and, currently, the Tech Team. Ryan participates in congregational activities as his job allows, including the OUUC Dungeons and Dragons group, founded by Rev. Eric during COVID, and as a "strong back" during BBB. Outside OUUC, Ryan is the legislative director for an agricultural, natural resource, and environmental nonprofit. He enjoys books, baseball, board games, and baking.



Tiffany Felch has been attending OUUC with her family since 2012. They came looking for a spiritual home for their children, but also found personal inspiration, connection, and belonging within the OUUC community. Tiffany was an RE teacher and member of the Family Ministry Team for several years. She later served on the Ministerial Search Team that introduced Rev Mary to the congregation, followed by the Transition Team, Ministerial Development Team, and recently the Sabbatical Committee. She's a greeter on Sunday mornings and has served as a delegate to the UUA General Assembly for the past 5 years. Tiffany works as a Registered Dietitian in dialysis and enjoys hiking, biking, skiing and yoga on the weekends. She and her husband Erik are parents of 5 kids and grandparents of 2.

OUUC LDC Candidate Profiles, 2025



Cheryl Tafejian joined OUUC in 2007. She has been a member of the Pastoral Care and Welcome teams and has helped with both the auction and Books, Brownies, and Beans. Since retiring as an elementary school teacher, Cheryl has more time for swimming, yoga, and square dancing, and she enjoys traveling, especially to California and New York to visit family.



Martha Nicoloff has been a member of OUUC since 2010. She has participated in and facilitated several Soul Matters groups (formerly Circles of the Spirit), served as member and chair of the Adult Education committee, taught in the Spirit Play classroom, and served on the Board of Trustees. She is currently a member of the Healthy Congregations Team. Martha shares her home with her husband and two cats, and her yard with deer, rabbits, squirrels, birds and other partners in our interdependent web of life.