On Sunday, October 27, at the Annual Meeting, the members of the congregation will be asked to vote on officers and trustees for the 2020 Church Council. The Nominating Committee presents the following slate:

**President (January 2020 – December 2020)**

**Jenn Whittaker** lives in Canton with her husband Erik and their two children Arianna and Braden. She is the Instruction and Outreach Librarian at SUNY Canton. Jenn and her family joined the UU Church of Canton in 2012. She has served on the Religious Education and the Social Action committees and is currently active on the Canvass Committee. Jenn is also the cataloger for the church’s online library catalog and a teacher in the RE program. She enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, and spending time with friends and family.

**Vice President (January 2020 – December 2021)**

**Jon Montan** grew up in Upper Montclair, NJ, and attended St. Lawrence University during the Vietnam War period. At St. Lawrence he met Kathy and they were married in Gunnison Chapel the day after Jon graduated in 1971. After a teaching stint, graduate school at Utah State University, and searching for employment in a tight job market, the Montans settled in Pierrepont in 1977. Jon worked as a planner for over three decades at the SLC Planning Office, retiring from that position at the end of June 2012. Kathy and Jon joined the church in 1983. Jon currently serves as Secretary of Church Council. During 2016-2017, he served as Chairman of the Ministerial Search Committee; he has also served on the Buildings and Grounds Committee and currently serves on both the Worship and Environmental Action committees. Kathy and Jon have one son, Christopher, who resides in Massachusetts. Jon’s interests are wide-ranging but often gravitate toward scientific topics. It is fun to learn something new each day. “Let’s have coffee (or some other beverage) and talk.”

**Secretary (January 2020 – December 2021)**

**Mary Michalek** was drawn to Unitarian Universalism the autumn following her college commencement and was a member of the UU Society of Burlington for almost ten years before moving to Potsdam with her family. Since arriving at the Canton UU, she has been involved in providing music, readings, religious education, and an occasional sermon for the congregation. She joined Church Council as a Trustee in October of 2017 and serves as liaison to the Communications Committee. Mary is kept busy wrangling her six-year-old son Wally and continuously adding to her education. She is currently completing a master’s degree in library science and interning at local school libraries.

**Trustee (January 2020 – December 2021)**

**Ashley Clover** and her wife Gabby and their two girls are proud members of the Unitarian Universalist Church here in Canton. Ashley was brought to the UU in search of an inclusive community where her family could be active members, a community that would provide love and teach morals that they can practice in their everyday lives. They began attending service roughly three years ago. Ashley has been working with the Religious Education program for the last two years beginning with the third and fourth graders. She is now a teacher in “Love Will Guide Us” and also assists in the nursery. In the past, she has
provided LGBT workshops and facilitated conversations for the community at large through the UU. Ashley is excited to become further involved with the church as a member of the Church Council.

**Trustee (January 2020 – December 2021)**

**Stefan Grimberg’s** family has been attending the UU church since their arrival to the North Country in 1996. For the first several years as a new faculty member at Clarkson Stefan used Sunday mornings to catch up on unfinished work, which led his wife Jan to suggest that he take the blue newcomer cup during social hour whenever he attended Sunday service. Since then Stefan has served on the Investment Committee and for the past 20 years on Building and Grounds. Stefan values most the personal connections and the community the church has enabled his family to form, which allowed them to raise three boys and call the North Country home.

**Trustee (January 2020 – December 2020)**

**Bill Short** was born in Rochester, NY, and moved to Potsdam when he was in the first grade. He was raised in a Catholic household with a mother who would have loved to be a priest, and it occurred to Bill that he couldn’t be part of a community that doesn’t allow full participation to more than half its membership. Bill joined the UU Church of Canton with his late wife Pam in the early ’90s, which was the first time he felt at home in a religious setting. Bill lives outside of Madrid on the Grasse River with his spouse Cathy Tedford, their dog P.J. and cat Viggo. He is also the director of the Higher Education Opportunity Program at SLU.

**Trustee (January 2020 – December 2021)**

**Jim Williams** has been attending the UU Church for close on 20 years. He has worked for the Cerebral Palsy Association of the North Country for 24 years, providing a variety of services to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Jim’s wife Donna Dilworth and he raised their two daughters in Colton and they have now moved on to other parts of the country. Jim is inspired by the philosophy of the Unitarian Universalist Church and the dedication of members of our congregation towards social justice issues. He has been involved in the Religious Education program over the years and is currently one of the facilitators for the Our Whole Lives program. He would be honored to be a part of the Church Council to add his voice to help guide the congregation into the future.

**Nominating Committee Chair (January 2020– December 2020)**

**Eden Terrell** moved to Canton in January 2017 with her husband Kurt and two children Crosby and Harper after a four-year stint in Lake Placid. She works from home as a distance learning school registrar, a position she brought with her to the North Country from Brattleboro, Vermont. Eden has served on the Religious Education team for two years and is entering her second year of ringing with the handbell choir.

As a reminder, **Treasurer Gwen Cunningham and Trustees Julie Van Duyne and Kathy Wyckoff will continue in those roles to fill out the 2020 Church Council.**