First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany A Welcoming Congregation

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Key People at FUUSA

Rev. Samuel A. Trumbore serves the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany as minister. Before coming to Albany in 1999, Rev. Trumbore served in Port Charlotte, Florida for six years and three years in a consulting role in Niagara Falls, New York, the congregation in which he was ordained. He received his education for ministry in Berkeley, California at Starr King School for the Ministry. He is President of Iroquois Chapter of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, past President of the Unitarian Universalist Buddhist Fellowship and Facilitator for Still Forest Pool, a new organization supporting teaching of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction in the Capital Region. He is past President of a Capital Region faith based community organizing project called ARISE, A Regional Initiative Supporting Empowerment. He is also active with the West Hill Minister's Fellowship, Interfaith Impact and Family Planning Advocates. Rev. Trumbore is married to Philomena Moriarty Trumbore and together they have a son named Andy born in 1992.

Chuck Manning was elected President of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany (FUUSA) in the spring of 2010. Chuck is honored to serve as the President of FUUSA. He and his wife, Barbara, have been active members for over 35 years. During that time Chuck has served in many capacities including Vice-President, Board of Trustees, Canvass Committee and Canvass Chair, Finance Committee, RE Teacher, Endowment Trust Chair, Architect Committee Chair, Green Sanctuary Committee, and RE Council. This is an exciting and vital time for our congregation as we move forward. His goal for the year will be to work with the Board and the congregation to begin implementing the recommendations of the Strategic Plan. Chuck and Barbara have two grown children who went through the Religious Education program

Leah Purcell has been Director of Religious Education for the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany since 2007. She graduated Vassar with a degree in psychology and has been a teacher, co-administrator and teaching assistant in both public and private schools. She has also served in leadership roles supporting and organizing volunteers in various political and community organizations. Currently she serves as a trustee of the Valley Falls Free Library.

The Purcells, Leah - her husband Kevin and daughters Molly and Nora - came to FUUSA in the mid-nineties when the girls were little, looking for a spiritual home in which to grow as a family. Leah has taught Sunday school, served on the Religious Education Council both as a member and as chair, served as a youth advisor and helped organize UUA sponsored youth programs. She is a member of the Liberal Religious Educators Association and is enrolled in the UUA's Religious Education Credentialing Program.