

## Albany UU Annual Meeting

### Annual Meeting Sunday, May 16, 2021

**10:00 Virtual Service via Zoom**  
**11:00 Virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom**

The Albany UU Annual Meeting will be hosted via Zoom on Sunday, May 16, immediately after the service. In addition to the presentation of reports, business will include the presentation and adoption of the 2021-22 budget.

Ballots for all elections, both contested and uncontested, will be handled by mail. Active members eligible to vote will receive a ballot by mail, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope for returning completed ballots.

Remain on Zoom after service, or use the service link to join:

<https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-SundayService>

To dial in by phone: 1-929-436-2866  
Meeting ID: 299 018 7785  
Password: 0000



#### Ballots

The nominating committee will be mailing ballots to eligible voting members via USPS. Ballots will be printed on BOTH sides, the Uncontested on one side and Contested (for nominating committee) on the other. Instructions on how to rank the voting for Contested candidates is on the ballot. Included also, will be a self-addressed stamped envelope so ballots can be returned quickly. Thank you for your participation in our democratic process.

**Completed ballots must be received on or before 11:00 AM on Friday, May 14.**

#### Contested Elections

##### Nominating Committee

***(CORRECTED: One to be elected for a 2-year term, one to be elected for a 1-year term)***

Marty Hotvet, Rick Piet, Liz Richards Hart  
*(Continuing Nominating Committee members: Elizabeth Berberian, Randy Rosette, Kelly Smith, Todd Thomas)*

#### Uncontested Elections

##### Officers to be elected (1-year terms)

President.....Patti Jo Newell  
Vice-President.....Jan McCracken  
Ass't. Treasurer.....Kathy Harris

#### Uncontested Elections (*continued*)

##### Officers to be elected (2-year terms)

Treasurer ..... Richard Brewer  
Secretary ..... Molly Daniels  
*(Continuing Board Trustees: Zach Cunningham, Amie Jamieson, Geoff Abbas, Heidi Newberg)*

##### Endowment Trust

***(1 to be elected to a 5-year term)***

Steven Moskowitz

***(1 to be elected to a 3-year term)***

Kristen Abbas

*(Continuing Endowment Trust members: Tom Mercer, Jon Newell, Jeff English)*

## Albany UU Annual Meeting: Candidates

### 2021-22 elections

#### Officers

##### **President: Patti Jo Newell**

I would be honored to serve another year as president of the congregation. Albany UU has been central to our family for over two decades. I have learned and benefited most while active in the community, and have had the privilege of doing so in a variety of contexts. From co-chair of the erstwhile Social Events Committee to earlier terms as trustee and vice-president of the Albany UU Board and ad hoc committee work such as Welcoming Congregation, Habitat for Humanity, Inclusivity Team, Covenant Team, Safe Congregation Policy to regular stints in various Religious Education classes, I've been impressed by the strength and vitality of our community. As someone passionate about the vitality of congregational polity, I will continue to work to promote policy and program that would best reflect and serve the breadth of experience and need at Albany UU.



##### **Vice President: Jan McCracken**

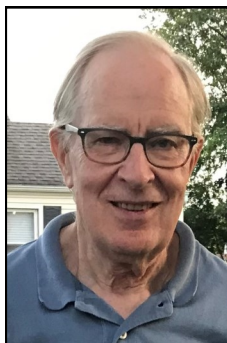


One of my good fortunes was being brought here 60+ years ago where I received the lifelong benefit of this congregation's alternative parenting. It was a healthy complement to my parents' liberal efforts! (Fred & Martha Schroeder) As I enter the aging process more deeply, I feel closer to knowing what gifts I have

to offer. I am motivated to continue to serve, to keep learning, growing, and contributing. I hope to support the needs of the congregation with respect to the living vision, mission, and covenant we share.

##### **Treasurer: Richard Brewer**

Dick is a retired financial advisor. He's been attending Albany UU since 1993 and has been a member since 2010. He is currently chair of the finance committee. He lives in Cohoes with his wife Paula who is also an active member of Albany UU.



##### **Secretary: Molly Daniels**

I am excited for the opportunity for continuing service to Albany UU as Secretary on the Board of Trustees. I have been in this role for two years, as a Trustee the two years prior and on the Governance Working Group so I am familiar with the current initiatives. Prior to that I was Youth Advisor, on the Nominating Committee, Personnel Committee, Chair of the Religious Education Council, RE Volunteer and RE Council member. I was born and raised Unitarian Universalist and have attended several different congregations before settling with my family in Albany. My husband Mark and I joined this congregation in 2001.



##### **Assistant Treasurer: Kathy Harris**



I have been a member of AUU for several decades, singing in the choir for the entire time. I served as Treasurer for several years and participated on the Finance Committee for more than two decades. I have been Assistant Treasurer for the last several years and happy to run for another year.

#### Endowment Trust

##### **Steven Moskowitz**

Having served as Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Endowment Trustee and Board Member, as well as Chair and Member of the Finance Committee, I would now like to focus my accumulated financial knowledge on the Endowment Trust (ET). Since becoming a member of Albany UU about 30 years ago, I have participated in numerous other large and small activities of this congregation. Along with a major continuing concern about keeping Albany UU on a sound economic footing, I would like to join with the current Endowment Trustees in finding an appropriate balance between social and environmental concerns and increasing the rate of return on our investments in accordance with our fiduciary responsibility. I look



forward to upholding my part of the responsibility for maintaining and building this vital community as a member of the Endowment Trust.

### Kristen Abbas

A native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, I have lived in NYS since 2000. From 2000-2011 I called Brooklyn home and



now live an abundant life in Wynantskill, with my spouse Geoff, my kids Ben (17) and Gideon (13), and my mom Rebecca.

My top five strengths, determined by Strengths Finder, are input, communication, connectedness, woo, and intellection. I think these describe me very well! I love people and information, and love to make connections and build community. I have a fantastic job, which enables me to passionately use these gifts,

with an organization that educates and empowers high-integrity CEOs and other senior leaders to be the best leaders that they can be.

I love my work but I love my family, my colleagues, my friends and my community even more! I am passionate about serving those in need and contribute time and resources to organizations that help the homeless, the poor, the uninsured and ill, the marginalized and abused. At Albany UU, I serve in hospitality capacities as an usher and a welcomer.

My motto:  
May I live this day  
Compassionate of heart,  
Clear in word,  
Gracious in awareness,  
Courageous in thought,  
Generous in love.  
~ John O'Donohue

## Nominating Committee

### Marty Hotvet

Born and educated on the West Coast, I came to New York City in 1969 and to Albany in 1982 where I became an Assistant Attorney General; I just retired in January. My family eventually joined Albany UU in the 90s for the Sunday School and the community. We left later in that decade. I recently returned after the demise of my marriage and the death of my daughter, which shattered me. Albany UU and Rev. Sam have been



wonderfully supportive - I have truly experienced a beloved community.

After I accepted the nomination for the Nominating Committee, I was asked to join the Board Policy Book committee, a committee much more suited to my 50 year experience as a lawyer. At this point I do not know whether I will have time to do justice to both committees.

### Rick Piet

I joined Albany UU in early 2017, shortly after moving to the Capital Region, and I'm grateful to have found such a



welcoming community. Since joining I have participated in workshops on developing white racial literacy and transgender inclusion; served as a greeter, an usher, and a member of the wine & cheese fundraising committee; and co-hosted the Christmas Eve cookie reception. Outside of Albany UU I work as a proposal manager for a government contractor, and during the pandemic I have spent a lot of time baking cookies and brewing beer. I love living in Albany with my wife, Amie Jamieson, and our four cats.

### Liz Richards Hart

I grew up in Delaware, but embraced Albany as my home for over a decade. Prior to Albany, I lived in cities throughout the Northeast while pursuing a variety of degrees and working in the arts, film, and theatre, including working at PBS for the history series American Experience, and a short stint as a mushroom farmer in rural New Hampshire. I am now an Associate Professor of Communications at The College of Saint Rose, where I teach film and audio production, film history, and theory. My academic and creative focus centers on anti-racist pedagogy and de-centering whiteness as the norm. Outside of work, I love family time with my daughter Octavia and wife Alison. I was not looking for a spiritual home when I first began attending Albany UU. Raised a Quaker and now religiously agnostic, I was primarily interested in filling a scheduling void left by the closing of a nearby trampoline park that featured Sunday morning toddler time. But I have come to deeply appreciate the values of this community and the people I have discovered here, and now I'm all in for Albany UU.







