

Service Opportunities at First UU of Wilmington

Compiled by Suzanne Perry, Volunteer Coordinator

"It is the journey, not the destination that matters most... take advantage of the opportunity to use your service in the church to deepen your spiritual life and further your spiritual journey."

Eric Walker Wikstrom, Author, "Serving with Grace"

Welcome to our list of volunteer opportunities! We're so glad you're browsing for ways to join in the work of making our church community possible. Please consult the current member directory for email addresses and phone numbers for the individual names in this listing. Each of these committees or teams will be delighted to hear from you!

Adult Religious Exploration and Adult Forum: Give members and visitors the opportunity to continue to grow spiritually through exploring a wide range of thought leaders and topics related to religion, science, literature and much more. The Adult Forum is led by Jim Davis. Learn more about the Adult Religious Exploration Team by contacting Barbara Lenahan.

Audit: Ensures church office compliance with standard auditing practices. Contact Marilyn Hyte, Dale Stratton, or Suzanne Proud.

Booster Cards: Raise money for the church by helping with promotion and sales of booster cards. Contact Marilyn Hyte or Elyse Reznick.

Book Corner: If you have a passion for reading, join our **Book Corner** team to keep enticing titles in stock and to open for business on Sunday mornings after workshop services in the Parish Hall. For more information contact Debbe Krape or Suzie Cornell.

Building and Grounds: Just like it sounds... help keep our building and grounds in good working order with weeding, mulching, pruning, snow removal, painting, electrical repairs, and a variety of minor household repairs. Please contact Dee Burdash for information on current and future projects.

Communications: Provide audio-visual, photography, graphics arts or writing and editing services for our website, newsletter and other church communications. For more information, please contact our Church Administrator Marina Van Rennsen.

Connection Circles and Soul Matters Groups: Gathering in small groups on a monthly basis strengthens our community while it provides each of us with the opportunity to grow personally through deepening interactions with others. Each year new Connection Circle and Soul Matters group facilitators are needed. Contact Rev. Roberta Finkelstein for more information.

Children and Youth Religious Education: Volunteers are a vital part of our efforts to provide programs for children, youth and families that promote religious and ethical development in an accepting, nurturing, and fun environment. We strive to provide a program which supports parents, children and youth in their spiritual quests while nurturing a sense of belonging. Volunteers are needed! Please contact Catherine Williamson, Director of Religious Exploration, through the church office.

Denominational Growth: The work of this team is focused on growing new congregations in our region. They are looking for help with publicity and assisting in the grants for growth program. Contact Team Lead Vivian Gray.

Greeters: If friendliness and warmth toward strangers and friends alike comes natural to you, your smile is needed to greet all comers on Sunday mornings. This is an easy, fun job and very worthwhile. New Greeters are always being added to this robust team of 35. Contact Burley Melton for more information.

House Pins: Through the sale of house pins, First U is able to raise money for the YWCA of Delaware's housing for homeless women with children. This small, hard-working team would welcome your participation. Contact Team Lead Bev Bach.

Independent Living for Young Adults (ILYA): In our state, foster children "age out" of the foster care system and become independent adults at age 18. Helping these young adults make a successful transition to independence is a vital mission of our church. There are many interesting and rewarding volunteer opportunities with ILYA. Contact Team Leads Lois Morris and Betty Wier.

Member Engagement and Development: This team is tackling a broad scope of member engagement, volunteer involvement and leadership development tasks for First UU's members and friends. We welcome your involvement! Contact Suzanne Perry.

Outreach: Help get the word out about First UU Wilmington. Many people are looking for a new spiritual home and don't even know we're here. Help attract visitors and friends with pot luck dinners, social gatherings, advocacy, Sunday services and much more. Help expand our social media presence. / Contact Debbi Zarek for more information.

Pastoral Care: Members of this team reach out to congregants who are facing unusual stresses or changes in life, experiencing illness or hospitalization, struggling with a recent loss, or who would appreciate someone who can provide companionship during a challenging time. It offers transportation to church and medical appointments as well. There is a Caregivers Support Group and a Knitting Ministry. Contact: Deb Griffin.

Social Action: Movement for a Culture of Peace is working on the second annual **Peace Week Delaware**, Sept 17-24, 2017, coinciding with the observance of International Peace Week. Join in planning this ambitious collaboration of events, exhibits, concerts, and observances across the state—and perhaps even another peace parade in Wilmington! <http://www.peaceweekdelaware.org/> Contact Jeff Lott.

Strategic Planning: This standing committee of the Board provides on-going strategic thinking and plans designed to address our present and future challenges. A few new members are needed each year who have experience with big picture planning. Please contact Co-Chairs Linda Sanders and Phil Krape.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC): The UUSC advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. To join our UUSC team, contact Team Lead Doyle Dobbins.

Ushers: Ushering is a great place for anyone to get actively involved, to meet people and make friends while performing an important service. Please contact Gary Blegstad.

If you have questions about any of this information or would like assistance with getting involved, please contact Suzanne Perry, First UU Wilmington Volunteer Coordinator, via email to suzannefirstchurch@gmail.com or call me: 302-543-6566
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