



Ann Bradley (1 year term) has been a member of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation since 2007. Along with her husband, Jim Olson, she taught Religious Education when their son, Nate, now 22, was in elementary school. Ann also occasionally volunteered for the bazaar. Her involvement at RRUUC increased in 2020, when she retired from a career in journalism and public relations focused on K-12 education. She served on the Financial Stewardship Committee from 2020-2022 and is now a member of the Finance Committee. Ann is also one of the co-chairs of the White Elephant section of the bazaar and has recently joined an RRUUC women's group. Her other commitments include serving as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for foster children and helping first-generation and low-income students at Quince Orchard High School in Gaithersburg apply for college. She also volunteered for two years in the Writing Center at Walt Whitman High School.



Susan Brodsky Burnett (2 year term) and her husband, Laird, have been attending UU services in Maryland since 2005, and at RRUUC specifically since 2012. Wanting a spiritual home for herself and religious education for her two kids (Jack, age 25, and Ben, age 23), Unitarian Universalism provided the community in which to learn about religions, faith, and progressive action; and River Road provided a caring and nurturing environment for her entire family.

With a deep belief in the role of service in building relationships, Sue has had the pleasure of serving alongside other River Roaders in several different capacities over the years including the L&N committee (2015-2017), the Bazaar (2019-present), the Spring Services Auction (2024) as well as many stewardship efforts including the Capital Campaign (2014-2015) and the Financial Stewardship Committee (2018-2022). In addition to volunteering at RRUUC, she has enjoyed connecting with other River Roaders through One-to-One conversations, common book reads, group classes and the small women's group she joined in 2021. Perhaps most rewardingly, many deep friendships have been fostered at RRUUC for which she will be forever thankful.

Sue is retired after 33 years of working for non-profits, political campaigns, and on Capitol Hill. Her professional experience is in fundraising and communications, most recently as the Senior Director for Development in Economic Studies at The Brookings Institution. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering, reading, walking, biking, dancing, and pickleball.



Vonna Heaton (2 year term) is a passionate and lifelong student and practitioner of Unitarian Universalist principles. She became a Unitarian Universalist and joined River Road UU Congregation in 2013 and proceeded to put her energy and passion to use by serving with several groups, including the Racial Justice Task Force, Action in Montgomery core team, Welcome Team, and Social Justice Review and Ministry Teams. She has also been nurtured by many small group fellowships, including Beloved Conversations, Spirit Journey, Inquirers, and her Women's Groups. Vonna implemented the inaugural Actions for Justice Racial Justice Pathway, which works to enhance and positively impact national voter outreach.

Vonna recently served on the RRUUC Board of Trustees, including a term as co-chair. She was a member of the newly formed Social Justice Ministry Team which "reimagined" social justice engagement at the congregation. She is currently participating on the Board visioning and strategic planning team which seeks to lay a vision and implementation strategy for the Board and congregation in the next five years.

Vonna also serves on the Board for a non-profit that is reshaping the local food system by reducing barriers to accessing nutrient dense fresh produce for those experiencing food insecurity in our communities, promoting improved health outcomes through Food Is Medicine programs for low income residents at risk of chronic diet related diseases, and supporting local small-scale produce farmers through fair-price purchase programs.

Before joining the ranks of the joyfully retired persons, Vonna's first career was as a math teacher, and then 34 years as a federal employee. She earned many distinctions, including the National Intelligence Superior Service Medal and the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award. She is most proud of her Agency-level employee nominated Mentor of the Year and Supervisor of the Year Awards. Vonna and her husband Ed live just west of Rockville, MD. Her life has been graced by the love of family, including her identical twin sister Valri, and is the proud aunt to nieces and nephews in whose lives

she engages in on a regular and symbiotically supportive basis. She and Ed are also parents to Ed's daughter Sarah and son Tony and Tony's daughter, Autumn Moon. She enjoys hiking and exploring new plant-based recipes.



Arthur Paterson (2 year term) has been active at RRUUC for close to 20 years, participating in the choir, a men's group, and circle suppers. He worked at NOAA for 35 years, focusing on U.S. international ocean policy. Today, Arthur serves on the board of the Children's Choir of Washington, and he's a former board member of Gala Hispanic Theatre and the Thomas Circle Singers. Arthur and his wife, Maria, both sing in the RRUUC choir, and their two daughters are deeply involved in music. Art and Maria much appreciated that RRUUC invited their daughter Katherine, a singer/songwriter, to perform at a service in March.



Lauree Sails (2 year term) began attending RRUUC in May 2019, and she joined a year later, at the start of the pandemic. She tries to help wherever she can. For the Immigration team, she coordinated donations of furniture and household goods and helped set up an apartment for a family of Afghan refugees. For the Pastoral Care team, directed by Rev. Nancy, she reached out to members during the COVID pandemic to communicate and check on their well-being, and she organized a small group of volunteers to read to a member whose eyesight was unreliable. She contributed groceries and helped load bags of food to help To Be Well Fed. She has also worked from setup to take down for each of the Bazaars since 2019, primarily in Intake and Linens.

Lauree has retired from two careers. Just out of college, she became a CPA and worked as an accountant for a number of companies, primarily in the oil business. In her forties, Lauree decided to return to the liberal arts roots from my college days and change careers. She went to graduate school, earned a Ph.D. in art history, and enjoyed a second career as a professional staff member in the Art History and Archaeology Department at the University of Maryland, College Park.