

NOMINATING REPORT BIOGRAPHIES

For WRA Council:

Rev. Kelly Boyte Brill has served as the Senior Minister at the Avon Lake United Church of Christ since 1995. Prior to Avon Lake, she was the Associate Minister at Lakewood Congregational Church and also served Disciples churches in Illinois and Texas. She is a graduate of Kalamazoo College, Vanderbilt Divinity School and the Association of Chicago Theological Schools Doctor of Ministry in Preaching program (through Chicago Theological Seminary). She has served several terms on the Church and Ministry Department for the Western Reserve Association and is currently serving on the Ohio Conference Board of Directors. In her free time, she enjoys reading, exercise, movies, theater, and travel. She is married to Douglas Brill; they have a blended family of five children.

Rev. Tom Cofer is the Senior Pastor of First Church, Congregational UCC in Painesville where he has served for a little over two years. He previously served congregations in Indiana and Iowa. He received his BA from Valparaiso University and his M.Div. from Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis. Tom is currently working on a D.Min from St. Mary Seminary in Wickliffe. Tom is married to Lisa and are the parents of twin girls, Zoe and Kara (age 6) and a son Liam (age 4). Tom looks forward to the opportunity to continue being of service to the WRA.

Don Michaelsen lives in Olmsted Falls. He is a retired driver education instructor for Top Driver. He is a sixteen year member of First Congregational UCC, Berea. Don has served as the chairperson of the Pastoral Search Ministry Team, as well as serving on the church's Stewardship Team. He is also a liturgist and *Crossway* proofreader at First Church, Berea. Don has served as a lay delegate to WRA meetings. He is a former UCBHM staff for the capital development team. Don has been married to Phyllis for 44 years and they have two adult daughters, Erin & Gwen, who also reside within the Western Reserve with their families.

Rev. Joyce Morris has served as chaplain at Fairview Hospital for some 10 years before retiring from that work. Joyce is Senior Pastor at Zion UCC in Tremont. She is a graduate of Capital University (Columbus), received her masters from Methesco (Delaware, Ohio) and her doctorate from United in Dayton. Joyce is a mother of three and a grandmother of five. Her hobbies include golf, cooking, reading and home repairs.

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For Department of Church and Ministry:

Charles Brown is presently the pastor at Auburn Community Church (UCC) where he is responsible for the spiritual life of the congregation and provides services in the areas of preaching, teaching, weddings, funerals and counseling. During his 5 years at Auburn UCC the church has grown from 12 to 15 members at the Sunday worship service to 30 to 40 each Sunday. Prior to his serving at Auburn UCC Pastor Charles most recently served in the national offices of the United Church of Christ as Minister for African American Relations reporting directly to the General Minister and President. Charles was responsible as liaison between the national church (UCC) and all of the African American UCC congregations in the denomination.

Prior to joining the national UCC staff Mr. Brown served as Executive Director of Union Miles Development Corporation (UMDC) a nonprofit neighborhood development organization focusing on the development of housing and support services for the residents of the Union - Miles area of Cleveland. Mr. Brown is the President and consultant with c e brown & associates, a consulting firm, specializing in nonprofit board activities. Mr. Brown has over 30 years experience in the business community in the areas of planning and marketing. Mr. Brown was employed at Ohio Bell Telephone Company (now AT&T) for 27 years.

Charles is presently a board member of the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Cuyahoga County and chair of the Finance Committee. Charles is also a member and board chair of St Paul's Community Church (UCC) Community Outreach Program, a nonprofit community service organization of the church. Charles has served the nonprofit sector through a number of involvements; he served as a trustee on the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County, Cleveland Treatment Center, Cudell Improvement, InterAct Cleveland and Community Shares. Mr. Brown is also a member at Mt. Zion Congregational United Church of Christ where he and his family have been lifelong members. Mr. Brown is a founding member and first past President of the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the United Black Christians of the United Church of Christ and is presently their national Treasurer.

Jim Crosbie was born 1934 in Scotland. He attended college in Glasgow and is a licensed Chartered Engineer of the UK and Member of the Institute of Production Engineers. Jim gave two years of National Service in Royal Navy. He worked for Caterpillar for 30 years and is now retired. He has served in various managerial positions in a number of countries. A long time Presbyterian, Jim joined Old South Church in 1969. He has served on many boards and was Chairperson of Old South's Search Committee. Jim is serving as a member of the Credentialing working group on the WRA's department of Church and Ministry. Jim is married and is the father of three adult children. He lives in Mentor, Ohio.

Rev. Alana Kelley has been Pastor at Magyar United Church of Christ in Elyria, Ohio since 2007. Previously she served as Minister for Youth and Families at Avon Lake United Church of Christ. She is especially interested in church vitality and revitalization. Alana has served two terms on the WRA Department of Christian Education and is beginning her second term on the Department of Church and Ministry. Alana previously taught high school art in North Easton, Massachusetts until 1980 (BS Art Ed Kutztown; MS Art Ed Mass. Art). She was chef and owner of Foxgrape Cafe in Oberlin, Ohio until she was called to minister in God's cafe. She received her M.Div. from The Methodist Theological School in Delaware, Ohio in 2004 and was ordained by the UCC that same year.

Alana and David have been married for 37 years. David teaches East Asian Studies and Chinese History at Oberlin College. They have two wonderful adult sons, Matt and Zack, and a daughter in law, Tammy. Alana's very favorite pastime is hanging out with her 9 year old grandson, Solomon. (They've recently started piano lessons together.) A second grandson is due in January!!

Cynthia Mahoney is a member at Faith United Church of Christ in Richmond Heights, Ohio. She was born and raised in Barrie, Ontario, Canada where she grew up in the United Church of Canada. Cynthia's father is a retired minister and served Grace United Church as its pastor for thirty-seven years which gave her the unique opportunity to grow up a part of a single church family, something that is rare for most minister kids. Cynthia and her husband moved to the Cleveland area from Halifax, Nova Scotia for Mike's work in 2003 and have settled in Painesville Township. She is an Art Historian but is currently a stay at home mom to Kathryn who is 8 and Jackson who is 5.

Roger Davis Swan grew up in Flushing, New York and was a confirmed member of First Congregational Church there. When his family returned to Richfield, Ohio, he attended Richfield United Church of Christ. Since the 1980's, Roger has been a member of South Haven United Church of Christ in Bedford. He loves the United Church of Christ, having held many different positions in church leadership over the years. Roger has a B.A. in Sociology from Yankton College and an M.Ed. from Kent State University. He has worked in the helping professions as a social worker and counselor, as well as working as a carpenter/builder. Roger recently retired from the Village of Richfield as the Director of Planning and Zoning.