

**NOMINEE NAME:** Tom Mulcahy

**POSITION:** Board President, 2019-2020



I was born in New York and grew up in the United Kingdom. I returned to the States in my early twenties. Our family moved to Indianapolis in 1994. I have two college-age daughters: Emma and Fiona. Our girls are attending Purdue University and Ball State University, respectively.

I am a Humanistic Naturalist. I am also very new to Unitarian Universalism (Fall 2015). Though, like many of you, I suspect I have probably been a UU for most of my adult life, and just not known it.

I joined All Souls in January of 2016, after shopping around the local UU churches during the prior late-summer. I chose to come back to All Souls because it was the friendliest (thank you, Linda Burns and Petra Ritchie!)

This is the end of my third year on the Board, the last two, serving as Vice President. It has been my honor and privilege to be part of this community. I am excited and delighted to have the opportunity to continue to serve on the board.

**Which of the seven principles are meaningful to you when you consider running for this position?**



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# 1: "The inherent worth and dignity of every person."

As a representative of the members of All Souls, I believe that my primary duty is to listen to, communicate with, and act upon the needs and desires of our community; as expressed by our democratic process. We must assume the positive intentions of our fellows, especially when we disagree. I am the first to admit that this can be challenging. But without our assumption of the good intentions of all parties, we will always fall short of the promises that are embodied in our covenant with each other.

# 7: "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

Throughout our long history, we humans have had an intuitive understanding of the robust, and sometimes fragile, interdependence of all life. Often, to our peril, we are distracted by the narrow and narcissistic belief that we are somehow very different from, and superior to the other organisms, with which we share our lives.

Science has shown us that, despite our ancient and misguided myths, we are not the center of the Universe. In fact, the more we learn, the more it becomes clear that we live in an unremarkable backwater of an unremarkable galaxy; lost in a vast ocean of countless of trillions of other galaxies. Today, especially, with our noses to the grindstone (or mobile device), it is all too easy to fail to appreciate the big picture of the awesome world, of which we are a part. As the great sage, Bueller, once said: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

With this perspective, I hope to serve All Souls, attending to the details, while keeping the bigger picture in mind.

**What do you aim to accomplish during your tenure?**

Those of us elected to the board are here to represent the will of our members. To the best of our ability, we strive to provide fiduciary stewardship, as well as strategic leadership and direction. But without your active support and participation, ours will not become the beloved community to which we aspire.

The members and friends of All Souls have set some lofty goals, with regards to kind of community we want to be. The success of our recent Capital Campaign clearly demonstrates, that when called upon, we show up and put up! We have already seen some of the physical changes to our property, and will be witness to even more in the coming months.

Our plans for transformation, though, are so much more than simple cosmetics. With the addition of our new staff and reorganized leadership, we are poised to become the very vital



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heart of our local and wider community: the heart that we know we can and should be. Together, we can grow to extend our welcome to so many more souls.

We have a great message and mission: it is time to let the secret out and shout it from the rooftops!

**What are your expectations from the congregation and the board to support you?**

We are in the midst of important changes in our All Souls community. It is up to all of us, who choose to be part of this community, to take ownership and action. We must strive to ensure that we control these changes, rather than leaving it up to someone else.

The simple truth is that there is no one else.

It's just us.

Together, we can and will succeed.

