

We heard from you that you enjoyed our Staff Spotlights over the past year, and that some of you missed them since each one ran for only a week. So, we're going to run them again over the next year. Be on the lookout every 5<sup>th</sup> week for more Staff Spotlights.

UCE is truly fortunate to have Steven Eason caring for and managing our building. Steven and Liz work as a team, keeping the building clean and maintained, handling set-up and clean-up for countless meetings, events and rentals, everything from the rummage sale to UCE's hosting of the Overnight Emergency Shelter in cold weather. Steven's attention to detail can be seen every week in [his preparation of the sanctuary on Friday or Saturday evening \(click here for video\)](#), so it is ready on Sunday morning. Steven is refreshingly candid and genuine with a warm, ready laugh.

Steven grew up in Evanston and has made his home here. His mom and grandmother live nearby, so he sees them frequently. Steven and our sexton, Liz Kennedy-Eason, met eleven years ago, dated and became a couple while working at an area restaurant. Liz was also working part-time at UCE as the sexton. When a custodial position at UCE became available, Steven was hired. Steven and Liz were married at UCE by Rev. Connie Grant on August 6, 2016.

Among the things Steven remembers from his first days at UCE was the labor-intensive, intricate task of setting up and taking down the choir risers when an event required extra space on the chancel. He was so impressed to learn Robb Geiger had designed the risers. Steven also remembers scrubbing and sanitizing every surface at UCE in March of 2020 at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Q:** What's the best thing about your job?

**Steven:** The independence in arranging my work schedule and working with Liz.

**Q:** In the spirit of Shared Ministry, what is something the congregation could do to better collaborate with you?

**Steven:** Please make sure your candy/food wrappers, used tissues, and other things make it IN the garbage.

**Q:** What's the worst part of your job?

**Steven:** Cleaning up after former Rummage Sales that once occupied the basement as well as UCE's main floor. Clean-up and set-up of the sanctuary, basement and classrooms once took over 12 hours. It's not nearly as grueling as it once was.

We are grateful, Steven, for all you do to care for our sacred space!