

The Reverend Jennifer Nordstrom

Qualifications

Preliminary Fellowship in the Unitarian Universalist Association; Masters of Divinity from Starr King School for the Ministry. Experienced preacher and worship leader, known for inspiring and embodied worship. Perceptive pastor trained in giving individual guidance and navigating group dynamics. Seasoned communications coordinator with strong interpersonal skills. Respected social justice organizer and trainer with years of experience; four international, two national, one state, and two local. Award-winning writer and researcher with eight years professional experience writing, editing, designing, and publishing publications.

Education

2010-2013 Starr King School for the Ministry
Masters of Divinity
Vice-President of the Student Body, 2011-2012

2000-2003 City University of New York, Hunter College
BA, Political Science and Women's Studies
GPA 3.87, Magna cum Laude

- Recipient of the 2001 Elise Underhill Eaton Award for a Women's Studies Academic Research Paper, based on originality and contribution to scholarship.
- Recipient of 2003 Katherine Duffy Award for outstanding scholarship in Political Science.

Relevant Work Experience

Aug 2014-Present, Interim Minister, Third Unitarian Church

Led a Unitarian Universalist congregation on the Westside of Chicago through a transition, increasing pledge support, attracting new members, and clarifying the congregation's mission and vision. Created a new Worship Associates' program. Created a small group ministry program. Oversaw 100% turnover of staff. Officiated memorial services, weddings, and child dedications.

Aug 2013-June 2014, Hallman Ministerial Intern, Unity Church-Unitarian

Led multigenerational chapel service every Wednesday evening, and significantly increased participation and embodiment in those services this year. Participates in the executive leadership decision-making of the church as a member of the Executive Team. Helps steer the anti-racist and cultural competency efforts of the church as a staff member of the Anti-Racism Leadership Team. Co-Facilitated and led the church's seminal Beloved Conversations series, a 28-hour curriculum adapted to be a multi-racial, multi-faith experience for Unity Church by author Mark Hicks. Collaborated with Hicks to adjust the curriculum during the process in order to make it more appropriate to the different cultures of participating congregations. Leads Elders Circle Group, a monthly group that integrates adult education, spiritual development, and pastoral care. Makes regular pastoral care visits and participates in the Pastoral Care Team. Staff liaison to the Sustainable Agriculture Group, has led the group to institutionalize its values in Unity's

food ministry. Currently leading the Pastoral Care Team, and sharing worship responsibilities and executive responsibilities with Lisa Friedman, while Co-Ministers Rob and Janne Eller-Isaacs are on sabbatical in April and May 2014.

May 2012-Aug 2013, Young Adult Intern, UU Ministry for Earth (UUMFE)

Founded and built the foundations of a new UU young adult network on climate change and environmental justice, with over 200 members nationally, and two local action areas. With Pamela Sparr, adapted UUMFE's environmental justice (EJ) curriculum for young adults, and delivered two weekend-long young adult EJ training and organizing sessions. Mapped young adults currently working on environmental, environmental justice, and climate change issues, existing opportunities for young adults working on these issues, and young adult needs for more effective, connected, and intergenerational work on these issues. Made recommendations to the UUMFE Board about how to work with young adults on these issues and how to continue the network.

2011-2013 Assistant for Children's and Family Ministry, First Unitarian Church of Oakland

Provided general clerical, organizational, chapel and classroom support on Sunday mornings. Welcomed children and their parents; oversaw registration, collected fees and tracked attendance. Substituted as a worship leader for Children's Chapel and in program room. Maintained resources, supplies, and equipment along with the Director of Children and Family Ministry. Communicated regularly with families about their children. Created work plan with the Director.

2008-2010 National Campaign Coordinator, Carbon-Free and Nuclear-Free Campaign, Institute for Energy and Environmental Research (IEER)

Coordinated and managed all aspects of the national Carbon-Free Nuclear-Free (CFNF) campaign. Conducted campaign strategy sessions with leaders of various key environmental, anti-nuclear and disarmament organizations, including Friends of the Earth, the Institute for Policy Studies, Public Citizen, and the Nuclear Information Resource Service. Organized several successful CFNF conferences. Identified, recruited, and developed relationships with key strategic partners. Delivered public speeches around the country advocating for a CFNF energy system. Appeared on numerous radio and television programs including the LaCrosse News, Milwaukee Public Television, Santa Fe Public Radio, Cincinnati's *Radical Analysis*, and Wisconsin Public Radio, among others. Created and maintained the campaign website, www.carbonfreenuclearfree.org.

2008-2010 Core Organizer, Think Outside the Bomb national youth network for nuclear abolition

Core organizer of Disarmament Summer for young people, a series of events culminating in a mass permaculture encampment and protest at Los Alamos National Labs in August 2010. Conducted massive outreach and grassroots organizing with youth and young adults. Developed, maintained and expanded the Think Outside the Bomb (TOTB) national youth network. Conducted media and messaging work. Raised the majority of the funds for the project. Developed relationships with Indigenous and Chicano partners

around Los Alamos. Managed strategic planning and organized the direct action for the campaign. Organized and facilitated two national conferences for young nuclear abolitionists. Helped develop leadership in the network and bring it out from under its parent organization, such that it is now an autonomous youth-led group. Moved the largely educational network into a campaign and organizing mode.

2005-2007 Project Manager, Reaching Critical Will, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

Organized and coordinated international nuclear disarmament groups at the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the UN General Assembly and the Conference on Disarmament, and served as the civil society liaison to the United Nations. Represented WILPF to the public and the United Nations on disarmament matters, in oral and written form. Spoke publicly on disarmament matters regularly, and appeared on radio and television programs. Wrote for, edited, designed and published the primary daily and weekly disarmament newsletters covering various international disarmament meetings. Wrote and edited the *2007 Model Nuclear Inventory*, and was a co-author of the book *Nuclear Disorder or Cooperative Security?* Managed the high-traffic website, www.reachingcriticalwill.org. Recruited, trained, managed and evaluated teams of interns.

2003-2005 International Coordinator, Global Action to Prevent War

Organized and coordinated communications and activities among the eight National Steering Committees, the International Steering Committee, and the UN Working Group of Global Action. Organized and facilitated national and international meetings, panels, presentations, and conferences, including several workshops at the World Social Forum. Developed and maintained substantive programs and networks in conflict prevention, disarmament and peacekeeping. Co-organized the historic first civil society conference on conflict prevention at the United Nations. Researched, wrote and edited articles for the Global Action newsletter and website, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom's *First Committee Monitor*. Developed and managed the website www.globalactionpw.org. Identified, researched, and cultivated fundraising prospects and wrote grant proposals. Performed administrative duties and recruited, trained, managed and evaluated interns.

2002-2003 Women's Editor, *The Hunter Envoy*

Re-oriented and expanded the women's section to focus on gender, including sexuality. Wrote and edited a full section's articles for bi-weekly newspaper with a readership of 22,000. Developed and maintained working relationships with important women's groups on campus, and directed staff writer.

Spring 2000 Assistant Canvass Director, Peace Action National Office

Transformed an aloof managerial staff struggling with retention into a welcoming environment that retained canvassers. Assisted in coordinating and implementing the canvassing field plan, selecting, organizing, and filing potential canvass areas. Recruited, trained, managed and evaluated canvassers, volunteers and organizers. Developed and facilitated daily half-hour field training sessions. Consistently exceeded fundraising goals, and trained others to do so.

Spring 2000 Administrative Intern, UUA Washington Office

Researched and wrote articles and continually updated the website. Compiled first media contacts database for new media kit.

Spring 2000 Press Intern, Office of Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin

Data Management: processed and disseminated hundreds of press clips to staff, then organized and filed them. Processing thousands of constituents' requests. Wrote several published press releases. Managed the office alone for one week.

Spring 2000 Volunteer Counselor, DC Rape Crisis Center

Counselor on the rape crisis hotline for Washington DC for several overnight shifts every month, and at the hospital for one shift per month. Took 200 hours of training to be a counselor, the most extensive training in the country.

References

Rev. Eller-Isaacs, Rob. Co-Minister, Unity Church-Unitarian.

Rev. Eller-Isaacs, Janne. Co-Minister, Unity Church-Unitarian.

Rev. Dr. Parker, Rebecca. President Emerita and Professor of Theology Emerita, Starr King School for the Ministry.