



KNOW YOUR CONFERENCE OFFICERS

MEET YOUR CONFERENCE OFFICERS



The Rev. Cynthia “Wally” Hoeger (she/her), **Moderator** of the Conference. In this role, Wally has served on the Conference Board of Directors and the Annual Gathering Planning Team. Wally grew up in this conference and has served three churches over her career, including First Congregational Church of Los Angeles and Manhattan Beach Community Church. Wally has worked full-time in children’s and youth ministry for more than 15 years, and currently serves First Congregational Church of Long Beach as their Designated Associate Minister. She received her M.Div. degree from Claremont School

of Theology and a B.A. degree in Religious Studies and Organizational Studies and Leadership from Chapman University. Passionate about supporting and equipping parents to engage in faith practices at home, she lives in Long Beach with her wife, Kelly, their baby Laurel, and a menagerie of cats, dogs, and chickens.



The Rev. Ashley Hiestand (she/hers) **Vice Moderator** is the joyful pastor of Mount Hollywood UCC. She also is a member of the Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI) a leadership development initiative of the UCC Pension Boards for young clergy, and part of the programming committee for Pilgrim Pines. She comes from a line of fierce women — Elika, Rusha, Doris and Laurie — and her favorite hymn is *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*. (She will request it if given the opportunity!) Ashley holds an M.Div. degree from Pacific School of Religion and a B.A. degree from Occidental

College, where she studied Urban and Environmental Policy. Ashley lives in Koreatown with her beloved wife, Kelly, and their cat, Penny.



The Rev. Jude Johnson (he/they) Chair of the Board of Directors Board Jude is a member of Pilgrim UCC in Carlsbad, and a Board Certified Chaplain. Jude is in a four-way covenant as the Faith Aloud Manager of All Options. In this role, Jude recruits, trains, and supports volunteer Spiritual Care Counselors to serve on the Faith Aloud Spiritual Care line. This free and confidential resource provides spiritual care to callers across the United States and Canada.



The Rev. Tim Seery (he/him) Vice Chair of the Conference Board of Directors Tim serves as pastor of the Congregational Church of La Jolla in San Diego and is a member of cohort 11 of the Pension Boards' Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI). He has a passion for the local church and for supporting and nurturing Members-in-Discernment. Tim has just concluded a six-year stint with the Southern Association Committee on Ministry, serving the last two as its chair. His work culminated with the committee's decision to fully covenant with the Conference Committee on Ministry. Tim currently is pursuing a D.Min. degree at Pacific School of Religion.



Mr. Ken Roberts (he/him) Treasurer A native Midwesterner, Ken moved from Indiana to California when he was 16. He says that when he discovered beaches, surfing and the ocean, he never looked back. He has been a member of Covina Community Church since 1985 and, over the years, has served as Chair of Trustees and Moderator, and currently serves as the Vice Moderator and Treasurer. Professionally, Ken started his own company, WCD Alarms, installing security and fire alarms and still works, although he notes he is "sort of semi-retired." In addition to serving as treasurer of the Conference, Ken also takes care of property maintenance at his local church. Prior to stepping into the role of Conference Treasurer, Ken was already serving on its Building the Future Committee that is charged with the oversight of the finance and property of the conference. Ken brings this specific knowledge of the Conference and his overall experience to the role of Conference Treasurer.



The Rev. Chrissy Siva, (she/her) Secretary, Board of Directors is officially the pastor of the Congregational Church of Fullerton. However, her position is transitioning to serving as the Senior Co-Pastor of Live Oak UCC, a new church being birthed from the consolidation of the Congregational Church of Fullerton and Brea Congregational UCC. Chrissy loves this new collaborative ministry and the creativity and innovation it inspires. She also enjoys serving in wider church ministries through CCOM, as a delegate to General Synod, on the Search Committee for the Conference Minister, and in the

past on the Annual Gathering Planning Team.



The Rev. Kris Bergstrom, (she/her) Acting Conference Minister Prior to her current call as Acting Conference Minister, Kris served as Associate Conference Minister and the chair of the Conference Ethics Team. Before joining the staff, she sat on the Conference Board of Directors. A second-career clergy person, Kris has 35 years of experience as an educator and educational administrator. She brings advanced training in dispute resolution, conflict mitigation, and mediation. Kris was the senior pastor of Church of the Foothills in Ventura from 2012 to 2018, during which time she chaired the Northern

Association's Church and Ministry Committee. Her unique skills and experiences have been a gift during this critical time in our shared life.