

OPENING WORDS  
Heli Blum  
Sunday, January 21, 2018

I am Heli Blum. Good Morning!  
I am a nominee for the board of trustees.

A loving no-nonsense mother of four,  
I am now a grandmother and I have learned one thing:  
“Actions speak louder than words”.  
That sounds a lot like “Deeds not Creeds” – Doesn’t it?  
Unitarian 101.

I value community building. Together we can accomplish so much more. Which is why I volunteer my time at the Monday Night Hospitality feeding program, sing in the Community Choir and attend Women’s Alliance events. I was a voting Delegate to the UUA General Assembly and have attended two Fall Retreats. With 12 other members of All Souls I went to Kenya on an outreach to work with the Nairobi Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

I hold a Masters Degree in Elementary Education. My specialization in Textile Arts has come in handy as I contribute to the Religious Education program by working on the Christmas Pageant costumes and created three Spirit Baskets for the Kindergarten.

I serve on the Navigators USA National Board and lead the East Harlem Chapter, Chapter 2, where my heart has been touched deeply by the needs of these youths, ages 12-16.

I came to the United States in 1975 from Finland as an AFS Exchange Student. It was then that I met my future husband, Thomas Blum. He happened to be a lifelong Unitarian. We married 9 years later in Finland and signed the book at All Souls in 1996, 22 years ago.

Our four children attended Religious Education and presented their Coming of Age Credos here.

As we prepare to celebrate our 200th Anniversary in 2019, let us grow in faith, share in service and live in Beloved Community together.

Thank You.

Please, stand as you are willing or able for the reciting of the Bond of Union.