

The Reverend Robin Landerman Zucker

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Professional Ministry and Life Span Education:

Ordained to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry (2000) and in final fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association. Member, UU Ministry Association.

Interim Minister, Beacon UU Congregation, Flagstaff, AZ, 2019-2022 Full-time Congregational Minister in an extended Interim position (during the COVID pandemic). Leadership and collaboration in all areas of ministry, including worship, pastoral care, congregational vitality, social justice, religious exploration, and administration. We sustained with our “Beacon Always Connected” theme and even grew during a challenging time.

Interim Minister, UU Church of Meadville, PA, 2016-2019. Half-time congregational minister in an extended Interim position. Leadership and collaboration in all areas of ministry, including worship, pastoral care, congregational vitality, social justice, religious exploration, and administration. I helped them re-establish good self-esteem and visibility after an unsuccessful settled ministry.

Assistant Minister and Affiliated Community Minister, First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, 2011- present (part-time)

My primary responsibility in this part-time ministry is leadership of the Caring Connections Pastoral Care program and the Adult Faith development program. I also lead worship services, weddings, and memorial services, and provide ministerial presence and support for lay leaders and their projects.

Sabbatical Minister, First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, PA, (Feb – August, 2012)

Consulting Parish Minister, Unitarian Fellowship of Storrs (CT) (2006-09) In this part-time consulting minister to a fellowship of 50 members. I provided meaningful worship, collaborated with leadership on growth and stewardship issues, served as a pastoral presence and community builder, and offered program to foster congregational and spiritual development. Served as host of local cable program, “Message From the Meetinghouse.”

Parish Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading (MA) (2000- 2003) In this full-time settled ministry to a suburban congregation of 250 adult members, 150 children, and 40 youth, I provided leadership in worship, social justice, and pastoral care, represented the congregation in the community, served as supervisor of staff (3), developed and taught adult education courses, nurtured leadership, and increased volunteerism and stewardship through collaboration with committees. I also participated in long-range strategic planning/visioning as they considered a building addition, and adapted governance and other congregational structures.

Ministerial Intern, First Parish in Wayland (MA), 1998-99. Served in a full-year, full-time internship in all aspects of congregational ministry in a large, suburban, multi-staff congregation (ordained at FP Wayland, May 2000).

Spiritual Care Coordinator, Massachusetts Home Hospice, Greater Boston area, (2004) As a full-time employee, I provided pastoral counseling and spiritual care services to patients and their families as part of an interdisciplinary team; prepared and offered presentations, workshops, and support groups about care-

giving, end-of-life spirituality and bereavement; presided at memorial services, and represented the organization to clergy community. **Keynote presenter at district conference, June 2004, “Dying in the Living Room: Spiritual Passages for Patients and Families.”**

Creator and Facilitator of Leadership and Congregational Retreats, (2006-present) various UU congregations. Programs have included: Board retreats, Pastoral Care trainings, Ministry start-ups, Conflict Transformation Town Meetings, Lay Worship trainings, and Visioning.

Director, Creator and Facilitator of Youth Programming:

~Teen Life Issues Conference, Ferry Beach Park Association (1995-1999)

For four summers, I served as the co-director of a week-long conference/camp for senior high youth. Our curriculum included worship, arts, small group “ministry,” fun and frolicking.

~Thresholds, First Parish in Concord, UU, (MA) a full-year *Coming of Age* personal and spiritual development program for senior high youth. (1993-95; now an established part of the First Parish youth program.)

Creator and Facilitator of numerous personal and spiritual growth programs and curricula (see attached addenda)

Family Life, Marriage, Divorce and Conflict Resolution Work:

Director, Divorce Without Destruction, Pittsburgh, PA (previously Cambridge, MA) (2006-2019) In my role as Director of this private practice, I deliver affordable and effective divorce solutions that reduce conflict and lead to good outcomes for families. My services include: mediation, counseling, parent and couple coaching, parenting coordination (court mandated and voluntary), seminars, life coaching, and grief support; collaborations with attorneys and the Family Court system. <http://www.divorcewithoutdestruction.com>

Faculty and Administrator, The Center for Families in Transition (2004-2021) I serve as lead facilitator of the Parents Apart program, a state-approved and mandated class for divorcing parents in MA. Each month in two locations, I facilitate 5-hour seminars for divorcing parents about the psychological and emotional impact of divorce on adults and children, how to reduce conflict and co-parent effectively.

Theme Speaker, Summer Conference, Ferry Beach Park Association, Saco, ME (August 2009) I served as the writer and presenter of a five-part theme presentation entitled, "Thoreau's Three Chairs: Sitting Well with Covenant." The series explored our covenantal relationships with self, loved ones, and community, and how to structure conflict reducing "covenantal conversations."

Guest Speaker and Presenter, Gilda's Club of Western Pennsylvania and National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (2012-13)

Guest Lecturer, November 2009 and November 2010, Eastern Connecticut University, "Peacemaking in the Individual and the Family."

Volunteer Case Coordinator and Facilitator, Communities for Restorative Justice (Concord, MA) (2009-2011) In this role, I coordinate a team who works with youth offenders, families and victims to address non-violent crime through restorative justice methods. Previously I served as a facilitator working directly with youth offenders, victims and their families.

Director Radiant Vows, Pittsburgh, PA (previously Cambridge, MA) (2003-present) **Winner – 2010 Bride's Choice Award, Wedding Wire Network.** As director of this private practice, I offer pre-marital and marriage counseling and education and officiate at weddings and services of union for a diverse population.

Seminar Director, PREPARE-ENRICH Counseling Programs (2005-2011). Three or four times per year, I facilitate full-day trainings in the PREPARE-ENRICH pre-marital and marital counseling programs for clergy and counselors in the Boston and Pittsburgh areas.

Education:

Master of Divinity, Harvard University Divinity School, 2000

Coursework towards the MDiv degree included: counseling, grief support, conflict management, organizational leadership, sociology of the family, lifespan human development.. **Master's Thesis:** Writing as a Tool for Self-Discovery, Spiritual Renewal, and Community Building (includes 6-week minister-led curriculum)

Bachelor of Arts, English, Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA

1978 Undergraduate Thesis: The Multivalence of Truth in the works of William Faulkner Junior Year Abroad: Tufts University in London program; Editor of Chatham Arts Magazine: Internships with Pittsburgh Magazine and WQED-TV.

Professional Trainings:

Intensive Unit in Clinical Pastoral Counseling, Mass General Hospital 1997 Full-time 11-week counseling residency to a diverse urban population.

Professional Mediation Training: Divorce Mediation Associates (40 hour certification training, 2008)

Conflict Transformation Intensive, 40 hours, Ottawa, CN (2009)
Parenting Coordinator Training (2009) with Robin Deutsch, PhD, Mass School of Professional Psychology
Professional Coach within a Collaborative Law Team Training (2008) , **Mass. Collaborative Law Council**
Graduate (certified), **The Gottman Institute, Parenting and Marriage education programs** , 2005
Graduate (certified) of a 20-week Authentic Happiness Life Coaching program in positive psychology with Dr. Martin E.F. Seligman (University of Pennsylvania) , 2005
Anti-Racism Trainings (numerous) including the *Journey Towards Wholeness* program (UUA), 1999

Awards, Activities, and Honors, Published Work

- Finalist, Preaching Competition, Billings Prize, Harvard Divinity School, 1999
- Winner, Scripture Reading Award, Billings Prize, Harvard Divinity School, 1997
- Appointed as Student Member to the Faculty Committee on Ministry, HDS, 1997
- Board Member, Harvard UU Ministry to Students, 1996-98
- Chosen as HDS delegate to national *Seminarians Interacting program*, 1997
- Meditation chosen for inclusion in For All That is Our Life (Skinner House), 2005 and Falling Into the Sky (2012)
- “Lift Every Voice?” sermon/essay chosen for textbook, Patriotism: A Reader, 2003
- Sermon excerpt in CLF publication Quest, September/October 2015
- Author of 100+ sermons, reflections, essays, meditations, and newsletter columns
- Solo photography/essay exhibit, Undercroft Gallery, Pittsburgh, DeJaView: Darkroom/Digital, March 2014; and at Chatham University, 2018.
- Developer and writer of ancillary educational materials, WGBH (PBS), 1983-86
- Many feature articles published in Boston-area newspapers and magazines, 1978-80

Developer & Facilitator of Personal Development, Spiritual & Educational programs and presentations:

Programs/Classes held at: many UU churches, Cambridge Center for Adult Education; Concord-Carlisle Adult Education, Aquarius Sanctuary (Littleton), Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal (Concord); Isis Maternity Center (Needham); Ferry Beach Park Association (Saco, ME) ; UUMA district retreats; Essex Conference Center (MA), Merrimack Valley Hospice (MA),

For youth:

- **Coming of Age** –a year-long personal development and self discovery program for 9th graders (UU congregations; youth/adult leadership team)
- **Teen Life Issues** – a week-long conference for senior high youth,) (youth/adult leadership team)
- **Living It!** – a three-part program, exploring values in daily teen life. (1999)

For adults:

- **Dying in the Living Room** – a presentation to clergy about the spiritual passages for families and patients in hospice care.
- **Thoreau's Three Chairs: Sitting Well with Covenant** – a five part theme talk on our covenantal relationships with self, loved ones, and community..
- **When the Holidays Hurt** – a two--hour program addressing grief during the holidays
- **Parents Apart** – effective co-parenting after divorce (a five-hour workshop mandated by the Commonwealth of MA)
- **From Partners to Parents** – marriage and parenting education for couples expecting their first child, developed by the Gottman Institute (a six-hour workshop)
- **Ever After: Thriving After Divorce:** a six-week rebuilding program for adults
- **Flowingforce Soulcamp** – a five-day on-site adventure for women in sweat, spirit and self-discovery (2004 and 2005)
- **Word for Word: Writing for Self-Discovery and Renewal** (based on my M.Div. thesis) – six weekly sessions or a one-day retreat.
- **The Five Love Languages** – two-hour seminar exploring the ways in which we communicate in relationships.
- **Walking Towards Walden** – a four-hour program combines walking at Walden Pond with readings by Thoreau and personal reflection.
- **Simply Pray** – a four- hour workshop teaching a meditation/prayer bead practice free of specific religious expression.
- **Unplug the Holiday Machine** – a four- hour workshop to help individuals reconnect with their holiday vision and values.

Support/pastoral care groups for adults:

- **Leadership of Pastoral support groups** on various life issue topics: teen culture, grief/bereavement, chronic illness, caregiver fatigue, sandwich generation, the challenges of Alzheimer's disease, parenting teens, the impact of divorce.